**Lateral Thinking Exercises - 1**

**Aim**

• To get students thinking.

• To allow for practice of question forms and a wide range of vocabulary.

**Procedure**

• I will read out descriptions of strange situations and you have to work out what has happened.

• You may ask me questions about the situation and I will only respond with a yes/no/maybe.

**Situations**

**1. A man is lying dead in a snowy field. There are no footprints to or from his body. The man has a pack on his back. How did he die?**

**2. When Harry comes home he finds Sarah is dead, lying in a pool of water and Tom is sitting quietly on the armchair. There is some broken glass on the floor. Tom won’t be charged with murder. Why not?**

**3. A woman lives on the 30th floor of a building. When she gets home from work, she usually takes the lift as far as the 21st floor and then climbs the stairs to the 30th. However, when it’s raining, she’ll always take the lift to the 30th floor. What explains this strange behaviour?**

**4. A man walks into a bar and asks the barman for a glass of water. The barman pulls out a gun and points it at the man. The man says 'Thank you' and walks out.**

**5. Five pieces of coal, a carrot and a scarf are lying on the grass. Nobody put them on the grass but there is a perfectly logical reason why they should be there. What is it?**

**6. A woman had two sons who were born on the same hour of the same day of the same year. But they were not twins. How could this be so?**

**7. One day a man received a parcel in the post. Carefully packed inside was a human arm. He examined it, repacked it and then sent it on to another man. The second man also carefully examined the arm before taking it to the woods and burying it. Why did they do this?**

**8. A man rode into town on Friday. He stayed for three nights and then left on Friday. How come?**