

Mind games

(LEVEL B2/C1)

Part 1: WARM-UP

EX.1. What do you think is the difference between a magician, an illusionist, a hypnotist and a mind-reader? Have you ever seen any of these people performing? Did you enjoy it? Why/why not? Discuss the questions with your partner.



Part 2: VOCABULARY

EX.2.a Match the expressions with their meanings.

A. susceptible to sth	e	a. a feeling or thought that relates to sth
B. a count	d	b. to say sth quickly without thinking about it
C. genuinely	f	c. strange or unusual
D. freaky	c	d. a European noble man
E. an association	a	e. easily influenced by sth
F. to pluck sth out of the air	b	f. in a sincere way

EX.2.b Now use the expressions in an appropriate form to fill in the sentences below.

1. Did he check these figures anywhere or did he just.....**pluck**.....them.....**out of the air**.....?
2. This film was a bit ...**freaky**..... I was a little scared.
3. She is so**susceptible**..... to flattery – all you have to do is give her a compliment and she'll agree to anything!
4. Have you ever read „The ...**Count**..... of Monte Cristo?”
5. I am**genuinely**..... sorry for what I've done to you!
6. We didn't see any particular**association**..... between these two events.

Part 3: WATCHING

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNc47aDjHvI&t=77s>

EX.3.a You are going to watch a video of an illusionist performing two tricks. What happened? How did he do it?

EX.3.b Now watch the video again and answer the questions below:

1. What does Brown enjoy the most when performing? **not knowing how susceptible people will be to his methods**
2. Who was he hired to entertain that evening? **Lord Davenport, young barrons, counts and countesses**
3. What does Brown order Alex to do? **to lay his hand flat on the table and imagine he's typing in his pin number**
4. What is he not allowed to do? **to move his head**
5. What were the words used by the participants? **banana, apple, gold, star, bright, black**
6. What was Jenna's reaction like at the end of the video? **she was very surprised**

Part 4: GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT:

EX.4. Using past modals try to speculate with your partner about some possible ways Derren Brown may have performed the trick.

I think he may have.....

I think he could've.....

He definitely must've.....

I suppose he couldn't have.....

Part 5: SPEAKING

EX.5. Answer the following questions with your partner:

1. Why are shows like this one so popular among people?
2. Would you like to take part in Derren Brown's performance? Why/why not?
3. Do you think you need to be particularly talented or skillful to perform tricks like these?