

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 3

#63 Genius, Madness, and the Unabomber

Skills/ Objectives: Listening and speaking

PART 1: Before you watch...

Preparatory questions

1. Is there any way these three words can be strung together and make any sense: “university” and “airport” and “bomber”?
2. It is said that there are three places in any given city where things and people are most international, and they are 1. university campuses, 2. airports, and what do you think the third one is?
3. From the vocabulary list below, can you find one appropriate word to complete the following sentence?

Since they discovered the truth about his background, David's colleagues have regarded him with _____.

Vocabulary

1. Manifesto (noun): a written statement of the beliefs held by an individual or organization
2. Recluse (noun): a person who lives alone and avoids contact with other people
3. Suspicion (noun): doubt or lack of trust
4. Relief (noun): reduction or end of pain
5. Parole (noun): the release of a prisoner before that person's jail term ends

Answer(s) to the relevant questions above will be provided in the next exercise.

Answers to relevant questions in the preceding set of exercises:

Question 4:

The word is “drive,” used as an uncountable noun; not to be confused with “drive” as a verb meaning operating a vehicle.

PART 2: Video

Meet Ted Kaczynski, the man who was the youngest math professor ever hired by the University of California at Berkeley in 1967.

Almanac: The Unabomber (click the link below to watch the video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4emvv2kyATM>

(Source: YouTube)

... a promising teacher who turned into an elusive terrorist who went on to bomb university campuses and airports for 17 years.

PART 3: Speaking

"Suspicion" is a multi-syllabic word, meaning, that it has more than one syllable, with the first one being "sus," followed by "pi" and finally, "cion."

Sus – pi – cion

Notice how the word is pronounced with a particularly loud and clear syllable. It is the "pi" here. Learn how to pronounce the word here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgUgeslC8kE>

PART 4: Learn further

1. "The Industrial Revolution and its consequences have been a disaster for the human race," wrote Kaczynski in his 35,000-word manifesto "Industrial Society and Its Future," printed in the Washington Post in 1995.

<http://editions-hache.com/essais/pdf/kaczynski2.pdf>

The writing here reveals the mind of an extremist.

2. "Unknown Interesting Facts about Ted Kaczynski" tells you more about this man.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vdgi54-X9ho>