



## DIALOGUE 29: Two tricky problems

( Consonant clusters )

- PARKER: There we were, the 26th Division, on this extremely dangerous mission, with only an extraordinarily stupid sergeant in charge.
- MRS PARKER: If I managed to reach the village store before closing time, I wonder if Mrs Pecksmith would exchange the strawberries for a blackberry and apple pie . . . Just a sergeant, dear?
- PARKER: The message came through from headquarters that we were to proceed to what we called Pebble Beach and examine a fishing boat that was behaving suspiciously.
- MRS PARKER: That was a strange way for a fishing boat to behave . . . I could make the stuffed chicken stretch further with masses of mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables.
- PARKER: The sergeant couldn't remember which switch to switch on his emergency transmitter. There we were, approaching the suspicious boat and suddenly there was an explosion like a . . . like a . . .
- MRS PARKER: Like an earthquake, dear? . . . Then with a large blackberry and apple pie and whipped cream - there should be sufficient.
- PARKER: Strictly speaking, the sergeant shouldn't have been in charge. I remember, the explosion split my trousers.
- MRS PARKER: Well, go and change them, dear. The children will be here any minute.