

**“British English** ESL/EFL Lesson plans for  
English Language Teachers Worldwide  
direct from Central Europe”

## **Steam train reunites British Schindler with Jewish children he rescued from Nazis**

URL: <http://www.newsflashenglish.com/1709909/britishschindler1.html>

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<b>Ideas and Articles by David Robinson</b>	

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

**Category: History / Sir Nicholas Winton / World War II**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate**

## THE ARTICLE

### **Steam train reunites British Schindler with Jewish children he rescued from Nazis**

A steam train carrying evacuees from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the holocaust as children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants of these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British Schindler.

To recap – In 1938 a stockbroker of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague when he realised the danger of an imminent German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland during that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. He returned to London where he raised money and found host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German troops. The children and their families were never seen again, having been sent to concentration camps.

Sir Nicholas never spoke of his work for 50 years. The story was revealed by his wife, who found an old leather briefcase with documents on the 'Kindertransport' in their attic in 1988. The same year this remarkable story was aired on the BBC show 'That's Life'. Since then Sir Nicholas has received many honours including being awarded the freedom of the city of Prague. In 1998 the Czech Ambassador to Britain sponsored a commemoration called "Thank you Britain" to honour those who helped settle the children. In 2002 he was knighted by the British Queen. In 2008, he met her again. This time at a castle near Bratislava in Slovakia.

In a speech to many of the evacuees he brought to Britain together with several hundred people who had gathered to see him at the station Sir Nicholas Winton said, "Today is a 'wonderful' occasion." When asked about his heroic deed he said simply, "It was a question of getting a lot of children together with the families that were going to look after them - and with 200 children and 200 people going to look after them all surrounding the station here, it was quite difficult to get them together and, of course, every child needed to be signed for. Anyway, it all worked out very well and it's wonderful that it did work out so well because, after all, history could have made it very different."

At today's event at Liverpool Street survivors spoke of their gratitude to Sir Nicholas. Alexander Greensted, 77 from Maidstone: "It's a very emotional day for me. I can't remember much about the actual train journey. All I can remember is being at the station crying my eyes out. I left my father and 2 older brothers behind." Otto Deutsch, 81 who lives in Southend: "It happened so many years ago, yet I remember it vividly. I never saw my parents again or my sister. My parents were shot and what they did with my sister I really don't want to know."

Sir Nicholas remains a true hero to those he saved. A remarkable man. A remarkable story.

**Links:** BBC That's Life – You Tube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6\\_nFuJAF5F0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_nFuJAF5F0)

**Also:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas\\_Winton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_Winton) : **'Indefatigable'** means: untiring, not yielding to fatigue

## LET'S START

**1. Schindler:** What do you know about the famous World War II hero Oskar Schindler? What do you know about Sir Nicholas Winton? What do the two have in common? Go round the room swapping details.

**2. Dictation:** The teacher will read between 4 to 6 lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page 2 - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than 5 is very good. 10 are acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than 20 - we need to do some work!

**3. Reading:** Get students to read the passage aloud. Swap readers every paragraph.

**4. Vocabulary:** Students look through the article. Underline/highlight any vocabulary you do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through & explain any words or phrases you do not understand.

**5. The article:** Students look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about Sir Nicholas Winton?

### **6. Let's tell a story! Steam train reunites British Schindler with Jewish children he rescued from Nazis:**

Below are 20 words and phrases from the article. Use them to compile a story about the steam train that reunited the British Schindler with the Jewish children he rescued from the Nazis. Add 2 words of your own. Tell your story to your partner. (*Maybe tick off your words as you tell it*)

1	Nazis	11	Jewish children
2	descendants	12	children
3	stockbroker	13	Tornado
4	Liverpool Street	14	concentration camps
5	statue	15	refugees
6	British Schindler	16	band
7	Sir Nicholas Winton	17	escape
8	The Winton train	18	Prague
9	survivors`	19	London
10	steam train	20	Second World War
Your choice 1 _____		Your choice 2 _____	

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**7. Let's write! A leisure e-mail:** Write and send a leisure e-mail to your teacher about a trip you made on a steam train recently. Where did you travel from and to? How was your journey? Why were you travelling? (Imagine!) Your e-mail can be read out in class.

**8. Article quiz:** With your partner or in small groups: (1 point for each correct answer. Lose ½ point if you look at the article for help!)

**Student A**

- 1) What cities are mentioned?
- 2) Name the train.
- 3) What date did the Second World War start?
- 4) What job did Nicholas Winton do in 1938?
- 5) How many trains set off in 1939?
- 6) How old is Sir Nicholas Winton?
- 7) Where did Nicholas Winton go in 1938?

**Student B**

- 1) Who did Sir Nicholas Winton meet in 2002?
- 2) Name the railway station the event was held in.
- 3) What happened in 1988?
- 4) Sum up Sir Nicholas Winton's speech.
- 5) Sum up the survivors comments.
- 6) Where was Sudetenland?
- 7) How many children did Sir Nicholas save?

**9. Let's draw a steam engine!** Draw a picture of a steam engine. Label your picture clearly with the following items...Add 2 ideas of your own. The class can vote for the best picture!

1) the engine	5) some steam
2) engine driver	6) coal
3) the cockpit	7) boiler
4) the wheels	8) the carriages
Your choice 1 _____	Your choice 2 _____

**10. Let's think! 5 things about Sir Nicholas Winton: 5 things about Oskar Schindler:**

Think of 5 things you know about Sir Nicholas Winton. Then add 5 things you know about Oskar Schindler. Write them below then compare the differences and the similarities between the two. Tell your partner about your findings. (You may need to use the internet on this - there is a link on page 3) What is the most unusual thing you find? What is the most amazing? What are your conclusions?

Sir Nicholas Winton	Oskar Schindler
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

Steam train reunites British Schindler... (V1) – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009

**11. Let's think! Holocaust:** Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with '**Holocaust**' as you can. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

**12. Let's compile! Sentences:** Choose six/nine of the words from no 11. Write two/three sentences using two/three words in each. Underline your chosen words. The teacher will if necessary correct your work. Students might be asked to read their sentences aloud.

**13. Let's chat! The steam train to England:** In pairs: It is 1939 before World War 2 started. You are both Jewish children from Czechoslovakia. You are evacuee children en-route to London on a steam train. You are being sent to England by your parents to escape the Nazis persecution. You are with other Jewish children together with non Jewish children and are being moved to a safe place. You will be living with a host family in England – for how long you have no idea. You hope to be home soon. Your worlds have both been turned upside down. You are both afraid but it is an adventure! You met on the train and have become friends (your friend is your partner). Both of you have witnessed many dreadful things around you recently. Chat to your new friend about everything. *5-15 minutes.*

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to listen to their stories in front of the class.

**14. Let's talk! World War 2 experiences:** In pairs: It is present day. You are now in your senior years. You are at Liverpool Street station in London for the special meeting with Sir Nicholas Winton. You have met up with another evacuee who was on another train out of Czechoslovakia in 1939 that was organised by Sir Nicholas Winton. Discuss together what you remember. (Try to imagine!) Some suggestions are below:

1 Your host family	6 Living in England in wartime
2 The Nazis	7 Being lonely
3 Your family in Czechoslovakia	8 Concentration camps
4 Sir Nicholas Winton	9 The steam train journey
5 Arrival at Liverpool Street in 1939	10 After the war
Your choice 1 _____	Your choice 2 _____

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to listen to their stories in front of the class.

**15. Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) The steam train \_\_\_\_\_
- b) The Nazis \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Sir Nicholas Winton \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Liverpool Street \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Former evacuees \_\_\_\_\_

## AFTER READING / LISTENING

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** After reading the article guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The steam train arrived at Liverpool Street station on October 4 <sup>th</sup> | T / F |
| b. Sir Nicholas Winton saved 779 mostly Jewish children                           | T / F |
| c. War was declared on 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 1939                             | T / F |
| d. Sir Nicholas Winton was a banker of Jewish origin                              | T / F |
| e. In 1939 eight chartered special trains set off from Prague                     | T / F |
| f. One train, the ninth was detained by German troops                             | T / F |
| g. The children and their families were sent to concentration camps               | T / F |
| h. In 1988 the BBC programme 'That's England' featured the story                  | T / F |

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

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| a. event         | previous         |
| b. remarkable    | displaced person |
| c. descendants   | got on           |
| d. evacuees      | active           |
| e. former        | on the way       |
| f. escape        | offspring        |
| g. indefatigable | before           |
| h. boarded       | notable          |
| i. ahead         | rescue           |
| j. en-route      | ceremony         |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. children arrived at London's Liverpool     | descendants of these children.           |
| b. They were met by the man                   | the original 669 mostly Jewish children  |
| c. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100  | was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. |
| d. passengers who had boarded                 | with many of the evacuees                |
| e. he shook hands                             | by Czech Railways                        |
| f. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of    | years old, greeted the passengers        |
| g. The others were the                        | were never seen again                    |
| h. The event was organised                    | who saved their lives                    |
| i. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it | the train in Prague                      |
| j. The children and their families            | Street station on Friday                 |

## GAP FILL: READING

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

A steam train carrying \_\_\_\_\_ from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the \_\_\_\_\_ as children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an \_\_\_\_\_ 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly \_\_\_\_\_ children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the \_\_\_\_\_ of these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a \_\_\_\_\_ of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was \_\_\_\_\_, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British \_\_\_\_\_.

To recap – In 1938 a \_\_\_\_\_ of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague when he realised the \_\_\_\_\_ of an imminent German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_-occupied \_\_\_\_\_ during that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about \_\_\_\_\_ special trains. He returned to London where he raised money and found host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German troops. The children and their families were never seen again, having been sent to \_\_\_\_\_.

*statue*  
*Schindler*  
*holocaust*  
*dubbed*  
*indefatigable*  
*descendants*  
*Jewish*  
*evacuees*  
*Nazi*  
*concentration*  
*chartering*  
*danger*  
*stockbroker*  
*Sudetenland*  
*refugees*  
*camps*

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

### Steam train reunites British Schindler with Jewish children he rescued from Nazis

A steam train carrying evacuees from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the \_\_\_\_\_ arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were \_\_\_\_\_ saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees \_\_\_\_\_ the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children he helped to escape \_\_\_\_\_ of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants of these children. The event was organised by \_\_\_\_\_ hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train \_\_\_\_\_ Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', \_\_\_\_\_, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British Schindler.

To recap – In 1938 a stockbroker of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He \_\_\_\_\_ in Prague when he realised the danger of an imminent German invasion. He was inspired to \_\_\_\_\_ after visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland during that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. He returned to London where \_\_\_\_\_ found host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, \_\_\_\_\_. The train was detained by German troops. The children and their families \_\_\_\_\_, having been sent to concentration camps.

## **DISCUSSION**

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

- a. Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- b. Have you been on many steam trains?
- c. When did you first hear about Sir Nicholas Winton?
- d. What do you think of the holocaust?
- e. How do you think the former evacuees felt when they met at Liverpool Street recently?
- f. Why do you think Sir Nicholas buried his good deed in the attic after the war?
- g. Have you seen the BBC That's Life You Tube video link on page 3? If yes, what do you think of it?
- h. Do you know of any other remarkable stories?
- i. What makes a remarkable person?
- j. Have you ever met or seen the British Queen in person?

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

- a. What do you think about what you read?
- b. What do you think of Sir Nicholas Winton?
- c. Do you know of any other people who have saved lives?
- d. How would you have possibly fared in War time England during World War 2?
- e. Would you like to have lived during the 1940s? Why? Why not?
- f. Do you think it was a good idea to re-enact the steam train journey's? Why? Why not?
- g. Were your parents or grandparents evacuated during World War 2?
- h. Have you ever experienced rationing?
- i. Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?
- j. Did you like this discussion?

## **SPEAKING**

### **Press conference**

A meeting with Sir Nicholas Winton

*Allow 10-20 minutes*

#### **In groups**

You are at Liverpool Street station in London where the Tornado steam train has just pulled in. On board are many evacuees and their descendants. With them is Sir Nicholas Winton.

One of you is Sir Nicholas Winton. Some of you are journalists. Some of you are former evacuees.

The journalists are about to ask Sir Nicholas some questions about his Kindertransport project. They also have some questions to ask the evacuees about what they remember about their experiences?

The evacuees have to imagine what their steam train experiences were like and what it was like to live in England during the war and how it was (*guess/ imagine*) before they had to leave their homes suddenly.

Journalists prepare 3 good questions to ask Sir Nicholas and 3 good questions to ask the evacuees.

Questions for Sir Nicholas	Questions for evacuees
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)

**The teacher can moderate the session.**

## PUT THE ARTICLE BACK TOGETHER

### Put the article back together

- ( ) departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was dubbed, arrived
- ( ) their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick
- ( ) declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants of these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train
- ( ) Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. He returned to London where he raised money and found host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through
- ( ) Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German troops. The children and their families were never seen
- (1) A steam train carrying evacuees from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the holocaust as children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved
- ( ) at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British Schindler. To recap – In 1938 a stockbroker of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a
- ( ) he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being
- ( ) again, having been sent to concentration camps.
- ( ) friend in Prague when he realised the danger of an imminent German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland during that trip to

**LANGUAGE: Choose the correct words from a–d below and write them in the article.**

A steam train carrying evacuees from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the holocaust as children arrived at London’s Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants of these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the (1)\_\_\_ train departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route for England. A (2)\_\_\_ played as ‘The Winton Train’, as it was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man (3)\_\_\_ the British Schindler.

To recap – In 1938 a (4)\_\_\_ of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague when he realised the danger of an (5)\_\_\_ German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland during that (6)\_\_\_ to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. He returned to London where he (7)\_\_\_ money and (8)\_\_\_ host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set (9)\_\_\_, travelling (10)\_\_\_ Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German (11)\_\_\_. The children and (12)\_\_\_ families were never seen again, having been sent to concentration camps.

1.	(a)	diesel	(b)	rocket	(c)	electric	(d)	steam
2.	(a)	group	(b)	band	(c)	orchestra	(d)	soloist
3.	(a)	dubbed	(b)	snubbed	(c)	rubbed	(d)	snubbed
4.	(a)	stockbroker	(b)	banker	(c)	borrower	(d)	Tea boy
5.	(a)	imminent	(b)	imminently	(c)	immanent	(d)	immigrant
6.	(a)	rip	(b)	trip	(c)	slip	(d)	strip
7.	(a)	raise	(b)	raising	(c)	raised	(d)	raises
8.	(a)	find	(b)	found	(c)	sound	(d)	pound
9.	(a)	box	(b)	on	(c)	up	(d)	off
10.	(a)	thought	(b)	thorough	(c)	though	(d)	through
11.	(a)	stoop	(b)	troop	(c)	troops	(d)	poop
12.	(a)	there	(b)	them	(c)	their	(d)	the

## GRAMMAR 1: MIDWAY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

A steam train carrying evacuees (1)\_\_\_ the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the holocaust as children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking (2)\_\_\_ a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as (3)\_\_\_ stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 (4)\_\_\_ Jewish children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants of (5)\_\_\_ children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. (6)\_\_\_ the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed (7)\_\_\_ Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew (8)\_\_\_ people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British Schindler.

**with**

**before**

**these**

**many**

**mostly**

**through**

**they**

**from**

To recap – In 1938 a stockbroker of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague (1)\_\_\_ he realised the danger of an imminent German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains (2)\_\_\_ visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland (3)\_\_\_ that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. He returned to London where he raised money and found host families who (4)\_\_\_ accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling (5)\_\_\_ Germany. A ninth (6)\_\_\_ 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German troops. The children and (7)\_\_\_ families were (8)\_\_\_ seen again, having been sent to concentration camps.

**during**

**after**

**with**

**would**

**through**

**when**

**never**

**their**

## GRAMMAR 2: EASY

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

A steam train carrying evacuees from (1)\_\_\_ former Czechoslovakia who escaped the holocaust as children arrived (2)\_\_\_ London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met (3)\_\_\_ the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers (4)\_\_\_ had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children (5)\_\_\_ helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the descendants (6)\_\_\_ these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a statue of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route (7)\_\_\_ England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', (8)\_\_\_ it was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British Schindler.

**by**

**at**

**the**

**for**

**as**

**who**

**of**

**he**

To recap – In 1938 (1)\_\_\_ stockbroker of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague when he realised the danger of (2)\_\_\_ imminent German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for refugees from the Nazi-occupied Sudetenland during that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about chartering special trains. (3)\_\_\_ returned to London where he raised money and found host families (4)\_\_\_ would accept (5)\_\_\_ children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was (6)\_\_\_ to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained (7)\_\_\_ German troops. The children (8)\_\_\_ their families were never seen again, having been sent to concentration camps.

**a**

**and**

**the**

**an**

**he**

**who**

**by**

**due**

## SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article:

- |    |                |    |                     |
|----|----------------|----|---------------------|
| 1  | evacuees       | 11 | concentration camps |
| 2  | indefatigable  | 12 | wonderful           |
| 3  | passengers     | 13 | remarkable          |
| 4  | imminent       | 14 | commemoration       |
| 5  | Czechoslovakia | 15 | surrounding         |
| 6  | dubbed         | 16 | Ambassador          |
| 7  | descendants    | 17 | documents           |
| 8  | holocaust      | 18 | through             |
| 9  | anniversary    | 19 | briefcase           |
| 10 | journey        | 20 | knighted            |

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**Your score: Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

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## HOMEWORK

**Newspaper article:** Write an article on **"The holocaust"**. (Minimum 200 words) Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Which article was best and why?

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## WRITING: In class:

**Five-minute article:** Write an article on **"The holocaust"**. You have five minutes. The teacher will select some students to read out their work.

**Countdown:** Every minute the teacher may say, "You have xx minutes left".

## ANSWERS

### TRUE / FALSE:

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

### SYNONYM MATCH:

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| a. event         | ceremony         |
| b. remarkable    | notable          |
| c. descendants   | offspring        |
| d. evacuees      | displaced person |
| e. former        | previous         |
| f. escape        | rescue           |
| g. indefatigable | active           |
| h. boarded       | got on           |
| i. ahead         | before           |
| j. en-route      | on the way       |

### PHRASE MATCH:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a. children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday                     | Street station on Friday                 |
| b. They were met by the man who saved their lives                                      | who saved their lives                    |
| c. Sir Nicholas Winton, an indefatigable 100 years old, greeted the passengers         | years old, greeted the passengers        |
| d. passengers who had boarded the train in Prague                                      | the train in Prague                      |
| e. he shook hands with many of the evacuees  | with many of the evacuees                |
| f. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly Jewish children     | the original 669 mostly Jewish children  |
| g. The others were the descendants of these children.                                  | descendants of these children.           |
| h. The event was organised by Czech Railways   | by Czech Railways                        |
| i. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. | was dubbed, arrived at Liverpool Street. |
| j. The children and their families were never seen again                               | were never seen again                    |

### GAP FILL: Steam train reunites British Schindler with Jewish children he rescued from Nazis:

A steam train carrying **evacuees** from the former Czechoslovakia who escaped the **holocaust** as children arrived at London's Liverpool Street station on Friday (4<sup>th</sup> September). They were met by the man who saved their lives. Sir Nicholas Winton, an **indefatigable** 100 years old, greeted the passengers who had boarded the train in Prague to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Second World War. Now walking with a stick he shook hands with many of the evacuees as they stepped off the steam train. Twenty-two of the evacuees were part of the original 669 mostly **Jewish** children he helped to escape from the Nazis ahead of war being declared on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939. The others were the **descendants** of these children. The event was organised by Czech Railways who hired the new British steam train Tornado to re-enact the journey. Before the steam train departed on Tuesday from Prague a **statue** of Sir Nicholas was unveiled at the station. The train then passed through Germany and Holland en-route for England. A band played as 'The Winton Train', as it was **dubbed**, arrived at Liverpool Street. The event drew many people who wanted to meet the man dubbed the British **Schindler**. To recap – In 1938 a **stockbroker** of Jewish origin Nicholas Winton was working in London. He was visiting a friend in Prague when he realised the danger of an **imminent** German invasion. He was inspired to organise the trains after visiting camps for **refugees** from the **Nazi**-occupied **Sudetenland** during that trip to Czechoslovakia in 1938. He set about **chartering** special trains. He returned to London where he raised money and found host families who would accept the children. In 1939 eight trains set off, travelling through Germany. A ninth with 250 children on board never left Prague, as it was due to depart on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the day war broke out. The train was detained by German troops. The children and their families were never seen again, having been sent to **concentration camps**.

### LANGUAGE WORK:

- 1 - d    2 - b    3 - a    4 - a    5 - a    6 - b    7 - c    8 - b    9 - d    10 - d    11 - c    12 - c

Steam train reunites British Schindler... (V1) - *17<sup>th</sup> September 2009*