

Vocabulary

Nab / take effect / suffocate / hang up / out of hand / blackmail / call off / turn up / trigger /
extort / obtain

Write some of the words above on the lines below to match with the meanings on the right.

- | | | | |
|-----|-------|----|---|
| 1. | _____ | a. | to deprive somebody of air or prevent somebody from breathing, or to be unable to breathe |
| 2. | _____ | b. | the act of forcing somebody to pay money or do something by threatening to reveal shameful or incriminating facts about him or her. |
| 3. | _____ | c. | to cancel or stop an event. |
| 4. | _____ | d. | to get possession of something, especially by making an effort or having the necessary qualifications |
| 5. | _____ | e. | to seize, snatch, or take something suddenly |
| 6. | _____ | f. | to obtain something such as money or information, from somebody by using force, threats, or other unacceptable methods |
| 7. | _____ | g. | to go beyond the limit of control. |
| 8. | _____ | h. | to set something off, bring something about, or make something happen |
| 9. | _____ | i. | to start working. |
| 10. | _____ | j. | to give up on someone or something; to quit dealing with someone or something. |

Police catch underwear thief

July 20, 2009 06:06 PM ET

BERLIN (Reuters) - German police **uncovered** over 1,000 pairs of underpants and more than 100 pairs of swimming **trunks** after catching a thief **nabbing** another three pairs for his collection.

No drinks for the under-16 crowd?

July 20, 2009 06:09 PM ET

MILAN (Reuters) - Milan will become the first Italian city to **bar** drinking for youths aged under 16 when a ban **takes effect** on Monday, and Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said he favored extending the ruling nationwide.

And WHY did they let him out?

July 17, 2009 12:56 PM ET

BERLIN (Reuters) - German police had to rescue a 20-year-old man from a train station suitcase locker after he shut himself in for fun and began to **suffocate**.

Japan's "iron man" quits -- at 81

July 19, 2009 10:46 PM ET

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japanese marathon runner Keizo Yamada has **hung up** his sneakers at the grand old age of 81 -- although he could be tempted back to run the odd half marathon.

Cannes bans nudists after yacht club complains

July 17, 2009 12:55 PM ET

PARIS (Reuters) - Authorities in Cannes have banned naturists from a public beach after the southern French town's yacht club complained the naked bathers had begun to get **out of hand**.

Rich woman victim of new sex blackmail

July 17, 2009 12:56 PM ET

BERLIN (Reuters) - German police arrested three men **suspected** of attempting to **blackmail** Susanne Klatten, the country's wealthiest woman, by claiming they had a secret video of her **affair** with a Swiss gigolo, **prosecutors** said Friday.

Hunt called off for drug lord's hippo

July 16, 2009 12:19 PM ET

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Colombia has **called off** the hunt to kill a drug lord's escaped hippo and will instead try to relocate the beast after its mate was shot dead by order of the government, sparking outrage from animal rights groups.

Genuine Stasi files turn up at film set

July 16, 2009 12:20 PM ET

BERLIN (Reuters) - Secret files of Communist East Germany's Stasi security police were sent to a film set for use as **props**, **triggering** an investigation into how such sensitive documents were **obtained**.

Gang leader charged in scheme to control punk rock

July 15, 2009 10:11 AM ET

CHICAGO (Reuters) - The founder of a street gang that **administered** beatings and made threats in its drive to control the punk rock music scene has been charged with **extorting** a Chicago performer, authorities said on Tuesday.

Vocabulary Answers:

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|-----|-----------------------|----|---|
| 1. | Suffocate | a. | to deprive somebody of air or prevent somebody from breathing, or to be unable to breathe |
| 2. | Extort | b. | the act of forcing somebody to pay money or do something by threatening to reveal shameful or incriminating facts about him or her. |
| 3. | Call off | c. | to cancel or stop an event. |
| 4. | Obtain | d. | to get possession of something, especially by making an effort or having the necessary qualifications |
| 5. | Nab | e. | to seize, snatch, or take something suddenly |
| 6. | Blackmail | f. | to obtain something such as money or information, from somebody by using force, threats, or other unacceptable methods |
| 7. | Out of control | g. | to go beyond the limit of control. |
| 8. | Trigger | h. | to set something off, bring something about, or make something happen |
| 9. | Take effect | i. | to start working. |
| 10. | Hang up | j. | to give up on someone or something; to quit dealing with someone or something. |