

*TRANSCRIPT: (re)Freshers Week, Thursday night social - 2 Feb 2023*

ROB MOORE: Welcome, everyone. It's great to see you here for this social evening tonight. You're here with Rob and Jacob. I'm in the shack of laughs over in-- well, not quite sunny Leicestershire at the moment. It's pitch black outside. Sat here in my garden. And, Jacob, where are you today?

JACOB SMITH: I'm in a very cold South Wales today.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Ah. We're used to doing this in the sunshine in the middle of the day. But it's great to have all of you with us here tonight. So some of you joined us yesterday. We have had our rushes event, where we had some discussions with a few tutors and some people from the help and support teams. If you weren't with us yesterday, check out the videos lots of advice for new students. It was all about helping you to settle in and make you feel a little more comfortable as your studies start.

But tonight's not about that. Tonight's a bit more fun. Tonight, we want to get to know you a little more, and you can get to know a bit about us. So this is our shack of laughs.

We're going to be having some quizzes. We're going to be asking you to share your stories. And we've got some amazing team members looking after you in the chat box. So we've got Cat and Rafael. And they will be there talking with you, answering your questions, and basically having a good time. What we want to see is if you can make them laugh. Can you make them giggle? We want to really get to a sense of community tonight, a sense of fun.

So we're very happy to take any questions you've got. But this is definitely not an evening to sit back and just watch. We want you to be involved. We want you to be engaged.

So the way you can do that, we're going to have some widgets on the screens. So these will be some questions that you can answer, some polls that you can take part in. And you've also got the chat pod. And in the chat pod, you can talk to Cat and Rafael and to Jacob about anything you like tonight. We haven't got an agenda in terms of trying to get you to know anything in particular.

We've managed to secure some prizes as well, so we will be giving out three prizes at the end. There will be a prize for the best story or anecdote that you can come up with. So have a think while we're going through the first part of this. Have you got a really juicy story that you're happy to share with us? Of course, we want it to be true. But actually, if it's not quite true, that's OK as well.

So we're definitely going to be giving a prize out for the best story or anecdote. And we're also looking for the thing that makes us laugh the most. So share what you want to share in the chat, and tell us your stories. And you'll hear a bit about us today.

I notice a few of you are having a smile about my nodad. Now, I had to explain to Jacob what a nodad was, because he is not a man of a certain age like me. If you are in your 50s like me, you will remember John Virgo. And he used to refer to the waistcoat as the nodad, so that's what that is. But yeah. We will be having a poll later to see whether it reappears in future pods.

So the idea tonight, very simply, we've got a few rounds of quizzes that we're going to go through. And as I say, we've called it a shack of laughs, Student Hub Live shack of laughs. And we're going to be going through different rounds and different questions.

So we're going to kick us off with one to start with-- oh, actually, no, I'm being very rude. Jacob, I haven't invited you to tell us who's out there. Look at me. I'm straight off-- I want to get a start on the quiz. Jacob, who have we got--

JACOB SMITH: I know. We're just so pumped for it. We're jumping right in there.

ROB MOORE: It's the coffee. I've been sat here drinking coffee, and that's it. And I'm on my spinny chair.  
So-- no.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: You tell us who--

JACOB SMITH: I haven't heard your coffee--

ROB MOORE: --we've got, Jake.

JACOB SMITH: --machine stop going. I'm a bit concerned about this caffeine intake here, especially at this--

ROB MOORE: This is it. It takes us so long to--

ROB MOORE: --get ready. So, Jacob, who have we got, and where are they from?

JACOB SMITH: Well, we've got Jenny from South Yorkshire. Apparently, the weather's not too great there as well, as a trampoline went for a walk last night. I was wondering where that free trampoline came from this morning.

Jordan's joining us from Herts. Richard is new here. Fantastic seeing Richard and everyone else new here as well. We know you'll have a lot of good fun tonight. Joanne's new as well, and wishes everyone best in their studies. Heidi's from Plymouth. I can't imagine the weather being too great down there, either, but do let me know.

Now, James has a great method for predicting what the weather's going to be, which, to be honest, I'm always sceptical of these weather reports. Apparently, just look out the window, and there you are. There's your weather.

I like that one. I've never trusted weather people. I think it is a bit of a-- maybe wizardy-type thing. It's not something that's normal, is it?

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Absolutely.

JACOB SMITH: Lise is pumped for the quiz. Now, Jennifer, like me, isn't very good at quizzes. That's OK. We can work together on this one. I'm sure we'll do well together.

Natalie does say Cats Cat looks very angry in that picture. And James reckons that Cat is Grumpy Cat's long-lost cousin, which, to be honest, I'm not disagreeing there. We have got--

ROB MOORE: Which is the Grumpy Cat, the one at the top or the one at the bottom?

JACOB SMITH: Oh.

[LAUGHTER]

We'll pretend we didn't hear that. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: I don't think Cat can hear me, so I'll get away with that one. [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: Gerald's got some red velvet cake at hand, which is fantastic. And David-- I don't know why. This sounds really good, but I don't know what is. Apparently, he has Scottish snowball cake, which, yeah, that sounds good. I--

ROB MOORE: I want to know more.

JACOB SMITH: --don't know what it is. Well, speaking of snowballs--

ROB MOORE: All right. Tell us what's Scottish snowball cake.

JACOB SMITH: --I don't-- [LAUGHS] I don't know about anyone else, but I've still got loads of Christmas snacks left over. So I've still got my loads of Christmas biscuits that I'll be tucking into alongside our quiz today. But in the chat--

ROB MOORE: You don't get a manly physique like this having Christmas snacks leftover.

JACOB SMITH: That's it. I'll get there.

ROB MOORE: if you get past first week of gym.

JACOB SMITH: I promise--

ROB MOORE: So, OK.

JACOB SMITH: --I'll get there eventually. But in the chat, if you haven't introduced yourself already, do so. Join in. You can join in with the widgets in the chat. Let us know your thoughts. And as well, we've been saying if we can make Cat and Rafael laugh, we may have some prizes as well.

I know we've got some Amazon vouchers and some Student Hub Live goody bags to go as well. So maybe by the end of the night, we'll decide who can be awarded those. But yeah, we're all pumped in the chat and ready for some fun.

ROB MOORE: Absolutely. And we'll be announcing the prizes at the end. So that's an incentive to stay right to the end to see who's going to get which prizes. So thank you for that, and I definitely want to know more about that snowball cake. So have a think about-- the Amazon vouchers are going to the best anecdotal story. So a little bit longer than just a comment, so make something a little longer and we'll judge those as we go through.

OK. So if we can go over to the start of the quiz. And guess what? They've given me control of the computer. Normally, I'm sat here with my hands tied behind my back and I have to do as I'm told. But they've actually given me the opportunity today to control the computer, so anything could happen. So let's get started. Oh, hey, that first one works. So the first quiz we're going to go to is where's Bobby-- not to be confused with any children's book of a similar name, even though I did sort of look at the logo to see what good one looks like.

So we'll start off. And for this one, we want you to enter your answers into the word cloud. So the word cloud will come up, and you have to enter three answers. So I'm going to ask you three questions. And in each box, you put the name of the city.

So there'll be three boxes. There will be three cities you have to identify. And then once you've put those, in we'll see how many of you get it right. Because it's a word cloud, you need to write it the same way, so a capital letter at the start of the name, and try and spell it correctly.

So let's have a go. So, which city is this? So you'll notice I'm in front of a famous landmark, and you can't see much of it. So where is that one? So in the word cloud, write your thoughts on that city, first of all. OK. So now we're going onto the second one. So this is the second city. So, which city is this? So in the second box on the word cloud, write which city you think this is. So remember, you need to give me a capital letter to start. And good luck spelling it correctly. I think we're looking at some really interesting spellings of this one, I think, Jacob.

And then the third one in this row, here we are. That's me in a third city. Yes, I really do travel everywhere around the world with my graduation robes on. There's nothing like it when you're going city hopping.

So this one, you write the name of the city in the third box on the widget. So the first city was in the first box, the second city in the second box, third city in the third box, then press Enter. OK.

So we'll give you a few seconds. And then we'll go and have a look and see what sort of results we're getting. So once I know that the word cloud is visible, we'll have a look.

Oh, go through them again? OK, so here they are again. So that's the first one. That's the second one. And that's the third one. So we will see if the widget has worked. If not, then hopefully, we'll see some of the things that have been entered.

So what sort of results are we getting, Jacob? What are people saying for the first one?

JACOB SMITH: Well, James, thinks he's got the middle one, for sure, but first and last a bit stumped. A few of us are thinking--

ROB MOORE: All right.

JACOB SMITH: --maybe we're not well-travelled. But we'll see. I think Lisa agrees, though. It's very tough. And Swayze, like me, is a bit bad at places. I'm terrible at these types of things. But I'll always give it a crack.

But on a brighter note, other than my being terrible at these type of things, we know what snowball cake is.

ROB MOORE: Oh, right.

JACOB SMITH: So snowball cake is a cake covered with coconut flakes and filled with jam, which sounds amazing. I absolutely love coconut. So maybe David can send us some coconut cake or a good recipe.

ROB MOORE: I like a good coconut cake. Oh, some people are thinking I've really travelled well. OK, so let's have a look at the first one.

So, Jacob, do you know where this is?

JACOB SMITH: Stumps me.

ROB MOORE: Oh, here we go. Here's the word cloud. We can have a look at this and see what we've got. So I haven't got my glasses on, so I'll have to lean right over. So we've got the first one. So we've got London, Cardiff, Manchester, Saltzberg.

OK. I think-- So the ones that we've got coming up quite large are London, New York. Everything else is fairly small. Aberystwyth, so somebody suggested Aberystwyth.

Right, so let's have a look at how close you were. So there are no prizes for this because we can't actually see who's voted, but it's just a bit of fun. So the first one, as you could see, Big Ben. So there, we've got my hometown of Birmingham-- sorry, London.

So London's is the first one.

[LAUGHTER]

So the second one-- and we definitely saw this in the list-- that's the Bird's Nest, the Olympic stadium in Beijing. And the third one-- and I definitely saw this in there-- that's the Chrysler Building in New York City. So give yourself a clap if you got those.

So interestingly, I thought those were the easy ones. So now let's go for the more difficult ones and see how we get on. So same again, this is a different word cloud, so the same rules apply.

We are going to ask you to put the first city in, or the first town, in this case, the first town in the first box. You can enter up to three words. So none of the answers are more than three words long. So in the first box, this is actually a two-word answer, I'll give you a clue. Well-travelled graduation robe.

OK. So let's have a look at the second one. So where's that one? It's like something growing out of the back of my head. So where was I when this was taken?

OK. And the third one in this section, a bit of a clue there, what's going on behind my ear? Where was this one taken? So what are you like at travelling, Jacob? Where have you been recently? Where have you been out exploring?

JACOB SMITH: Ooh. My most recent ones, I went to Croatia. And then I visited some family in Ireland as well. So, very good trips, lovely countries, definitely recommend.

But we seem to have a great story-- well, not for Rach, but anyway, it's a story. Rach got stuck in a lift in a hotel in London last week for 40 minutes. And apparently, it was tiny as well. Had to call an engineer out, but the hotel staff managed to get her out.

Oh my word, i can't imagine that. That is a bit of a crazy story there. Alex went to London for Wembley, and I approve of that, ended up in the chocolate shop, walked out with 1 and 1/2 kilogrammes of chocolate. So I didn't know you could buy them in such quantities. So I'm quite intrigued by that, actually.

ROB MOORE: Oh, was that the-- Well, we can't advertise them.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Sorry, carry on. No, I was about to ask a question, but I--

JACOB SMITH: Melissa has--

ROB MOORE: --realised it was about a specific one. [LAUGHTER]

JACOB SMITH: Melissa has noticed that you may be able to see the name above your head in one of these pictures. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Yes, you could well do. So let's show you the pictures again just while you're entering the images. I'll just run through them one more time.

So that's the first one. I'll give you a clue. It's by the sea. That's the second one. And that's the third one. And, of course, while you're writing in, tell us about some of the fascinating places you've been.

I've never actually been to Ireland for anything other than work. I've never had the opportunity to really go around and explore Ireland, which is a real shame. So I think that's definitely on my to-do list. I've been there working a few times, but you only get to see the conference centre and the airport, which is a real shame.

Right, I think we've got some answers in. So let's have a look at some of the answers you've put in. You think I'm a lot more exotic than I actually am. So there's a few Land's Ends that are there, which is fantastic. Cairo, I think somebody saw a pyramid on there.

But yeah, we've got Las Vegas. And I got a Blackpool. So I think not too bad, not too bad. So I think two of those answers are definitely correct, one we'll see in a second. So if we can have the slides up again, I'll show you the answers.

So here we are, the most southerly point of England, Land's End. So they have the little signpost there, pointing out in different directions. When we went on this particular trip, my little dog stood on a wasp. And poor thing-- she was OK, but her foot was sore. So she was limping around. And we've got a lovely picture of her sitting very proudly in our beach bag with her little head sticking up, because we had to carry her all the way around that day. She was perfectly OK, but she loves going in the bag now. Second one, absolutely, the Blackpool Tower. Nobody was fooled. I was hoping I might get a few of you thinking this was Paris. And the third one, yeah, quite a few of you were going down the Egypt route. But actually, no, it's Las Vegas.

So I fooled you on that one, managed to come up with a few thinking it was Egypt. Excellent. So the last round, then, just the last few that we've got. I think we've got two or three more.

So again, the answer to this one, you put in the first box. The answer to the second one, you put in the second box. And I'm not sure if there are three on this one or two. So let's have a look. So where is that one taken?

Again, I managed to iron those robes really well after I'd gotten out of the plane. And actually, this is the last one, which means in the third box, just put a space or a random word. Let's see if we can find some interesting random words. Because that really annoys the team that are looking after the word cloud, because they'll just get lots of little random words. [LAUGHS] I've been told not to do that, but that's-- [LAUGHS] I'm going to be put on mute now and kicked out. You watch.

So let's go back through them again. This is the first one. If you're not quite sure, you want to look over my right shoulder or next to my right shoulder, that's where the real clue is. So that's the first one.

I'll be impressed if many of you get the second one. Depends how far travelled you are. So have a think about that one. And remember, just put some space or a random word in for the third one. You have to put three guesses in, but there are only two answers.

So, Jacob, have you been to that last place? Do you know? [LAUGHS] Well, don't say where it is, but-- JACOB SMITH: I have. I--

ROB MOORE: --have you been there? Ah. [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: Yes. I remember years and years ago, I was doing a project. And we did a little video around it, which may still be floating out there on YouTube, of a much younger Jacob with probably much longer hair as well. [LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: So there's a clue. A younger Jacob has been there, an internet sensation when he was younger.

JACOB SMITH: That's how I started my path to stardom.

ROB MOORE: Oh. Oh, I just noticed people are sharing their favourite cakes. We've started something off here with the old snowball cake. So yeah, if you like a particular cake--

JACOB SMITH: Well, speaking of cake--

ROB MOORE: --pineapple drizzle cake is my favourite-- oh, sorry. Carry on, Jacob.

JACOB SMITH: Oh, I like a lemon-drizzle cake. Any citrusy flavours, mm, perfect. But I think I'm going to have a chat with Edward at some point. Because Edward says, I'm an amateur baker and I've pretty much baked everything. I love making roulade, meringues, and bread.

However-- this is the part that I like the sound of-- every Christmas, I make all the yule log, amongst other things. I have to have a second person with me when it comes to rolling the Swiss roll part. And yeah.

ROB MOORE: Excellent.

JACOB SMITH: Apparently, it can go wrong making these Swiss rolls. But yeah, maybe I can order one. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: I don't mind any--

JACOB SMITH: If you need a second person--

ROB MOORE: --that fail.

JACOB SMITH: --to help, it sounds big.

ROB MOORE: I'm always open to have failures. Send them through. So let's have a quick look at the word cloud, then, and see what we've got. So Sydney, that's coming through nice and big. Yes. Milton Keynes-- you've got it. But there were a couple of people fell in my cunning trap and said the White House.

So let's have a quick look at the pictures. So here's the first one. Absolutely, Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Opera House. And for those who perhaps haven't been there, this is Walton Hall. So this is the manor house that is at the centre of the campus for the Open University.

So if ever you get the opportunity to go to the campus, there it is right in the middle of all the academic buildings next to the hub, and it's lovely. And if you get the chance to actually get a tour around it, it's fantastic.

So thank you for that. I hope you enjoyed that first round. What we're going to do now is, we're going to take a slight breath. And you're going to get the opportunity to answer the next question, which is who in the team. So there'll be a multiple choice come up on the screen, and it's got four pictures.

There's a picture of Jacob, picture of me, picture of Cat, and picture of Rafa. And the first question is, who in our team was in a rock band and played on stage and toured with the Arctic Monkeys? So what you need to do is just pick your chosen member of the team. So it's definitely true for one of us.

And we're going to watch a short video. And then we're going to come back and tell you the answer.

[VIDEO PLAYBACK]

- Sixty-second adventures in thought. Number six, Schrodinger's cat.

[JAZZ MUSIC]

Erwin Schrodinger was a physicist, a theoretical biologist, and probably more of a dog person.

[DOG BARKS]

In the 1920s, scientists discovered quantum mechanics, which said that some particles are so tiny, you can't even measure them without changing them. But the theory only worked if before you measure them, the particle is in a superposition of every possible state, all at the same time. To tackle that, Schrodinger imagined a cat in a box with a radioactive particle and a Geiger counter attached to a vial of poison.

If the particle decays, it triggers the Geiger counter, releases the poison, and bye-bye, Tiddles. But if the particle is in two states, both decayed and not decayed, the cat is also in two states, both dead and not dead, until someone looks in the box. In practise, it's impossible to put a cat into a superposition. You'd have the animal rights lobby up in arms. But you can isolate atoms, and they do seem to be in two states at once.

Quantum mechanics challenges our whole perception of reality. So maybe it's understandable that Schrodinger himself decided he didn't like it and was sorry he ever started on about cats.

[CATS YOWLING]

[END PLAYBACK]

ROB MOORE: Welcome back. Hopefully you enjoyed that video. We love these sixty-second adventures in thought. They're available on our OpenLearn platform. So there are quite a few of them. So definitely go and check them out.

So, Jacob, we've got some votes in. And let's see. Which of us do they think is a rock star? So, wow, everybody-- well, not everybody, but more than half of the audience has gone for Rafa. So, Rafael, apparently, you look like a rock star.

I'm quite pleased, Jacob. Apparently, I look a bit more like a rock star than you. So I'm all right with that.

[LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: I should have thought about my outfit a bit more. Maybe next time, I can outdo you on the waistcoat. We'll see, though.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Absolutely. So--

JACOB SMITH: But I know-- well, Swayze reckons it's both Cat and the cat. So [LAUGHS] I don't know how that would work.

ROB MOORE: Ooh, I like that.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Cat and Figaro. [LAUGHS] OK.

JACOB SMITH: Cat and Figaro. Actually, that sounds like a band name in itself, doesn't it? [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: It does, doesn't it? So actually, we'll tell you the answer now. I'm just going to get the screen up. There we go. So the answer to the Arctic Monkey one is actually Cat.

So this is the newspaper page. The Arctic Monkeys, very early on, a new band from Sheffield, are supported by local bands. And here she is. Here's our Cat in the rock band. And this was, I think-- you can correct me if I'm wrong in the chat, Cat-- this you was performing at the Open University with your band before you came to study here, if I remember that correctly.

So, fantastic, so Cat was the first correct answer. So before we go back to the quiz, Jacob, have we got any good stories, any other stories that we've heard? So we're after this candidate for the Amazon vouchers. So--

JACOB SMITH: Well--

ROB MOORE: --what's your top one so far?

JACOB SMITH: --I do think we have a good candidate. We got a bit of a laugh--

ROB MOORE: Go on, then.

JACOB SMITH: --laugh out of Raphael and Cat. So Rebecca says, I made my dog a special doggy cupcake once, and my dad ate it. After, when I realised he tried the normal ones, and he says the dog's ones was better.

[LAUGHTER]

You don't want people saying that about your cupcake. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: We definitely want the Swiss roll end and the yule log, not the doggy cupcakes. We definitely want to get that.

JACOB SMITH: Yes. But apparently, they were still good, according to Rebecca's dad. So [LAUGHS] oh dear.

ROB MOORE: Yeah, I can understand it. We used to make treats for our dogs. And we used to use one of those healthy grills. And you put small pieces of beef on there, and you let them dry out very slowly over about eight or nine hours.

And we gave them to my sister-in-law for her dog. And her dad ate them all. He loved the dried beefy treats.

JACOB SMITH: Oh god.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: But yeah.

JACOB SMITH: There we go.

ROB MOORE: I can see where he goes.



JACOB SMITH: But Edward also tells us that he's got a dog cake cookbook, which I think is brilliant. Because dogs are the best, aren't they? They deserve it. If we can have cake, why can't they?

ROB MOORE: Right. We're going to move on to our next quiz now then. Let's see how you get on with this one, guys. In this quiz, we're going to ask you to put the answers in the chat box. So that's because the answers are a little bit longer. And this one is called level one module synonyms. And what we've done here-- honestly, I've not gone and pinched this format from any BBC2 show that's on at six o'clock at all.

But what we're going to do is I'm going to describe some level one modules. Again, we're going to do them in groups of three. And we're going to see your answers come up in the chat box. So we're going to describe the courses using names that mean the same but aren't the same.

And these are our faculties-- arts and social sciences, STEM, wells, the business school, and the law school. So let's start with the first one. So there is a level one arts and social sciences module. And the name of it means the same as inventive scribbling.

OK. So if you write this down, write down number one in front of it. That will help because it will be the first answer. So one and then your answer in the chat pod. And it's a level one arts and social sciences module. And the name is the same as inventive scribbling. It'll all make sense in a second.

The second one, another arts and social sciences module, checking out a friendly planet. So the name of the module means the same as those words, but they're not those words. You might even be studying this. So some of those of you who are just starting on your new module, you might be studying this one. So put a two in front of it when you answer that one.

And the third one, put a three in front of it. This is one of our business school modules. And I work in the business school. So this is one of ours. This is the faculty I work in. One and one's dosh, so there's a level one business school module that means the same as one and one's dosh. So that's number three.

OK. So did you know those, Jacob? Were those ones that you recognised? Maybe you've studied some of them.

JACOB SMITH: I'm not sure I've studied them, but it depends what they actually are. I think the second and third one were a bit challenging for me. The first one, I was quite pleased with myself getting that one. But a lot of us did as well, which is absolutely great. It means that we're good at synonyms. Gerard just prefers synonym rolls, so-- yeah, me too.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Oh, very good. [CLAPS] We like that.

JACOB SMITH: But Carol, Swayze, Bianca, Edward, Susie, James, Alex, Jay, Heidi, Melissa, Zoey, you've all got creative writing as well. So there seems to be a trend on that one.

ROB MOORE: OK. So should we have a look at the other two again, just to remind you what they are? So the second one, I think, is quite hard. The third one is my favourite because I felt so smug when I came up with it. I really did.

So checking out a friendly planet, checking out a friendly planet. It'll make more sense in the next round. And the last one, this is one I was very smug with, one and one's dosh. One and one's dosh. OK. You will notice there's a certain amount of colloquialisms coming in here. A bit of Brummie slang is going to make its way into the answers, but that's perfectly OK.

All right, so let's see how we've got. So the first one, I think everybody's got the first one. So the first one, inventive scribbling. Absolutely, creative writing. Nice, simple one. Did we get any good ones for the second one, Jacob? Or don't worry if we haven't.

JACOB SMITH: So we're thinking it's a geography one. That's what James reckons. I know we're thinking maybe search for hospitable planet.

ROB MOORE: [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: Edward reckons leaving Gallifrey.

ROB MOORE: Oh, excellent. Yeah.

JACOB SMITH: David says planet Earth. Suzy says discovering Earth.

ROB MOORE: Nearly, nearly.

JACOB SMITH: Yeah. Where are we with that one? What do we reckon?

ROB MOORE: All right. Let's show them then.

JACOB SMITH: We want to know.

ROB MOORE: We want to know-- investigating the social world. [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: That was really hard.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: It was hard. You got to throw a stinker in. These are university students. We expect them to be able to do this sort of thing.

JACOB SMITH: Putting our brains--

ROB MOORE: So what about--

JACOB SMITH: --to work, yeah.

ROB MOORE: --last one then? What about the last one?

JACOB SMITH: Well--

ROB MOORE: The last one's there's a really popular one in the business school.

JACOB SMITH: Carol reckons me and my money.

ROB MOORE: Ooh, close.

JACOB SMITH: Beverley

reckons me and my money as well. James, yours and my money, Jamie and money. Edward, you and your money. It seems to be a lot of these variations. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Oh. OK. So let's have a look. And actually, so the one and one's dosh, you're very close. It was you and your money.

JACOB SMITH: So this is one I'm slightly ashamed I didn't get. Because I actually did this module.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Excellent.

JACOB SMITH: Although I'm not good at synonyms, I did very well at that module. And it's a very fun module. I enjoyed doing it.

ROB MOORE: All right. We will just do the next three then, very quickly. So the first one is finding sums. That's a little easier. Finding sums. So again, that's number one for this part. So number one, finding sums. What's the level one science, technology, engineering, and mathematics course that means the same as finding sums? Have a think about it.

Oh, the next

one-- again, some of these, I really laughed when I came up with them. And again, quite proud of this one as well. The Queen's tongue-- or probably more accurately now, the King's tongue, applied to swotty reasons. The Queen's tongue applied to swotty reasons.

So have a think about what could be another term for the Queen's tongue and what are swotty reasons. I'm glad it wasn't autocorrected to spotty. At least it kept it as swotty. I've had some real games with autocorrection recently. Most people think my name's Ron because that's what my Apple iPhone normally thinks I am. It's Rob. But [LAUGHS] this wasn't autocorrected.

OK. So let me just-- the next one is rules for the wrongdoer and the houses of judgement. So this is a law school level one module. And I'm hoping some of you might be taking these, so it may jog your memory. So rules for the wrongdoer and the houses of judgement.

OK. So how are we doing with answers, Jacob? Are we get some answers in?

JACOB SMITH: We got lots of answers in. Carol, Heidi, and Jennifer reckons it's investigating maths. James says discovering maths. Edward says discovering mathematics, MU123.

ROB MOORE: Ooh.

JACOB SMITH: Melissa says MU123 discovering maths. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: People are talking over--

JACOB SMITH: I think they know a bit more--

ROB MOORE: --you and everything.

JACOB SMITH: --than we do here. Yeah. I love this. We always say, oh, what module are you doing? It's always these codes, isn't it? It's when you're--

ROB MOORE: Absolutely.

JACOB SMITH: --the student community, you just know what they are, don't you?

ROB MOORE: Ah, maybe that's what I should do next time. I should put the module code in with the wrong name.

JACOB SMITH: Ah.

ROB MOORE: You've given me an idea--

JACOB SMITH: That's a good idea.

ROB MOORE: --for the next time we do this.

JACOB SMITH: That'd be a challenge.

ROB MOORE: I think that's a good idea. So let's have a look then. So finding sums, discovering mathematics. So, well done, whoever came up with that one. Fantastic.

The Queen's tongue-- did we get an answer for this one, Jacob, the Queen's tongue applied to swotty reasons?

JACOB SMITH: Edwards reckons royal speech York notes.

[LAUGHTER]

James says English for academic purposes. So does Carol as well.

ROB MOORE: Oh. You see, we've got some swots out there. So if we can move that over, absolutely. English for academic purposes. And I was quite proud of that one.

And then this is the third one. But apparently, there's a lot of chicken chat going on in the chat box. What's this about the chickens?

JACOB SMITH: Yeah. Apparently, Dawn didn't realise one of the chickens was hiding in the house. I just had to put a chicken to bed. [LAUGHS] Oh dear.

ROB MOORE: There you go. That's--

JACOB SMITH: Well, to be fair, we talk about different study buddies a lot. So I can--

ROB MOORE: We do.

JACOB SMITH: --a chicken chilling out with you while you're studying. That's something that I can see.

ROB MOORE: Absolutely, especially if you get a bit peckish-- eggs, eggs, yeah.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Just making sure I make that clear. Yeah, if you want an egg while you're studying. So what do we mean by this one then, the rules for the wrongdoer and houses of judgement?

JACOB SMITH: So Jay's thinking law and the law courts, so he reckons law court. Gerald reckons criminal law. James, laws for the criminal and the law courts. Law and courts, law and order. Well, we definitely think law's in there somewhere.

ROB MOORE: I think law's in there somewhere, so absolutely. So nobody's got it exactly right, but you're not far off. It's criminal law and the courts. So, brilliant.

So I hope you enjoyed that bit of a quiz. That was a bit of fun. And thank you for giving me a new way of doing it. Because now I can put the module codes in. That's going to be a really good help.

We're going to go into our next video in a second. And we want you to answer the next one of our who in the team. So the next question is going to come up. And this one is about, which of the team kicked over the manger and made baby Jesus fall off the stage at the nativity? So which one of us looks like that we would actually go and kick over the manger at a nativity?

So you can vote on that while we watch the next video. And make sure you grab yourself a drink. I've been provided with little square biscuits to eat as well. So I'm going to eat these while we watch the video, and you should do the same. And this one is the theory of the Big Bang in 60 seconds. I'll see you in just a minute.

[VIDEO PLAYBACK]

- Sixty-second adventures in astronomy. Number one, the Big Bang Just how big was the Big Bang? The idea that the universe is expanding as the result of a single explosion wasn't always universally popular. In fact, the term Big Bang was coined in 1949 by astronomer Fred Hoyle as a way of sarcastically dismissing it.

[BALLOON POPS]

But thanks to Edwin Hubble, we now know our observable universe is expanding. And extrapolating backwards, we can tell that 13.7 billion years ago, it was all compacted into one super dense ball. And this singularity expanded and cooled to become everything in the universe that we see around us. So though the Big Bang involved everything in existence, its beginnings were really quite small. And after measuring the background radiation in the universe, astronomers have worked out that the Big Bang was only around 120 decibels, about the volume of an average rock concert.

[ROCK MUSIC]

So while the Big Bang still has a lot to teach us about the universe, we do know-- at least to start with-- it wasn't particularly big. And it wasn't much of a bang, either.

[DOG BARKS]

[END PLAYBACK]

ROB MOORE: OK. So hopefully, you enjoyed learning all about the Big Bang. So back to the question, which one of our team did you decide looks like they were capable of committing this heinous crime of kicking the manger and making baby Jesus fall off the stage? So let's see who you voted for.

Oh. Apparently, Jacob, it's you. You look like the criminal type.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS] Everyone thinks I've got this dark side to me.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Absolutely, absolutely. And you guys are going to be amazed. We haven't got a picture of this, unfortunately. But she did say she'd dress up in the angel costume again if we needed the picture.

It's actually Cat.

So what happened was, when Cat was-- ooh, we have got the picture. When Cat was seven, she was the tallest in her class and was given the role of Mary in the nativity. But she didn't want to be Mary. She wanted to be an angel.

So she kicked the manger, and the little doll rolled off the stage. And as a punishment, she was downgraded to an angel, which was what she wanted in the first time. So there's probably a lesson in there somewhere. But whether it's a lesson we want to teach our kids, I don't know.

But thank you for that. So, Cat, you obviously look like an angel. Nobody believed it was you. So thank you for that.

We're going to go on to the next quiz. Oh. Actually, I keep moving on to quizzes. Jacob, have any other comments popped up, before we go on?

JACOB SMITH: Well, we've got a bit of a story from Chloe, who had an interview a few weeks back via Zoom. Apparently, the time was brought forward a bit, and her toddler was in the bath at the time. And she was doing her interview and then suddenly heard in the background, oh, Mum, I've done a poo.

[LAUGHTER]

Apparently, the interviewer did hear, and Chloe was just so embarrassed. But alongside all that embarrassment, she did move on to the next stage. So I suppose that's something. But I'm sure that interviewer is going to keep that as a story to tell for sometime. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Yes. Yeah. That's a good one. We like that story.

JACOB SMITH: Yeah. Oh dear.

ROB MOORE: So, any others before I go into the emoji quiz?

JACOB SMITH: Well, we do know Edward was once in Red Riding Hood and had the choice to play a grandmother or a tree. But Edward picked the tree. Because apparently, the tree had more lines and a song. I wouldn't have expected that. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Well, there you go-- not in the version of Red Riding Hood I've seen, but that's obviously--

JACOB SMITH: No, I don't--

ROB MOORE: --a different one.

JACOB SMITH: --remember that particularly.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Ah. So the emoji quiz, then, so this is me playing again. We were looking at programmes that the Open University has worked on. So you've probably noticed a lot of TV programmes are made in association with the Open University. And our logo pops up at the end.

So what I've done is I've tried to depict some of these programmes in picture format. So we're just going to do three of these. We're just going to use three, and we're going to use the word cloud again. It's

working quite well at the moment. Oh, sorry, no-- in the chat pod, not the word cloud. So back in the chat pod-- beg your pardon. Somebody is busily trying to put the word clouds up, and it's not that.

In the chat pod, try and work out which TV programme-- they're all BBC TV programmes that are coproduced or the Open University supplies technical advice on. So here we go. We're just going to do three of these.

So what's this first one? Write your answer in the chat box. So what's that first programme? Hopefully you'll get a sense of it. OK.

I'm going to move on a few. Some of these are quite easy. So hopefully we'll get them a little quicker. So that's number one. So the second one, put a two in front of this one. What's your answer for this one, a TV programme that the OU has collaborated on? We've given the technical expertise.

So we don't just work with students. We do a lot of work with different bodies, different research organisations. So, which programme's this one? So that's number two.

And finally, number three, which one's that? OK. So once you've got your answers in the pod, we'll have a look and see who's got the best one. So, Jacob, we getting any answers in there yet?

JACOB SMITH: There seems to be consensus in the chat, which always shows we're on the right track. And it helps me out as well because I don't have to think too hard about it.

ROB MOORE: [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: So Claire, Melissa, Andrea, James, Zoey, Jay, Heidi, Swayze, Edward, Suzy reckon the first one is going to be spring watch.

ROB MOORE: [LAUGHS] OK. I didn't make that one too difficult. Any thoughts on the second one?

JACOB SMITH: So it seems that we're maybe on a good track with this one as well. Carol, Jay, Melissa, Claire, David, Gerard, Joanne, Edward, Rebecca, Melissa, we reckon it's blue planet.

ROB MOORE: So I think we've got the level now, students, TV. Job done. Absolutely. It's blue planet. And yes, correct. And what about the third one?

JACOB SMITH: We seem to have some differences with this third one. So Heidi, Claire, Melissa, Swayze reckon it's casualty. Richard thinks city hospital. Nageema thinks NHS. Jay thinks 24 hours in A&E, so does safina. And Jennifer reckons it's Doc Marten.

ROB MOORE: Oh, right. OK. So no, simple one for that. It's just simply hospital. [LAUGHS]

JACOB SMITH: Aw.

ROB MOORE: Just the one word.

JACOB SMITH: That's kind of deceptive, having the three pictures there.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: Absolutely, absolutely. And we did those quite quickly. Let's have another very quick round. Because my favourite one's this next one. So let's see if anybody can figure out this one.

So, again, back in the chat box, we've got one, two, and three. So this is number one. What programme is that? Now, this is really hard. This is the one I wanted to get to. This is really hard.

So we've got a tick. We've got a microscope. We've got some DNA, a fingerprint, and a police badge. So which programme is that? That's more difficult to identify, I think, that one.

And then the third one, number three, which one's this? Piles of cash, but what's it pointing at? I had to smile today because I went into my module website, and there was a big advert for this programme on there, reminding people that it was on today. So it made me smile because I knew we were talking about it tonight. But what's this one?

Let's have a look at some of the answers, then. So, Jacob, what have we got for this first one?

JACOB SMITH: So Claire, Heidi, Melissa, Suzy, Zoey, Carol reckon it's frozen planet. Edward reckons it's frozen planet 2.

ROB MOORE: Ah, Edward, you're there. It's frozen-- it's the second one that we're pointing at. I like to throw these confusing ones in when we can. Perfect.

Now, this really difficult one, did anybody come up with an answer to this?

JACOB SMITH: So we've got a few different ones. It is a challenge. So Gerald and Jay reckon it's CSI. Carol says forensic detectives. Melissa says Sherlock Holmes. Alex says silent witness. David says forensic detectives. Claire reckons criminal minds.

So we are a bit split on this one. I'm not sure I can get it.

ROB MOORE: Well, they're all academic programmes. They're all informative programmes. It's actually the real CSI. That's what the ticks for the approved.

And this final one, did anybody get this one?

JACOB SMITH: So we're reckoning either the money programme, says Carol and Richard. Edward says money, money, money. James says on the money. And Jordan reckons million pound drop.

ROB MOORE: Oh, OK. Well, no, none of those is even close. What you have to notice is that there's three piles of money, but one is larger than the other. And it's a colour. It's the big green money show.

[LAUGHS] Excellent.

JACOB SMITH: It's all in the detail, isn't it?

ROB MOORE: All right. We're going to have our last video now and our last "who do you think" quiz it is.

So just before we run the last video, the question that's going to be coming up for you to vote on is, one of our team has been on stage at the Birmingham Philharmonic-- sorry, the Birmingham Symphony Hall with Ronan Keating. Which one of us is that?

So you need to vote. So one of us has been on stage, Birmingham Symphony Hall, with Ronan Keating.

And you can think about that while you watch a much younger Jacob back in his early Student Hub Live days.

So see you in a couple of minutes. And remember, grab your tea. Eat your biscuits.

[VIDEO PLAYBACK]

- As usual, we were having such a massive discussion about this last night. And I think that we're probably going to have another massive discussion on the--

- Oh, good.

- --Student Hub Live team tonight. And that's certainly raised an awful lot of questions.

[LOUD BUZZING]

- Oh.

- You two.

- Huh. Sorry, we're having a--

[LAUGHS]

- Sorry, Paul. You can't take them anywhere. They're ridiculous. Right, anyway.

[END PLAYBACK]

ROB MOORE: [LAUGHS]

Oh, dear me. So, Jacob, definitely more unruly on the hair there. And have you still got the lightsaber?

JACOB SMITH: It's sitting there right behind me, ready to go. So if I'm ever challenged, Rob-- [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: We've got to figure out how to do a remote sabre fight. There must be a way to do it.

JACOB SMITH: Definitely.

[LAUGHTER]

ROB MOORE: So hopefully, we got some votes. So which of us have you voted as being the person on stage with Ronan Keating? Ooh, we've got a draw. So either me or Rafa. See, they don't expect you to be on stage with Ronan Keating there, Jacob.

But, Cat, now they know that Cat is so much into her rock and roll, maybe it's Cat. Well, the answer-- and if we can get the screen back up for the answers-- the answer is actually-- it's me. But I wasn't singing. I was actually on stage at the graduation last May. My wife was really impressed because it was our 35th wedding anniversary.

And I says, oh, I'm going to my student's graduation. And, oh, Ronan Keating's there. But Ronan Keating was receiving an honorary doctorate for all of his work on cancer research in Ireland. And it was lovely, the nicest bloke ever-- the longest graduation I've been to because all of the graduates stopped to have a selfie taken with Ronan Keating as they came across the stage. It was lovely.

But yes, so that's me on stage with Ronan Keating, Birmingham Symphony Hall. And yes, I was still wearing my Bobby dress, so enjoying that. OK, so that's it for the quizzes for now. So, Jacob, any more stories that we've got to share?

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS] Just a few. So Jordan was just out shopping, as you are, and dropped a bottle of pop on the floor while waiting at the till. And apparently, there's loads of people on the till. And this bottle of pop is just exploding everywhere, spinning around. And Jordan dives on this bottle of pop to save everyone else in the store, which actually sounds quite heroic. But I could imagine the chaos going on in there. [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: Oh.

JACOB SMITH: Oh dear.

ROB MOORE: If only there had been a mobile phone there, that's what we needed. We needed that on camera.

JACOB SMITH: [LAUGHS]

ROB MOORE: I'll take one for the team.

JACOB SMITH: I know--

[LAUGHTER]

That's very heroic, though. I like that. James remembers his first nativity was playing one of the shepherds and had a simple tea towel on the head, as you do. I remember those days.

ROB MOORE: Yes.

JACOB SMITH: Apparently, James got a massive fright and actually spent the rest of the time sitting on the edge of the stage, just staring out. Oh dear. But a few years later, James was back at it and actually was doing a solo musical number, so got over that stage fright pretty well.

ROB MOORE: So we just need now, we need Cat and Rafa to come up with their chosen winners, and you as well, Jacob. I'll give you a couple of seconds to chat, just while I remind everybody that Student Hub Live, we are across the whole university.

We're a number of tutors and supporters, and we come together to help you develop your study Skills we talk about generic study skills and generic issues. Most weeks, there is an event going on with Student



Hub Live, and you're very welcome to come and join us. You'll find all the information on the Student Hub Live website.

And we'd like to have a good chat. It's meant to be fun. And the chat is as mad as it is today. And that's what we encourage. We'd like you to get involved, like you to feel part of something that is more than just being separated in studying rooms. Study can sometimes feel a little lonely.

So come and join the gang. Come and talk with us. And yeah, we definitely like to chat about a whole range of different things. But we also like to give you some good hints and tips as well. So look out for some of the events coming up. And you just need to sign up and come and join us when the events are on. So, Jacob, where are we with the winners?

JACOB SMITH: Well, I've heard Cat and Rafa have chosen their winner. So we might have a little drum roll in the chat for them to announce the winner to us. But while they're announcing their winner, I actually really like this story from Richard.

Richard said earlier, my granddad worked for Cadbury in the 1920s with a horse-drawn narrowboat. And I used to write for canal and riverboat magazine. I like that one because it made me thought about my family as well. And I wondered, maybe they were in touch with Richard, because some of my family worked around the Cadbury factory as well.

So I really like Richard's story. And I think, yeah, giving me a moment to think as well. So yeah, I think Richard deserves a Student Hub Live goody bag for sharing that with us. And Richard's been--

ROB MOORE: Excellent.

JACOB SMITH: --great at contributing and has done well on the quiz as well.

ROB MOORE: OK. So thank you. So Richard's one winner. The winner of the Amazon voucher for the best story, it's Rebecca. The cupcake story for the dogs made us smile. We like that.

The next one is Chloe because we really liked the Teams meeting and the poo in the bath. I think that was a shoo-in, really. That was always going to be there.

And then finally, we've got-- is that Lise and the cat-squared comment for Cat's photo. So there we are. And I've probably put Rafa in trouble now. Because I bet he had three prizes, and we've announced four winners.

So there you go, just to cause a bit of grief at the end.

[LAUGHTER]

So he's got to go out and find--

JACOB SMITH: As you do.

ROB MOORE: --an extra prize now. Oh, actually, they've put a fifth one in. So this is down to you, Rafael. James's ship story is a fifth prize winner. So thank you, everyone. We've had a great night tonight. I can't believe the hour's gone already. I've got loads more questions to go on, loads of things to talk about. But we've run out of time.

But it also means I've got loads of questions if we want to do this again. So we've got a feedback form for you to fill in. Let us know what you thought. Is this sort of madness what you like to come and join in with? Do you want a few more of these? We love doing them. So if you want a few more socials, let us know the sort of thing you want.

And also, comment on the-- does the waistcoat come out again? The feedback form is really important because we need to be able to say, yes, students want this. And the more you tell us what you want, the more we can come back and do this with you.

If you want something different, tell us what you want different, and we can work around you. So please fill in the feedback form. It really makes a difference when it comes to us saying, oh, we want to do some more of these. It gives us the power to persuade people to let us do it.

So, Jacob, any last comments before we let people go and find their biscuits?

JACOB SMITH: Just a big thank you to everyone in the chat. I've had such a lovely evening chatting to everyone, hearing and about everyone's funny stories, and knowing it's not just me that has lots of Christmas food left over that we need to get through.

I really hope I can catch you all again soon at another Student Hub Live. And if there's anything we missed or you want to ask us, we're always at the end of an email, studenthub...

ROB MOORE: Oh, look at that. [LAUGHS] Jacob freezes at the end. So don't worry, we'll put the email address up on the screen for you. So don't worry about that. So if you want to get in touch, you can join us using the email address. And come and join us at one of the sessions. We have a lot of time.

You'll come across Margaret and Isabella. Everybody's completely mad, but we're mad in different ways.

So come along and visit us, and we really look forward to seeing you. Thank you for your time tonight.

Enjoy yourselves. And from the study shack in Leicestershire, good night.

[AUDIO LOGO]