

# ROWAN ATKINSON (MR BEAN)

[http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/r/rowan\\_atkinson.html](http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/r/rowan_atkinson.html)

## CONTENTS:

<b>The Reading / Tapescript</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Synonym Match and Phrase Match</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Listening Gap Fill</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Choose the Correct Word</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Spelling</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Put the Text Back Together</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Scrambled Sentences</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Discussion</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Student Survey</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Writing</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Homework</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Answers</b>	<b>13</b>

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Rowan Atkinson is an English comedian, actor and writer. He is famous around the world for his character Mr. Bean. He was listed in the top 50 funniest people ever by a group of comedians. Atkinson shot to fame in Britain in the late 1970s. Throughout the 1980s he starred in one of Britain's most successful comedies, Black Adder. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide fame and acclaim.

Atkinson was born in the north of England in 1955. He went to very good schools and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. While studying for a Master's degree at Oxford University he fell in love with acting and comedy and joined an amateur theatre company. He took his comedy sketches to the Edinburgh Festival in 1976 and performed on the street.

After university, Atkinson got a lucky break and made a one-off comedy show for a British TV company. He quickly went on to appear in the hit comedy show 'Not the Nine O'Clock News'. This made him one of Britain's most popular comedians. From 1993, he starred in the incredibly successful Black Adder series, which he also co-wrote.

Mr. Bean came along on New Years Day, 1990. It was originally just a one-off show. The character was a hit and Atkinson made more episodes throughout the 1990s. It was eventually made into a movie which made Atkinson an international star. His visual comedy style has earned him the nickname "the man with the rubber face".

246 words  
Flesch Kinkaid 8.8

**SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

*Paragraphs 1 and 2*

- |             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. ever     | a. stardom            |
| 2. fame     | b. fine               |
| 3. acclaim  | c. acts               |
| 4. good     | d. praise             |
| 5. joined   | e. of all time        |
| 6. sketches | f. became a member of |

*Paragraphs 3 and 4*

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 7. break       | g. shows       |
| 8. appear      | h. appeared    |
| 9. incredibly  | i. act         |
| 10. came along | j. opportunity |
| 11. episodes   | k. got         |
| 12. earned     | l. very        |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases from the article.

- |                                    |                           |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. famous around the world for his | a. for a Master's degree  |
| 2. the top 50                      | b. the rubber face        |
| 3. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide  | c. break                  |
| 4. While studying                  | d. character Mr. Bean     |
| 5. he fell in                      | e. successful Black Adder |
| 6. Atkinson got a lucky            | f. funniest people ever   |
| 7. the incredibly                  | g. off show               |
| 8. Mr. Bean came                   | h. love with acting       |
| 9. It was originally just a one-   | i. fame and acclaim       |
| 10. the man with                   | j. along on New Years Day |

**LISTENING GAP FILL:**

Rowan Atkinson is an English comedian, \_\_\_\_\_. He is famous around the world \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Bean. He was listed in the top 50 funniest people ever by a group of comedians. Atkinson \_\_\_\_\_ in Britain in the late 1970s. Throughout the 1980s he starred in one of Britain's most successful comedies, Black Adder. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide \_\_\_\_\_.

Atkinson was born in the north of England in 1955. He went to very good schools and \_\_\_\_\_ a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. While \_\_\_\_\_ Master's degree at Oxford University he \_\_\_\_\_ acting and comedy and joined an amateur theatre company. He took his comedy \_\_\_\_\_ Edinburgh Festival in 1976 and performed on the street.

After university, Atkinson got \_\_\_\_\_ and made a one-off comedy show for a British TV company. He quickly \_\_\_\_\_ in the hit comedy show 'Not the Nine O'Clock News'. This \_\_\_\_\_ of Britain's most popular comedians. From 1993, he starred in the incredibly successful Black Adder series, which \_\_\_\_\_.

Mr. Bean \_\_\_\_\_ New Years Day, 1990. It was originally just a one-off show. The character was a hit and Atkinson made \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the 1990s. It \_\_\_\_\_ made into a movie which made Atkinson an international star. His \_\_\_\_\_ style has earned him the nickname "the man with the rubber face".

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

Rowan Atkinson is an English *comedian / comedy*, actor and writer. He is famous around the world for his character Mr. Bean. He was listed in the top 50 funniest people *never / ever* by a group of comedians. Atkinson shot to *fame / famous* in Britain in the late 1970s. Throughout the 1980s he starred in one of Britain's most successful comedies, Black Adder. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide fame and *acclaim / reclaim*.

Atkinson was born in the *northern / north* of England in 1955. He went to very *well / good* schools and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. While studying for a Master's degree at Oxford University he *fallen / fell* in love with acting and comedy and joined an amateur theatre company. He took his comedy sketches to the Edinburgh Festival in 1976 and *performed / performance* on the street.

After university, Atkinson got a *lucky / luck* break and made a one-off comedy show for a British TV company. He *quick / quickly* went on to appear in the hit comedy show 'Not the Nine O'Clock News'. This made him one of Britain's most *popularity / popular* comedians. From 1993, he starred in the incredibly *successful / success* Black Adder series, which he also co-wrote.

Mr. Bean came *long / along* on New Years Day, 1990. It was originally just a *one-off / -on* show. The character was a hit and Atkinson made more episodes throughout the 1990s. It was eventually made into a movie which made Atkinson an international star. His *visual / vision* comedy style has earned him the nickname "the man *for / with* the rubber face".

## SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

### *Paragraph 1*

1. his ehrcrctaa Mr. Bean
2. the top 50 tisnfeun people
3. successful sodeicme
4. worldwide fame and accimal

### *Paragraph 2*

5. graduated with a Bachelor's egered
6. he fell in love with acgnti
7. an uaermta theatre company
8. emrefrpd on the street

### *Paragraph 3*

9. Atkinson got a lucky baerk
10. paaper in the hit comedy show
11. Britain's most lpurapo comedians
12. the Inrcibdyei successful Black Adder series

### *Paragraph 4*

13. ilyaorginl just a one-off show
14. Atkinson made more sopseeid
15. His silauv comedy style
16. the man with the brbreu face

## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) After university, Atkinson got a lucky break and made a one-off comedy show for a British TV company. He quickly went on
- ( ) Atkinson was born in the north of England in 1955. He went to very good schools and graduated with a Bachelor's
- ( ) comedians. From 1993, he starred in the incredibly successful Black Adder series, which he also co-wrote.
- ( ) degree in electrical engineering. While studying for a Master's degree at Oxford University he fell in love with
- ( ) the nickname "the man with the rubber face".
- ( ) comedies, Black Adder. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide fame and acclaim.
- ( **1** ) Rowan Atkinson is an English comedian, actor and writer. He is famous around the world for his character Mr.
- ( ) to appear in the hit comedy show 'Not the Nine O'Clock News'. This made him one of Britain's most popular
- ( ) acting and comedy and joined an amateur theatre company. He took his comedy
- ( ) into a movie which made Atkinson an international star. His visual comedy style has earned him
- ( ) in the late 1970s. Throughout the 1980s he starred in one of Britain's most successful
- ( ) Bean. He was listed in the top 50 funniest people ever by a group of comedians. Atkinson shot to fame in Britain
- ( ) Mr. Bean came along on New Years Day, 1990. It was originally just a one-off show. The character was a
- ( ) sketches to the Edinburgh Festival in 1976 and performed on the street.
- ( ) hit and Atkinson made more episodes throughout the 1990s. It was eventually made

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. ever people funniest 50 top the

---

2. Bean and brought acclaim him Mr worldwide . fame

---

3. of north the in born was Atkinson England

---

4. engineering electrical in degree Bachelor's a

---

5. fell he comedy and acting with love in

---

6. lucky a got Atkinson , university After break

---

7. Black Adder successful incredibly the series

---

8. was - originally off just show a It one

---

9. movie was made a It eventually into

---

10. the " " with face nickname man rubber the the

---



## ROWAN ATKINSON DISCUSSION:

### STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about Rowan Atkinson?
2. Would you like to meet Rowan Atkinson?
3. What would you like to know about Rowan Atkinson and why?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

More famous people lessons at [www.FamousPeopleLessons.com](http://www.FamousPeopleLessons.com)

## ROWAN ATKINSON DISCUSSION:

### STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about Rowan Atkinson?
2. What questions would you like to ask Rowan Atkinson?
3. What would his answers be to those questions?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

More famous people lessons at [www.FamousPeopleLessons.com](http://www.FamousPeopleLessons.com)

## ROWAN ATKINSON SURVEY:

Write five questions about Rowan Atkinson in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Rowan Atkinson. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. ROWAN ATKINSON POSTER:** Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Rowan Atkinson. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

**4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Rowan Atkinson. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he does every day and what he thinks about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to Rowan Atkinson. Ask him three questions about his life. Give him three suggestions on what he should do in his future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Rowan Atkinson expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- |             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1. ever     | a. of all time        |
| 2. fame     | b. stardom            |
| 3. acclaim  | c. praise             |
| 4. good     | d. fine               |
| 5. joined   | e. became a member of |
| 6. sketches | f. acts               |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 7. break       | g. opportunity |
| 8. appear      | h. act         |
| 9. incredibly  | i. very        |
| 10. came along | j. appeared    |
| 11. episodes   | k. shows       |
| 12. earned     | l. got         |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                    |                           |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. famous around the world for his | a. character Mr. Bean     |
| 2. the top 50                      | b. funniest people ever   |
| 3. Mr. Bean brought him worldwide  | c. fame and acclaim       |
| 4. While studying                  | d. for a Master's degree  |
| 5. he fell in                      | e. love with acting       |
| 6. Atkinson got a lucky            | f. break                  |
| 7. the incredibly                  | g. successful Black Adder |
| 8. Mr. Bean came                   | h. along on New Years Day |
| 9. It was originally just a one-   | i. off show               |
| 10. the man with                   | j. the rubber face        |

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.