

## BEFORE THE READING

- ✓ Presentation of the topic: why do we read this?
- ✓ Who's the writer? Where has the text been published? Can we know the aim of the writer when writing this?
- ✓ After reading the title: can we guess what the text is about?
- ✓ After reading the subtitle: does it help clarify what the text is about?
- ✓ What do we know about the text? Your contribution...

Now read the text and....



### Caffè Sospeso

You can order a latte, cappuccino or espresso at your local café, but now there's a new kind of drink in town: suspended coffee. The only difference is that this one's not for you. If you order a suspended coffee, it will be given to someone who cannot afford to pay for their own.

Caffè sospeso, as it's called in Italian, is a tradition which began about 100 years ago in the city of Naples. Someone who'd had good luck would celebrate by ordering two cups of coffee, **one** for himself and one for someone less fortunate. The café owner would later give a free cup of coffee to a needy customer. The wonderful thing about this tradition is that the donor and the recipient never see each other. This lack of contact means there's no embarrassment and no need to express gratitude.

The caffè sospeso tradition waned over the years, but lately it has made quite a comeback in Europe and beyond. In Bulgaria, for example, more than 150 cafés have joined a suspended coffee group. In Spain, France, Australia and the UK, thousands of customers are showing **their** generosity through this gesture of sharing. It's a symbol of solidarity in these tough times, when rising unemployment means that there is an increase in the number of people for whom a warm, comforting cup of coffee is beyond reach.



### Paying it Forward

When you pick up your meal at a drive-through restaurant, don't be surprised if the driver whose car was in front of yours has already paid for it and driven off. This act of kindness is called "paying it forward," and it's going viral in fast-food chains across the United States and Canada. There's no better place to donate anonymously than at a drive-through, where you don't see or meet any other customers.

The expression *pay it forward* means to repay a kindness by being kind to someone else rather than to the person who was good to you. At drive-throughs, paying it forward often turns into a chain event, with car after car paying for the car behind them in the queue. One of the longest chains to date happened at a drive-through in Houston, Texas, where 67 consecutive cars paid it forward. Some customers do it routinely. "We have a lady who always pays it forward in the drive-through, every day," says Aaron Quinton, co-owner of a bagel café in Tulsa, Oklahoma. "I point to the person behind and **she** just nods."

The reasons for this generosity vary. Some people just feel grateful for being lucky and want to share their good fortune. Cancer survivors have done it in appreciation of life, and parents have done it to celebrate a new baby. Most people take pleasure in the feeling of making a complete stranger happy. Hopefully, that person will be encouraged enough by the gesture to help someone else in turn.

While reading the text...

2DBHO

LIVING ENGLISH 2 (STUDENT'S BOOK)

- Have a look at the images related to the texts you are reading and try to find a link between the text and the images.
- Underline the words that you do not know the meaning of and try to provide a definition of your own by considering the context.

After reading the text...

**1. Choose the correct answer.**

- 1.1 Caffè sospeso has become popular...
  - a) because people spend more time in cafés
  - b) despite rising unemployment
  - c) because many people have more money
  - d) because many people have less money
- 1.2 *Paying it forward* is similar to *suspended coffee* because they...
  - a) involve donating anonymously
  - b) often turn into chain events
  - c) are common in Europe
  - d) are old traditions

**2. Decide whether the following sentences are TRUE or FALSE. Provide the evidence that proves your answers.**

- 2.1 Suspended coffee is not drunk by the person who orders it.
- 2.2 When you pay it forward, you repay a person who has been kind to you.

**3. Rephrase or rewrite the following expressions that appear in the text using your own words.**

- 3.1. To be beyond reach (line 24)
- 3.2 A drive-through restaurant (line 25)

**4. Summarize both texts (three lines max.) using the words given in the texts.**

**5. Do you consider this to be a better alternative to giving money to a beggar for example? Would you take part in any of the initiatives here proposed? If so, why? And if not, what would you do instead? Are you familiar with another *food-based* solidary activity somewhere around you?**