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| “**THE BANK ROBBERY**” speaking activity by Luke Thompson. Follow up: Episodes 298 & 299 of Luke’s English Podcast (ideal as homework listening task.) | The bank will receive the gold bullion at 11AM on Tuesday 4 October |
| When gold is delivered at the bank, two security guards always take it through a back door and down the stairs into the vault. This takes 5 minutes. | The gold will be removed from the vault on Monday 10 October at 8AM. |
| The gold is easiest to steal when the security guards are taking it from the van to the vault. | The gold and cash are fitted with anti-theft devices such as paint and a tracking device. |
| These are removed when the money has been safely delivered into the vault. | The £20m in cash will be removed from the vault on Friday evening. |
| You have just discovered that the vault will also contain £80m of diamonds next week! They arrive on Wednesday evening but they will be removed on the evening of Friday 7 October. | The **Shooter** is an expert with a shotgun. His speciality is crowd control and hostage situations. He has just spent 10 years in prison after his last bank job went wrong. He absolutely hates the police, because they killed his brother. |
| The bank is open from 8AM to 8PM, Monday to Friday. The bank is closed on Saturday and Sunday. | When the bank is closed the doors are very securely sealed and protected. It is impossible to break in when the bank is closed. |
| The side door of the bank is reinforced and cannot be opened from the outside. | The bank is unstaffed at night. Nobody is in the bank after 8pm. |
| The **Tunnel Expert** is brilliant at digging tunnels. Without him it will take you 7 days and 7 nights to dig the tunnel, and even then it might not reach the bank vault correctly. | A robbery in the morning will be more of a surprise, and the police tend to be slower in the morning as they are usually eating donuts and drinking coffee. |
| The sun goes down at 6PM. The sun comes up at 6AM. | You are much more likely to be identified by witnesses during daylight hours. |
| It will take 5 full days and 5 full nights to dig a tunnel from the shop to the bank vault. | A robbery in the dark is more likely to be a success because the roads are quieter. It will be easier to escape by car in the dark. |
| It will take 24 hours to arrange rental of the shop opposite the bank. The rental office is closed on Saturdays and Sundays. | There is less traffic on the street at night. |
| There is a disused shop opposite the bank. The shop has a basement with an earthen floor, and vacant space for soil in the yard. The shop is available for rental. | No-one goes into the bank at the weekend. After leaving the bank on Friday evening, the next member of staff to come back is the security guard. He arrives on Monday morning at 7AM. |
| **Jimmy the Informant** has a close relationship with the police and for the right price he will tell you everything that the police know about your bank job. He wants £10m for this information. He is not particularly loyal to anyone – either you, or the cops. | You can use masks to hide your identity. They will prevent you from being identified during the robbery, but if you enter the bank wearing masks, the staff and customers will immediately know it is a robbery and the alarm will be set off. |
| If you have guns you will quickly be able to persuade the staff to open the vault for you. | Robbery with guns is more serious than robbery without guns, and therefore carries a much stricter prison sentence. Also, the police are more likely to open fire on you if you are armed. |
| The **Inside man** has the blueprints of the vault so his knowledge is essential if you plan to tunnel in. You need him to tell you where to enter the vault by tunnel. | The **Inside Man** works in the bank as a clerk. He knows about everything that goes on inside the bank. He can delay the alarm by 5 minutes. Also, he can give you blueprints of the vault. |
| You will find it very difficult to get away from the bank quickly in the morning because of bad traffic. | It will take approximately 5 minutes to persuade a staff member to open the vault for you. |
| You can enter the bank by the front door but you will appear on the CCTV cameras in the front entrance. | When the bank alarm is set off, the police are automatically called. They will take approximately 15 minutes to arrive at the bank. |
| The police will take an extra 5 minutes to arrive at the bank in the morning, because of busy traffic and because they’ll be eating donuts and drinking coffee in a local diner. | Friday is the busiest day in the bank. The bank employs two extra security guards armed with Remington shotguns on this day. They stay in the bank from 8AM to 8PM. |
| To rent the shop opposite the bank you need to provide your name, ID number and address. The shop owner might accept a fake name if you bribe him with at least £5m. | The **Driver** is an excellent getaway driver. He is a professional stunt driver and he can escape from anyone, traffic permitting. |
| It takes approximately 10 minutes to fill your bags with gold, cash and any other valuables. | The **Safe-Cracker** can open any lock in just 2 minutes. |