
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

Pompeii treasure trove

The story

Archaeologists in the Roman city of Pompeii have discovered a treasure trove of good luck charms and fertility amulets that they think may have been used for casting spells by a Roman sorcerer.

Among the articles discovered were scarab beetles from the Middle East made of amethyst.

Vocabulary

treasure trove

large number of valuable objects found hidden

- Amateur archaeologists sometimes get lucky and discover treasure troves.
- There's a treasure trove of biscuits in Rob's drawer.

cache

quantity of hidden things

- Anti-terror police discovered a weapons cache in the basement of a house.
- If your computer is slow, you can try clearing the cache.

unearthed

found hidden after a search

- They unearthed the treasure buried in someone's garden.
- Investigative journalists try to unearth the truth.

Language challenge

Which is the odd one out?

- a) sorcerer
- b) wizard
- c) witch

Answer:

c) witch - sorcerers and wizards are usually male but witches are usually female.

or

a) sorcerer – witch and wizard both begin with 'w'.