TAKING OUT THE TRASH

Before listening to/reading the story

Lead in…

- What do you think of when you hear the words “shelf life”? What is meant by the phrase?

(According to Wikipedia “Shelf life is the length of time that foods, beverages, pharmaceutical drugs, chemicals, and many other perishable items are given before they are considered unsuitable for sale, use, or consumption. In some regions, a best before, use by or freshness date is required on packaged perishable foods.” http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shelf_life)

- What good or bad things do you associate with shelf life?
While listening to/reading the story

Gist

This is a story about

a) Buyitall Supermarket in Great Britain
b) Jeremy’s and Ruth’s fight against a trash monster
c) Jeremy’s and Ruth’s fight against a greedy customer

The Buyitall Supermarket is a place where you can buy

a) fresh bread, fruit and vegetables every day
b) bread, fruit and vegetables but you ought to check the quality
c) bread, fruit and vegetables but no meat

Details

1) Why are Ruth and Jeremy happy with their part-time jobs?
2) What does the name of the store where they work imply/tell the customers?
3) What kind of person is the store manager, Mr Johnson?
4) Why do Ruth and Jeremy throw away food that only is one day old all of a sudden?
5) What reason does Johnson give for not throwing away food that has passed the sell-by date?
6) Ruth and Jeremy hear the bumps from the container several times. What do they think is making the noise the first times?
7) What did the monster in the container look like?
8) How did Ruth and Jeremy spend the rest of the evening after they defeated the monster?

After listening to/reading the story

Discussion

- Are supermarkets right to throw away food when there is nothing wrong with it just because the sell-by date has passed?
- Can you always trust the sell-by dates in supermarkets? Do you trust the sell-by dates? Why/Why not?
- What do you think about dumpster diving, when people find food and other things in dumpsters? Is it good or bad? Why/why not?
Grammar – put

Put someone up to = encourage someone to do (something wrong or unwise)
Put something about = create a rumour
Put something away = save money
Put someone down = criticise, speak badly of someone
Put something off = postpone/ delay something
Put up = have someone stay overnight

Please translate into English, using the previous expressions with put:

1. Han lurade mig att göra ett hyss (a practical joke).
2. Ryktet hade satts igång av hans fiende.
4. Prata aldrig illa om någon!
5. Tävlingen kommer att skjutas upp.
6. Jag lät min spanska kusin stanna hos mig över natten.

Creative writing and drawing

• After having seen the film, Jeremy and Ruth go to a café where they meet some friends. Imagine that you are Jeremy or Ruth. How would you describe the events with the monster in the dumpster for your friends? Write down the dialogue for the conversation.

• Draw your own ecological monster and colour it. To think about: What is it made of? Does it have anything resembling a body or face? Where does it live? Draw the monster in its environment!

• Write a short story in one of the genres; sci-fi/rom-com. You must involve a monster!

• Watch a movie from one of the genres; sci-fi/rom-com and write a summary about it. Make you own movie poster!
Cut out the pictures below and place them in the correct order together with the text on the following page:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>They sat on the loading bay, behind the shop, eating a couple of sandwiches.</th>
<th>They waved to each other and left.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What the hell are you two doing?” came a familiar, nasty voice. It was followed by a short, middle-aged man in big, thick glasses.</td>
<td>Jez, quick, do something!” cried Ruth, holding on to Johnson’s arm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The container hatch was open and something was sticking out, waving like a snake in a basket. It seemed to be searching for something.</td>
<td>Towards the end of the evening Ruth was stretching her tired muscles. She had an acrobatics event the next day, and she needed to be in good shape. Suddenly Jeremy came running in from the back of the store. “Ruth, Ruth, come out the back! It’s trying to get out!” he whispered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She took a deep breath, assumed her starting position, then took one, two three steps before diving through the air, landing with one hand on the container before twisting her body to grab the hatch handle and slam it shut. She pushed through the bolt to hold it locked and jumped back onto the loading bay.</td>
<td>Well, you two can take the rest of the day off. With pay, don’t worry! I’m going to phone that blasted container company.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It did stink though.” He slammed the lid of the container shut and waved his hand in front of his nose.</td>
<td>The Friday night was dark, but out at the back of Buyitall Supermarket there was just enough light for Jeremy and Ruth to see what they were doing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taste metal, baby!” Jeremy went down on one knee and fired, keeping up a steady stream of staples into the vegetable flesh.</td>
<td>Yeah. Right. Thanks for sharing that. Now get back to work, both of you.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He bet Ruth she couldn’t do a somersault and throw at the same time, but she did and got the food in, through the hatch twice.</td>
<td>Jeremy picked up a box of bananas and reached over to drop them in through the hatch into the container. There was a collection of bumps as they dropped inside.</td>
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2) "It did stink though." He slammed the lid of the container shut and waved his hand in front of his nose.

3) They sat on the loading bay, behind the shop, eating a couple of sandwiches.

4) They waved to each other and left.

5) Jeremy picked up a box of bananas and reached over to drop them in through the hatch into the container. There was a collection of bumps as they dropped inside.

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9) Towards the end of the evening Ruth was stretching her tired muscles. She had an acrobatics event the next day, and she needed to be in good shape. Suddenly Jeremy came running in from the back of the store. “Ruth, Ruth, come out the back! It’s trying to get out!” he whispered.

10) The container hatch was open and something was sticking out, waving like a snake in a basket. It seemed to be searching for something.

11) “Jez, quick, do something!” cried Ruth, holding on to Johnson’s arm.

12) “Taste metal, baby!” Jeremy went down on one knee and fired, keeping up a steady stream of staples into the vegetable flesh.

13) She took a deep breath, assumed her starting position, then took one, two, three steps before diving through the air, landing with one hand on the container before twisting her body to grab the hatch handle and slam it shut. She pushed through the bolt to hold it locked and jumped back onto the loading bay.

14) “Well, you two can take the rest of the day off. With pay, don’t worry! I’m going to phone that blasted container company.”
This is a story about

a) Buyitall Supermarket in Great Britain
b) Jeremy’s and Ruth’s fight against a trash monster
c) Jeremy’s and Ruth’s fight against a greedy boss

The Buyitall Supermarket is a place where you can buy

a) fresh bread, fruit and vegetables every day
b) bread, fruit and vegetables but you ought to check the quality
c) bread, fruit and vegetables but no meat

Details

1. Why are Ruth and Jeremy happy about their part-time jobs?
   The jobs provide them with pocket money for their hobbies.

2. What does the name of the store where they work imply/tell the customers?
   This is a supermarket that sells everything they need. The customers only have to go to one store to but all they need.

3. What kind of person is the store manager, Mr Johnson?
   Mr Johnson is a person who is famous for his love of money, he is famous for not wanting to spend an extra penny on anything. There is even a rumour that he changes the sell-by-dates on food that look ok, so that it can be sold even though it should be thrown away.

4. Why do Ruth and Jeremy throw away food that only is one day old all of a sudden?
   There is a rumour that a health officer might pay a visit to the supermarket and then all old food must be gone.

5. What reason does Johnson give for not throwing away food that has passed the sell-by date?
   It is his food, it was fresh yesterday and somebody might want to buy half-priced.

6. Ruth and Jeremy hear the bumps from the container several times. What do they think make the noise the first times?
   They thought somebody kicked the container.

7. What did the monster in the container look like?
   It was a snakelike monster with tentacles and a head like a cabbage.

8. How did Ruth and Jeremy spend the rest of the evening after they defeated the monster?
   The watched a romantic comedy.
Grammar – phrasal verb “put”

Please translate into English, using the previous expressions with *put*;

1. He put me up to playing a practical joke.
2. The rumour was put about by his enemy.
3. Ruth and Jeremy put away money for their hobbies.
4. Never put someone down!
5. The competition will be put off.
6. I put my Spanish cousin up for the night.