

Teaching **English**

The mystery of the sand – worksheet 1

| A man comes up to the border of a country on his motorbike. He has three large sacks on his bike. |
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| The customs officer at the border crossing stops him and asks, "What is in the sacks?" |
| "Sand," answers the man. |
| The customs officer is suspicious and tells the man to get off the bike. |
| He rips open the sacks and empties them out. He finds nothing but sand, so he puts the sand back into new bags and lets the man go. |
| A week later the man arrives at the border again. Once more he is carrying three sacks of sand. |
| This time the customs officer detains the man overnight and has the sand analysed, but it really is just sand. |
| So once again the customs officer puts the sand into new bags and lets the man go. |
| This happens every week for three years. |
| Eventually the customs officer can't stand it any longer. 'Please, he says, I know you're smuggling something and it's driving me crazy. I haven't slept for months. What is it?!' |