

И. А. Орлова

ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНИЯ: ЛИНГВОСТРАНОВЕДЕНИЕ

Учебное пособие

Челябинск

2024

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Пособие содержит планы семинарских занятий, тесты различной тематики, позволяющие студентам проверить знания по предмету, а также темы рефератов для самостоятельного поиска информации и более глубокого изучения предмета и формирования лингвострановедческой компетенции. Тексты, представленные в пособии, содержат разнообразные сведения о государственном устройстве, системе школьного и университетского образования, культуре, обычаях и традициях Соединенного Королевства. Пособие включает также глоссарий терминов и понятий и библиографический список.

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Рецензенты:

А. А. Селютин, канд. филол. наук
М. А. Курочкина, канд. филол. наук

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INTRODUCTION (ВВЕДЕНИЕ)

Учебное пособие предназначено бакалаврам направления «Педагогическое образование» для более успешного овладения английским языком, для формирования лингвострановедческой компетенции на основе знаний о национальных традициях, ценностях, стереотипах поведения представителей англоязычной цивилизации.

Пособие включает дополнительные задания по материалам лекций и семинарских занятий, планы семинарских занятий, тесты, темы рефератов и докладов.

Подготовка к семинарским занятиям, поиск необходимой информации для ответа на вопросы семинаров позволяет расширить кругозор студентов, познакомить их с национальными особенностями страны изучаемого языка, с традициями, обычаями, бытом, национальными чертами народов, населяющих Соединенное Королевство, а также сформировать представление об их истории и культуре.

Рабочие листы содержат тексты и задания, направленные на более глубокое изучение предмета, материал, содержащийся в них, способствует формированию познавательного интереса к истории и культуре Великобритании.

Тесты содержат сведения о наиболее специфических и интересных особенностях географии, истории и современной жизни страны, а также факты культурного развития народов, населяющих её.

Перечень рефератов и докладов, представленных в учебном пособии, позволяет выбрать тему для более глубокой и детальной проработки материала и выступления на семинарском занятии.

WORKSHEETS

General Information about the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom (UK) is a sovereign state located off the north-western coast of continental Europe. With a total area of approximately 248,532 km², the UK occupies the major part of the British Isles archipelago and includes the island of Great Britain, the north-eastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland and many smaller surrounding islands. It is the world's 7th largest island country. The mainland areas lie between latitudes 49 N and 59 N (the Shetland Islands reach to nearly 61 N), and longitudes 8 W to 2 E. The Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in south-east London, is the defining point of the Prime Meridian.

The UK lies between the North Atlantic and the North Sea, and comes within 35 km of the north-west coast of France, from which it is separated by the English Channel. It shares a 499 km international land boundary with the Republic of Ireland. The Channel Tunnel bored beneath the English Channel now links the UK with France.

The total area of the United Kingdom according to the Office for National Statistics is 248,532 km², comprising the island of Great Britain, the northeastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland (Northern Ireland) and many smaller islands. This makes it the 7th largest island country in the world. England is the largest country of the United Kingdom, at 132,938 km² accounting for just over half the total area of the UK. Scotland at 80,239 km², is second largest, accounting for about a third of the area of the UK. Wales and Northern Ireland are much smaller, covering 21,225 and 14,130 km² respectively.

The British Antarctic Territory, which covers an area of 1,709,400 km² is geographically the largest of the British Overseas

Territories followed by the Falkland Islands which covers an area of 12,173 km². The remaining twelve overseas territories cover an area 5,997 km².

Other countries with very similar land areas to the United Kingdom include Guinea (slightly larger), Uganda, Ghana and Romania (all slightly smaller). The UK is the world's 80th largest country by land area and the 10th largest in Europe (if European Russia is included).

The physical geography of the UK varies greatly. England consists of mostly lowland terrain, with upland or mountainous terrain only found north-west of the Tees-Exe line. The upland areas include the Lake District, the Pennines, North York Moors, Exmoor and Dartmoor. The lowland areas are typically traversed by ranges of low hills, frequently composed of chalk, and flat plains. Scotland is the most mountainous country in the UK and its physical geography is distinguished by the Highland Boundary Fault which traverses the Scottish mainland from Helensburgh to Stonehaven. The faultline separates the two distinctively different regions of the Highlands to the north and west, and the Lowlands to the south and east. The Highlands are predominantly mountainous, containing the majority of Scotland's mountainous landscape, while the Lowlands contain flatter land, especially across the Central Lowlands, with upland and mountainous terrain located at the Southern Uplands. Wales is mostly mountainous, though south Wales is less mountainous than north and mid Wales. Northern Ireland consists of mostly hilly landscape and its geography includes the Mourne Mountains as well as Lough Neagh, at 388 km², the largest body of water in the UK.

The overall geomorphology of the UK was shaped by a combination of forces including tectonics and climate change, in particular glaciation in northern and western areas.

The tallest mountain in the UK (and British Isles) is Ben Nevis, in the Grampian Mountains, Scotland. The longest river is the River Severn which flows from Wales into England. The largest lake by surface area is Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, though Scotland's Loch Ness has the largest volume.

The geology of the UK is complex and diverse, a result of it being subject to a variety of plate tectonic processes over a very extended period of time. Changing latitude and sea levels have been important factors in the nature of sedimentary sequences, whilst successive continental collisions have affected its geological structure with major faulting and folding being a legacy of each orogeny (mountain-building period), often associated with volcanic activity and the metamorphism of existing rock sequences. As a result of this eventful geological history, the UK shows a rich variety of landscapes.

The oldest rocks in the British Isles are the Lewisian gneisses, metamorphic rocks found in the far north-west of Scotland and in the Hebrides (with a few small outcrops elsewhere), which date from at least 2,700 Ma (Ma = million years ago). South and east of the gneisses are a complex mixture of rocks forming the North West Highlands and Grampian Highlands in Scotland. These are essentially the remains of folded sedimentary rocks that were deposited between 1,000 Ma and 670 Ma over the gneiss on what was then the floor of the Iapetus Ocean.

The ten tallest mountains in the UK are all found in Scotland. The highest peaks in each part of the UK are:

- Scotland: Ben Nevis, 1,345 m;
- Wales: Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), (Snowdonia), 1,085 m;
- England: Scafell Pike (Cumbrian Mountains), 978 m;
- Northern Ireland: Slieve Donard (Mourne Mountains), 852 m.

The ranges of mountains and hills in the UK include:

- Scotland: Cairngorms, Scottish Highlands, Southern Uplands, Grampian Mountains, Monadhliath Mountains, Ochil Hills, Campsie Fells, Cuillin;

- Wales: Brecon Beacons (Bannau Brycheiniog), Cambrian Mountains (Mynyddoedd Cambria), Clwydian Hills (Bryniau Clwyd), Snowdonia (Eryri), Black Mountains (Y Mynyddoedd Duon), Preseli Hills (Y Preseli);

- England: Cheviot Hills, Chilterns, Cotswolds, Dartmoor, Lincolnshire Wolds, Exmoor, Lake District, Malvern Hills, Mendip Hills, North Downs, Peak District, Pennines, South Downs, Shropshire Hills, Yorkshire Wolds;

- Northern Ireland: Mourne Mountains, Antrim Plateau, Sperrin Mountains.

The lowest point of the UK is in the Fens of East Anglia, in England, parts of which lie up to 4 m below sea level.

The longest river in the UK is the River Severn (220 mi; 350 km) which flows through both Wales and England.

The longest rivers in the UK contained wholly within each of its constituent nations are:

- England: River Thames (346 km);
- Scotland: River Tay (188 km);
- N. Ireland: River Bann (122 km);
- Wales: River Usk (126 km).

The largest lakes (by surface area) in the UK by country are:

- N. Ireland: Lough Neagh (381.7 km²);
- Scotland: Loch Lomond (71.1 km²);
- England: Windermere (14.7 km²);
- Wales: Llyn Tegid (Bala Lake) (4.8 km²).

The deepest lake in the UK is Loch Morar with a maximum depth of 309 m (Loch Ness is second at 228 m deep). The deepest lake in England is Wastwater which achieves a depth of 79 m.

Loch Ness is the UK's largest lake in terms of volume.

The UK has a coastline which measures about 12,429 km. The heavy indentation of the coastline helps to ensure that no location is more than 125 km from tidal waters.

In total, it is estimated that the UK is made up of over one thousand small islands, the majority located off the north and west coasts of Scotland. About 130 of these are inhabited according to the 2001 Census.

The climate of the UK is generally temperate, although significant local variation occurs, particularly as a result of altitude and distance from the coast. In general the south of the country is warmer than the north, and the west wetter than the east. Due to the warming influence of the Gulf Stream, the UK is significantly warmer than some other locations at a similar latitude, such as Newfoundland.

Test

1. What coast is the United Kingdom located on?
2. What is the total area of the United Kingdom?
 - A. 246,531.
 - B. 248,532.
 - C. 248,542.
 - D. 258,532.
3. Complete the sentence:
_____, Greenwich, in south-east London, is the defining point of _____.
4. Within how many kilometers of the northwest coast of France is the United Kingdom?
 - A. 22.
 - B. 135.
 - C. 35.
 - D. 53.

5. What is the largest country in the United Kingdom?

- A. Scotland.
- B. Wales.
- C. Northern Ireland.
- D. England.

6. Complete the sentence.

_____, which covers an area of _____ is geographically the largest of the British Overseas Territories followed by _____ which covers an area of _____ .

7. What is Britain's place in the world in terms of land area?

- A. 90.
- B. 80.
- C. 100.
- D. 10.

8. What is the UK's place in Europe in terms of land area?

- A. 10.
- B. 80.
- C. 20.
- D. 40.

9. Complete the sentence.

England consists of mostly _____, with _____ or _____ only found north-west of _____ .

10. What do the highlands of Great Britain include?

_____ .

11. What crosses the Highland Boundary Fault?

_____ .

12. Complete the sentence.

The Highlands are predominantly _____, containing the majority of _____ mountainous landscape, while _____ contain _____, especially across _____, with upland and mountainous terrain located at _____ .

13. Which Wales is less mountainous?

- A. North.
- B. Mid.
- C. South.

14. What mountains are included in Northern Ireland?

_____ .

15. What is the name of the largest body of water in the UK?

_____ .

16. How was the general geomorphology of Great Britain formed?

17. What is the highest mountain in the UK?

A. Walla Crag.

B. Ben Nevis.

C. Brown Willy.

D. Scafell Pike.

18. What is the longest river in Great Britain?

A. Thames.

B. Trent.

C. Great Ouse.

D. the River Severn.

19. What is the largest lake in the UK?

A. Lough Neagh.

B. Loch Tay.

C. Loch Mary.

20. Where were the oldest metaphorical Lewis gneiss rocks found?

21. What highlands are formed to the south and east of the gneisses?

22. Complete the sentence.

These are essentially the remains of _____ that were deposited between _____ and _____ over the gneiss on what was then the floor of _____.

23. Match mountains and peaks:

1) Ben Nevis;

a) 1,085 m;

2) Snowdon;

b) 978 m;

3) Scafell Pike;

c) 1,345 m;

4) Slieve Donard;

d) 852 m.

24. Mountains and hills of Scotland:

25. Mountains and hills of Wales:

26. Mountains and hills of England:

_____ .

27. Mountains and hills of Northern Ireland:

_____ .

28. Complete the sentence.

The _____ point of the UK is in _____, in England, parts of which lie up to _____ metres below sea level.

29. How many kilometers is the longest river in the UK?

- A. 530. B. 350. C. 355. D. 470.

30. Where does the River Severn flow?

_____ .

31. How many kilometers is the Tay river?

- A. 180. B. 108. C. 188. D. 189.

32. How many kilometers is the Bann River?

- A. 122. B. 102. C. 120. D. 222.

33. How many kilometers is the river Usk?

- A. 160. B. 162. C. 106. D. 126.

34. What is the deepest lake in the UK and how deep is it?

_____ .

35. Which lake is the second deepest lake in the UK? What is its depth?

_____ .

36. What is the deepest lake in England? What is its depth?

_____ .

37. What is the largest lake in the UK by volume?

_____ .

38. Complete the sentences.

The UK has a coastline which measures about _____.
The heavy _____ of the coastline helps to ensure that no location is more than _____ from tidal waters.

39. How many UK islands are inhabited according to the 2001 census?

A. 100. B. 103. C. 130. D. 133.

40. Fill in the paragraph about the UK climate:

The climate of the UK is generally _____, although significant local variation occurs, particularly as a result of _____ and distance from the coast. In general _____ of the country is _____ than the north, and the west _____ than _____. Due to the warming influence of _____, the UK is significantly _____ than some other locations at a similar latitude, such as _____ .

The System of Education in the UK

Great Britain does not have a written constitution, so there are no constitutional provisions for education. The system of education is determined by the National Education Acts.

Schools in England are supported from public funds. Until 1988 local education authorities were responsible for organizing the schools in their areas.

In Scotland and Northern Ireland schools are still managed by local authorities. But in England and Wales a large number of primary and secondary schools opted out of LEA control and became grant-maintained. These schools receive money directly from the central government, as well as from local taxes, and are run by a board of governors, consisting of parents and members of the public.

Let's outline the basic features of public education in Britain. Firstly, there are wide variations between one part of the country and another. For most educational purposes England and Wales are treated as one unit, though the system in Wales is a little different

from that of England. Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own education systems.

Secondly, education in Britain mirrors the country's social system: it is class-divided and selective. The first division is between those who pay and those who do not pay. The majority of schools in Britain are supported by public funds and the education provided is free. They are maintained schools, but there is also a considerable number of public schools. Parents have to pay fees to send their children to these schools. The fees are high. As a matter of fact, only very rich families can send their children to public schools. In some parts of Britain they still keep the old system of grammar schools, which are selective. But most secondary schools in Britain which are called comprehensive schools are not selective — you don't have to pass an exam to go there.

Another important feature of schooling in Britain is the variety of opportunities offered to schoolchildren.

The National Education Act of 1944 provided three stages of education: primary, secondary and further education. Compulsory schooling in England and Wales lasts 11 years, from the age of 5 to 16.

The National Curriculum which was introduced in 1988 sets out in detail the subjects that children should study and the levels of achievement they should reach by the ages of 7, 11, 14, and 16, when they are tested. Until that year headmasters and headmistresses of schools were given a great deal of freedom in deciding what subjects to teach and how to do it in their schools; there was really no central control at all over individual schools.

The English school syllabus used to be divided into Arts (or Humanities) and Sciences, which determined the division of the secondary school pupils into study groups. Now the government

argues that it should have more control over what happens in schools. It passed laws to ensure that all children spent a high proportion of their time on a group of core subjects — English, mathematics, science, and, in the secondary schools, a foreign language. The foundation subjects are technology, geography, history, art, music and physical education. Now children do standard assessment tests (SATs) at the ages of 7, 11 and 14. They are based on “course work” — that is, the work which a pupil does during a course. At 16 students take exams. The National Curriculum does not apply in Scotland, where each school decides what subjects it will teach.

After the age of 16 a growing number of school students are staying on at school, some until 18 or 19, the age of entry into higher education in universities, Polytechnics or colleges. Schools in Britain provide careers guidance. A specially trained person called careers advisor, or careers officer helps school students to decide what job they want to do and how they can achieve it.

British university courses are rather short, generally lasting for 3 years. The cost of education depends on the college or university which one chooses.

Exercises

I. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES.

1. The system of education in Great Britain is determined by ...
2. ... are responsible for organizing the schools in their areas.
3. ... are treated as one unit.
4. ... have their own education system.
5. The English school syllabus was divided into ...
6. The National Education Act of 1944 provided ...
7. The National Curriculum, introduced in 1988, ...
8. The core subjects are ...

9. The foundation subjects are ...

10. Compulsory schooling in England and Wales lasts ...

II. MATCH THE WORDS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS.

curriculum	education after leaving school, but not at a university. It is mostly commonly available in further education colleges and many of the courses are intended to prepare people for work
further education	an organization in the UK which is responsible for a public education in a particular area. It pays the wages of the teacher, maintains school building and supplies school equipment and materials
syllabus	education provided not by the government
higher education	education at a university or college
local education authority	an arrangement of subjects for study, especially a course of studies leading to an examination
private education	a course of study offered in a school, college

III. ARE THE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Children do standard assessment tests (SATs) at the ages of 7, 11 and 14.

2. Great Britain has a written constitution.

3. The National Curriculum was introduced in 1988.

4. British university courses are rather short, generally lasting for 5 years.

5. Compulsory schooling in England and Wales lasts 10 years.

6. For most educational purposes England and Wales are treated as one unit.

7. Schools in Wales are supported from public funds.

8. After the age of 15 a growing number of school students are staying on at school.

9. British university courses are rather short, generally lasting for 3 years.

10. Scotland and Northern Ireland don't have their own education systems.

11. The National Curriculum does not apply in Scotland.

12. Secondary schools in Britain are called comprehensive schools.

IV. FIND THE WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS THAT MEAN.

1. _____ a sum of money or other prize given to a student by an educational establishment.

2. _____ money given to a student by the state or a local education authority for a particular purpose.

3. _____ a school which anyone can go to regardless of how and where everybody is taught together.

4. _____ a school usually including the first three grades of elementary school but sometimes also including kindergarten.

5. _____ are not explored as thoroughly, they are still important because they introduce students to a wide variety of skills and knowledge.

6. _____ the three foundation subjects that are compulsory throughout each key stage in the National Curriculum.

7. _____ three stages of education.

8. _____ Educational programmes that children and young people are legally obliged to attend, usually defined in term of a number of grades or an age range, or both.

9. _____ is the guidance given to individuals to help them acquire the knowledge, information, skills, and experience necessary

to identify career options, and narrow them down to make one career decision.

10. _____ a state secondary school to which pupils are admitted on the basis of ability. Since 1965 most have been absorbed into the comprehensive school system.

11. _____ are the levels of achievement.

12. _____ a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools so children learn the same things.

British Traditions and Customs

British nation is considered to be the most conservative in Europe. It is not a secret that every nation and every country has its own customs and traditions. In Great Britain people attach greater importance to traditions and customs than in other European countries. Englishmen are proud of their traditions and carefully keep them up. The best examples are their queen, money system, their weights and measures.

There are many customs and some of them are very old. There is, for example, the Marble Championship, where the British Champion is crowned; he wins a silver cup known among folk dancers as Morris Dancing. Morris Dancing is an event where people, worn in beautiful clothes with ribbons and bells, dance with handkerchiefs or big sticks in their hands, while traditional music-sounds.

Another example is the Boat Race, which takes place on the river Thames, often on Easter Sunday. A boat with a team from Oxford University and one with a team from Cambridge University hold a race.

British people think that the Grand National horse race is the most exciting horse race in the world. It takes place near Liverpool

every year. Sometimes it happens the same day as the Boat Race takes place, sometimes a week later. Amateur riders as well as professional jockeys can participate. It is a very famous event.

There are many celebrations in May, especially in the countryside.

Halloween is a day on which many children dress up in unusual costumes. In fact, this holiday has a Celtic origin. The day was originally called All Halloween's Eve, because it happens on October 31, the eve of all Saints' Day. The name was later shortened to Halloween. The Celts celebrated the coming of New Year on that day.

Another tradition is the holiday called Bonfire Night.

On November 5, 1605, a man called Guy Fawkes planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament where the king James 1st was to open Parliament on that day. But Guy Fawkes was unable to realize his plan and was caught and later, hanged. The British still remember that Guy Fawkes' Night. It is another name for this holiday. This day one can see children with figures, made of sacks and straw and dressed in old clothes. On November 5, children put their figures on the bonfire, burn them, and light their fireworks.

In the end of the year, there is the most famous New Year celebration. In London, many people go to Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve. There is singing and dancing at 12 o'clock on December 31.

A popular Scottish event is the Edinburgh Festival of music and drama, which takes place every year. A truly Welsh event is the Eisteddfod, a national festival of traditional poetry and music, with a competition for the best new poem in Welsh.

If we look at English weights and measures, we can be convinced that the British are very conservative people. They do not

use the internationally accepted measurements. They have conserved their old measures. There are nine essential measures. For general use, the smallest weight is one ounce, then 16 ounce is equal to a pound. Fourteen pounds is one stone.

The English always give people's weight in pounds and stones. Liquids they measure in pints, quarts and gallons. There are two pints in a quart and four quarts or eight pints are in one gallon. For length, they have inches, foot, yards and miles.

If we have always been used to the metric system therefore the English monetary system could be found rather difficult for us. They have a pound sterling, which is divided into twenty shillings, half-crown is cost two shillings and sixpence, shilling is worth twelve pennies and one penny could be changed by two half pennies.

Mark statements as True/False/Not stated

1. British people are the most conservative people in Europe.
2. The British attach great importance to the traditions of their country.
3. The British do not seek to preserve their traditions and customs.
4. The British are ashamed of their traditions.
5. Morris Dancing is an international celebration.
6. During the Morris Dance, people dress only in red and green.
7. During Morris Dancing, traditional music is played.
8. The Boat Race takes place on the river Severn.
9. The Boat Race is held on Easter Thursday.
10. A boat with a team from Oxford University and one with a team from Cambridge University hold the Boat Race.
11. The Harvard University team also takes part in the Boat Race.

12. British people think that the Grand National horse race is the most exciting horse race in the world.

13. Grand National horse race takes place near Manchester two times a year.

14. The Boat Race and Grand National horse race are held at approximately the same time interval.

15. Amateur riders as well as professional jockeys cannot participate in Grand National horse race.

16. The main prize in the Grand National horse race is £100,000.

17. There are many celebrations in May, especially in the countryside.

18. Halloween has a Gothic origin.

19. Halloween is the biggest holiday in the United Kingdom.

20. The day was originally called All Halloween's Eve, because it happens on October 31, the eve of all Saints' Day.

21. The Goths celebrated the coming of Easter on that day.

22. On November 15, 1606, a man called Guy Fawkes planned to blow up the Houses of Parliament where the King James 1st was to open Parliament on that day.

23. Guy Fawkes carried out his plan.

24. Guy Fawkes was hanged.

25. Bonfire Night and Guy Fawkes' Night is the name of one holiday.

26. On Bonfire Night, you can see children with figurines made of bags and straw and dressed in new clothes.

27. Guy Fawkes' Night is the favourite holiday of British people.

28. In London, many people go to Trafalgar Square on New Year's Eve.

29. A popular Irish event is the Edinburgh Festival of music and drama, which takes place every year.

30. The Eisteddfod is a national festival of traditional poetry and music, with a competition for the best new poem in Welsh.

31. The Eisteddfod is held in spring.

32. British people do not use the internationally accepted measurements.

33. There are eight essential measures in the UK.

34. The smallest weight is one ounce.

35. Fourteen pounds is one stone.

36. 1 pound is heavier than 1 kg.

37. The British measure liquids in pints, quarts and gallons.

38. For length, they have meters, kilometers and centimeters.

39. The currency of the United Kingdom is the euro.

40. Pound sterling is divided into twelve shillings.

National Symbols of Wales

The national symbols of Wales include a diversity of official and unofficial images and other symbols.



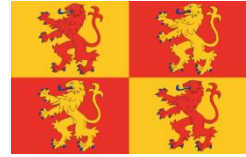
The National Flag of Wales

The Flag of Wales incorporates the red dragon, now a popular Welsh symbol, along with the Tudor colours of green and white. It was used by Henry VII at the battle of Bosworth in 1485 after which it was carried in state to St. Paul's Cathedral. The red dragon was then included in the Tudor royal arms to signify their Welsh descent. It was officially recognised as the Welsh national flag in 1959.



The Flag of Owain Glyndwr

Four lions, alternating as red lions on a yellow background, and yellow lions on a red background, is the symbol of Owain Glyndwr. The flag has enjoyed a surge in popularity in recent years and is used by the National Eisteddfod for Wales and is also popular with pro-independence groups.



Owain Glyndwr was a Welsh leader who learned for independence from English rule in the late middle ages. He led a long-running yet unsuccessful war of independence, but his name lives on alongside legends such as Arthur and Cynan. The origin of the design is thought to be inspired by the counter-charged arms of the Houses of Mathrafal and Dinefwr.

The Flag of Saint David

The Flag of Saint David, sometimes used as an alternative to the national flag, is flown on St David's Day. The ensign used aboard ships of the Welsh Government, such as the patrol boats of the Marine and Fisheries Division.



The Red Dragon

The Red Dragon, part of the national flag design, is also a popular Welsh symbol. The oldest recorded use of the dragon to symbolise Wales is from the *Historia Brittonum*, written around 820, but it is popularly supposed to have been the battle standard of King Arthur and other ancient Celtic leaders. This myth is likely to have originated from Merlin's vision of the Red (Wales) and White (England) dragons battling,



with the Red dragon being victorious. Following the annexation of Wales by England, the dragon was used as a supporter in the English monarch's coat of arms. The red dragon is often seen as shorthand for all things Welsh, being used by many Welsh public and private institutions (e. g.: The Welsh Government, Visit Wales, numerous local authorities, and sports organizations).

The Prince of Wales's Feathers

The Prince of Wales's feathers is the heraldic badge of the Prince of Wales. It consists of three white ostrich feathers encircled by a gold coronet. A ribbon below the coronet bears the German motto *Ich dien* (German: "I serve"). The Welsh Rugby Union uses such a design for its own badge. Many British two pence coins in circulation today bear the Prince of Wales' feathers to represent Wales.



The Coat of Arms of the Principality of Wales

The Coats Of Arms of the Principality of Wales which are the historic arms of the Kingdom of Gwynedd are used by Charles, Prince of Wales in his personal standard. They are also the basis for the Royal Badge of Wales issued in 2008 for the use of the National Assembly for Wales.



The Royal Badge of Wales

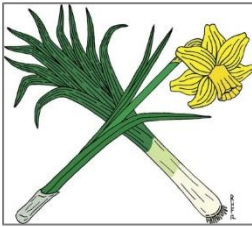
The Royal Badge of Wales, which uses the historic arms of the Kingdom of Gwynedd, is the de facto coat of arms of Wales. The badge was introduced in 2008 and is accordingly a heraldic badge, rather than a coat of arms.

The Welsh national flower:

The Welsh Leek and the Daffodil

The leek is the national emblem of Wales. According to legend the patron saint of Wales, Saint David, ordered his Welsh soldiers to identify themselves by wearing the leek on their helmets in an ancient battle against the Saxons that took place in a leek field. The Welsh national flower is worn on St David's Day each March 1.

The Welsh daffodil does not have the same claim to literary or historical distinction as the Welsh leek. But, it has become the more favoured emblem of today, since some Welsh folk find it makes a more attractive buttonhole on St David's day.



The Sessile Oak, also called the Welsh Oak is the national tree of Wales.

The National Symbol of Wildlife



The Red Kite is a source of great pride for the Welsh people. Under a century ago, there were only two breeding pairs in the country. Now, when the Welsh look up, they may see hundreds of these magnificent birds soaring over rural areas around Wales. Red kite feeding stations provide opportunities for locals and visitors to view this magnificent bird up close. The red kite is well-loved by the people, and they showed their adoration in 2007 by voting the red kite as the most popular bird in Wales, which also led to it being adopted as the national symbol of Wales for wildlife.

The Welsh National Anthem is Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of my Father's). It was written by Evan James in 1856.



Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau

Mae hen wlad fy nhadau yn
annwyl i mi,
Gwlad beirdd a chantorion,
enwogion o fri;
Ei gwrol ryfelwyr, gwladgarwyr
tra mad,
Tros ryddid collasant eu gwaed.
Gwlad, gwlad, pleidiol wyf I'm
gwlad,
Tra mor yn fur I'r bur hoffbau,
O bydded I'r heniaith barhau.

Land of my Fathers

The land of my fathers is dear
unto me,
Old land where the minstrels are
honoured and free:
Its warring defenders, so gallant
and brave,
For freedom their life's blood
they gave.
Land, Land, true am I to my Land,
While seas secure this land so pure,
O may our old language endure

Traditional Welsh costume

Traditional Welsh costume, such as the Welsh hat and bedgown, is now recognised as the national dress of Wales. It was originally worn by rural women throughout Europe and Britain; it survived longest in Wales up until the 1880s. Today it is worn by women at events such as Royal visits, by choirs, at church and chapel, for photographs and occasionally at eisteddfodau. It was first worn by girls as a celebration on Saint David's Day just before the First World War.

Test

1. The Flag of Wales is:
 - a) the red dragon on a white and green background;
 - b) a large white cross on a blue background;
 - c) a red cross on a white background.
2. The Flag of Wales was used by ... at the battle of Bosworth in 1485.
 - a) Elizabeth II; b) Henry VII; c) Alexander II.
3. The Flag of Wales was carried in state to:
 - a) St. Paul's Cathedral;
 - b) Cathedral Church of St. Philip;
 - c) Canterbury Cathedral.
4. The red dragon was included in:
 - a) the House of Lancaster;
 - b) the House of York;
 - c) the Tudor royal arms.
5. The Welsh national flag was officially recognised in:
 - a) 1959; b) 1955; c) 1963.
6. The Flag of Owain Glyndwr has:
 - a) 4 squares alternating in red and yellow;
 - b) 4 squares alternating in white and green;
 - c) 2 squares alternating in red and yellow.
7. Owain Glyndwr was:
 - a) a Welsh leader;
 - b) the second Prince of Wales;
 - c) the Prince of England.
8. ... used as an alternative to the national flag.
 - a) The St. Andrew's cross...
 - b) The Flag of St. David...
 - c) The St. George's Cross...

9. ... used aboard ships of the Welsh Government.
 - a) The Flag of St. David...
 - b) The Flag of Wales...
 - c) The ensign...
10. The Red Dragon is popularly supposed to have been the battle standard of:
 - a) King Arthur; b) Charles II; c) King George I.
11. The Prince of Wales's feathers consists of:
 - a) three white ostrich feathers encircled by a gold coronet;
 - b) four white ostrich feathers encircled by a red coronet;
 - c) three red ostrich feathers encircled by a gold coronet.
12. A ribbon below the coronet bears the ... motto.
 - a) English; b) German; c) French.
13. ... uses the Prince of Wales's feathers for its own badge.
 - a) The National Football Team...
 - b) The England National Rugby Team...
 - c) The Welsh Rugby Union...
14. Many British ... coins bear the Prince of Wales' feathers:
 - a) one penny; b) two pence; c) five pence.
15. The Royal Badge of Wales was introduced in:
 - a) 2010; b) 2005; c) 2008.
16. The national flower emblem of Wales is:
 - a) the leek; b) the rose; c) the thistle.
17. The patron saint of Wales is:
 - a) Saint David; b) Saint Andrew; c) Saint George.
18. St. David's Day is celebrated on:
 - a) April 1; b) March 1; c) September 1.
19. The most popular national flower emblem of Wales is:
 - a) the rose; b) the leek; c) the daffodil.

20. The national tree of Wales is:
a) the Pine; b) the Oak; c) the Sessile Oak.
21. The national symbol of wildlife in Wales is:
a) the red kite; b) the unicorn; c) the lion.
22. The Welsh National Anthem is called:
a) God Save The Queen;
b) Scotland the Brave;
c) Land of my Father's.
23. The Welsh National Anthem was written in:
a) 1856; b) 1883; c) 1850.
24. The Welsh National Anthem was written by:
a) Evan James;
b) Tian Han;
c) Francis Scott Key.
25. Traditional Welsh costume consists of:
a) the Welsh hat and bedgown;
b) the Kilt;
c) Hanfu.
26. Traditional Welsh costume was originally worn by:
a) men; b) rural women; c) fine ladies.
27. Traditional Welsh costume was originally worn throughout:
a) Europe; b) Britain; c) Europe and Britain.
28. Traditional Welsh costume survived in Wales up until the:
a) 1880s; b) 1890s; c) 1870s.
29. Traditional Welsh costume was first worn by women as a celebration on:
a) Saint George's Day;
b) Saint David's Day;
c) Royal visits.

30. Today Traditional Welsh costume is worn by women at events such as:

- a) Royal visits; by choirs;
- b) at church and chapel;
- c) all of the above.

31. The red dragon is used by:

- a) many Welsh public and private institutions;
- b) the Welsh Government;
- c) sports organizations.

32. The Coats Of Arms of the Principality of Wales are used by Prince of Wales:

- a) in his personal standard;
- b) on the facades of buildings;
- c) on distinctive signs.

33. The Coats Of Arms of the Principality of Wales are also the basis for:

- a) the Royal Badge of Wales;
- b) the National Flag of Wales;
- c) the Prince of Wales's feathers.

34. Welsh soldiers wore the leek on:

- a) on the weapons;
- b) their helmets;
- c) on clothes.

35. The ancient battle against the Saxons took place:

- a) in the wheat field;
- b) on the field of daffodils;
- c) in a leek field.

36. The national symbols of Wales do not include:

- a) the Flag;
- b) the Coat of Arms;
- c) Prince of Wales.

37. The Red Kite is a source of ... for the Welsh people.
a) great pride; b) power; c) courage.
38. Under a century ago, there were only ... breeding pairs of the Red Kite in the country.
a) 3; b) 4; c) 2.
39. People voted the red kite as the most popular bird in Wales in:
a) 2008; b) 2007; c) 2013.
40. The origin of the design of the Flag of Owain Glyndwr was inspired by the counter-charged arms of:
a) the Houses of Mathrafal and Dinefwr;
b) the Houses of York and Lancaster;
c) the Houses of Dinefwr and Lancaster.

Loch Ness Monster

Loch Ness monster, by name Nessie, large marine creature believed by some people to inhabit Loch Ness, Scotland. However, much of the alleged evidence supporting its existence has been discredited, and it is widely thought that the monster is a myth.

Reports of a monster inhabiting Loch Ness date back to ancient times. Notably, local stone carvings by the Pict depict a mysterious beast with flippers. The first written account appears in a biography of St. Columba from 565 AD. According to that work, the monster bit a swimmer and was prepared to attack another man when Columba intervened, ordering the beast to “go back”. It obeyed, and over the centuries only occasional sightings were reported. Many of these alleged encounters seemed inspired by Scottish folklore, which abounds with mythical water creatures.

In 1933 the Loch Ness monster’s legend began to grow. At the time, a road adjacent to Loch Ness was finished, offering

an unobstructed view of the lake. In April a couple saw an enormous animal — which they compared to a “dragon or prehistoric monster” — and after it crossed their car’s path, it disappeared into the water. The incident was reported in a Scottish newspaper, and numerous sightings followed. In December 1933 the Daily Mail commissioned Marmaduke Wetherell, a big-game hunter, to locate the sea serpent. Along the lake’s shores, he found large footprints that he believed belonged to “a very powerful soft-footed animal about 6 m long”. However, upon closer inspection, zoologists at the Natural History Museum determined that the tracks were identical and made with an umbrella stand or ashtray that had a hippopotamus leg as a base; Wetherell’s role in the hoax was unclear.

The news only seemed to spur efforts to prove the monster’s existence. In 1934 English physician Robert Kenneth Wilson photographed the alleged creature. The iconic image — known as the “surgeon’s photograph” — appeared to show the monster’s small head and neck. The Daily Mail printed the photograph, sparking an international sensation. Many speculated that the creature was a plesiosaur, a marine reptile that went extinct some 65 million years ago.

The Loch Ness area attracted numerous monster hunters. Over the years, several sonar explorations (notably in 1987 and 2003) were undertaken to locate the creature, but none were successful. In addition, numerous photographs allegedly showed the beast, but most were discredited as fakes or as depicting other animals or objects. Notably, in 1994 it was revealed that Wilson’s photograph was a hoax spearheaded by a revenge-seeking Wetherell; the “monster” was actually a plastic-and-wooden head attached to a toy submarine. In 2018 researchers conducted a DNA survey of Loch Ness to determine what organisms live in the waters. No signs of a plesiosaur or other such large animal were found, though the results

indicated the presence of numerous eels. This finding left open the possibility that the monster is an oversized eel. Despite the lack of conclusive evidence, the Loch Ness monster remained popular and profitable. In the early 21st century it was thought that it contributed nearly \$80 million annually to Scotland's economy.

Questions

1. What is the name of Loch Ness monster?
2. What is Loch Ness monster?
3. Much of the alleged evidence supporting its existence has been discredited, hasn't it?
4. When did reports of a monster inhabiting Loch Ness appear?
5. How do local stone carvings by the Pict depict the monster?
6. Where does the first written account of the monster appear?
7. What does this work say about Loch Ness?
8. Did many of these alleged encounters seem inspired by Scottish folklore?
9. When did the Loch Ness monster's legend begin to grow?
10. Why did the Loch Ness monster's legend begin to grow?
11. Who saw the monster on this road?
12. What did that couple compare the animal to?
13. How did the monster behave in front of the couple?
14. When did numerous sightings start?
15. Who commissioned Marmaduke Wetherell, a big-game hunter, to locate the sea serpent?
16. What did Marmaduke Wetherell find along the lake's shores?
17. Why was Wetherell's role in the hoax unclear?
18. The news didn't spur efforts to prove the monster's existence, did it?

19. Who photographed the alleged creature in 1934?
20. What did “surgeon’s photograph” show?
21. How did The Daily Mail spark the international sensation?
22. What was on the “surgeon’s photograph” according to many people?
23. The Loch Ness area didn’t attract people after that, did it?
24. What kind of exploration were undertaken to locate the creature?
25. What years are considered to be notable in explorations of the creature?
26. Were the explorations successful?
27. All the photographs were true, weren’t they?
28. When was it revealed that Willson’s photograph was a hoax?
29. Why did Willson take his “photograph”?
30. What was “the monster” in reality?
31. How did the researchers try to determine organisms living in the water of Loch Ness?
32. When did researchers conduct a DNA survey?
33. Were there any signs of a plesiosaur in the research?
34. Signs of other large animal were found in the research, weren’t they?
35. What did the results of the research indicate?
36. What did that finding leave?
37. Did the Loch Ness monster remain popular?
38. The Loch Ness monster considered to be profitable, didn’t it?
39. Why did the Loch Ness monster consider to be profitable?
40. When was it thought that the Loch Ness monster had a contribution to Scotland’s economy?

Physical geography of the UK

The official name of Britain is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. But people often make this name shorter — they call this country “the United Kingdom”, or even “the UK”.

The United Kingdom is situated to the north-west of Europe. Actually it is separated from Europe by the Channel. The Channel is not very broad, only about 40 km. Now a tunnel constructed under the Channel lines up the UK with its nearest continental neighbor, France. So it is much easier to reach the UK from Europe than earlier, when it could be done only on board the ship. Since 1973 the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union.

The United Kingdom is situated on the British Isles. The UK occupies the Island of Great Britain (which is the largest island in Europe), a number of small islands to the west of Scotland and the northern part of the Island of Ireland. The southern part of the Island of Ireland is the Republic of Eire.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consists of four almost independent countries. These are England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. England is bigger than other parts of the country in both its territory and population. Over 60 million people live in Britain, and about 75 percent of the British population lives in England. The capital of England as well as of the whole United Kingdom is London, which is situated in the south-east of England.

London and is more than a thousand years old. Scotland occupies the northern part of the Island of Great Britain. The area of Scotland is more than half as big as England. But Scotland has the lowest population density in the UK. Scotland has its own legal, banking and education systems. The capital of Scotland is

Edinburgh. It is an old beautiful city. Glasgow is the main industrial centre of Scotland. Scotland is well-known for its beautiful mountainous scenery.

Wales is lying in the western part of the Island of Great Britain. It is not so populated as England — only about two million people live in Wales. Wales is one of the most beautiful parts of the British Isles — with hills and high mountains, deep rivers and valleys. The capital of Wales is Cardiff. It is the biggest city in Wales and also an important port.

Northern Ireland occupies the northern part of the Island of Ireland. The capital of this country is Belfast. Northern Ireland is the most problematical part of the UK. Some people in Northern Ireland want the independent of the UK. That is why there are permanent conflicts and terrorist acts organized by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in the Northern Ireland and in other parts of the UK.

Foreigners often call everyone in the UK "English", but the Irish, the Welsh and the Scots don't like this, because they are Celts by the origin, and the English are the Tautens. Every part of the UK has its own language which is not like the English language.

Like its own language, each part of the United Kingdom also has its own national flower. The national emblem of England is the rose. The rose was adopted as England's emblem in the 15th century, around the time of the War of the Roses. The symbol of Wales is a daffodil, a beautiful white-and-yellow spring flower. And the Scots consider a thistle to be their symbol. A legend runs that this flower has saved an old Scottish castle from enemies, because one of them stepped over a thistle with big thorns and cried out of pain. Citizens of the UK call their banner the Union Flag or Union Jack. It is blue, red and white. This banner consists of the flags of Scotland, England and Ireland. The flag of Scotland is the Cross of Saint Andrew, the

flag of England is the Cross of Saint George and the flag of Ireland is the Cross of Saint Patrick. And every cross is represented in the Union Jack.

The capital of the UK is London. It is a very old and big city. London is situated at the mouth of the Thames river. First mentions about a settlement there date back to the time when Celtic tribes lived on the British Isles, and it was long before Christ. In the first centuries of the Christian era London became an important city of the Roman empire. And in the 12th century it already was the capital of England.

London consists of several main districts, and also includes numerous suburbs. The main districts were formed during the long life of the city. For example, the City is the centre of business life with many banks, offices and different enterprises except for industrial ones. In the Westminster historic buildings and other places of interest are concentrated, and this is also the district where the Queen lives. There also such districts as West-End, East-End, Cheap-Side, and their names are well-known in the world due to English literature. There are many historic buildings, various museums, galleries, and other places of interest in London.

The Tower is a world-famous symbol of London, it is more than 900 years old. During long centuries it was a fortress, a royal palace, a prison... But now it is one of the most popular museums. The Tower is guarded by Yeomen Warders who wear splendid scarlet and gold uniforms. The Tower is famous for the ravens, too — a legend has it that without them the Tower will fall. This is why all the employees of the museum as well as the tourists take care of these birds.

Almost all English Kings and Queens had been crowned in Westminster Abbey. It is one of the most beautiful buildings of

London. Inside memorials to great English poets and writers, as well as to scientists and other outstanding English people. For example, William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Charles Darwin and Isaac Newton are buried here.

The beautiful Buckingham Palace is the London home of the Queen. It was built in the 18th century and rebuilt in the 19th century by architect John Nash.

Every day the traditional ceremony of Changing the Guards takes place there. The Houses of Parliament is, in fact, the seat of the British Parliament. It was first built in the 12th century and then it changed its appearance many times. The last rebuilding was made in 1857. The Houses of Parliament has two towers. One of them is the Clock Tower, or Big Ben — a famous London landmark.

England's great architect Sir Christopher Wren is the author of St. Paul's Cathedral, which was built instead of the old cathedral that was destroyed by the Great Fire of 1666. There is a golden ball and cross on the top of the Cathedral that can be seen from far away.

The world-famous Natural History Museum is known for its beautiful galleries and expositions, for example "Human biology", "History of the Earth", "Discovering mammals", and so on. The Museum was opened in April 1881.

Western European paintings created in the period from about 1250 to 1900 are represented in the National Gallery's permanent collection. There are paintings by Italian masters such as Raphael and Veronese, as well as Rembrandt, Rubens and El Greco.

The British Museum was founded in 1753 due to the efforts of three rich men — Sir Robert Cotton, Sir Hans Sloane and King George II. They donated their private collections and libraries to the museum. No one can see items from ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt, China and Japan in the British Museum.

Mark statements as True/False/Not stated

1. The capital of the UK is Cardiff.
2. The British Museum was founded in 1753.
3. Each part of the United Kingdom also has its own national flower.
4. Over 90 million people live in Britain.
5. London is situated at the mouth of the Eve river.
6. The Tower is a world-famous symbol of London, it is more than 1500 years old.
7. The official name of Britain is the United Kingdom of Northern Ireland.
8. Since 1973 the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union.
9. The United Kingdom is situated to the north-west of Europe.
10. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland consists of three almost independent countries.
11. Since 1977 the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union.
12. The flag of Scotland is the Cross of Saint Andrew.
13. The flag of England is the Cross of Saint Paul.
14. The flag of Ireland is the Cross of Saint Patrick.
15. In the fifth centuries of the Christian era London became an important city of the Roman empire.
16. The beautiful Buckingham Palace isn't the London home of the Queen.
17. The beautiful Buckingham Palace was built in the 18th century.
18. The beautiful Buckingham Palace was rebuilt in the 19th century by architect John Nash.

19. The beautiful Buckingham Palace was rebuilt by architect Pitter Nash.

20. The Tower is a world-famous symbol of Wales.

21. During long centuries The Tower was a prison.

22. Now The Tower is one of the most popular galleries.

23. The Tower is guarded by Yeomen Jack.

24. The world-famous Natural History Museum is known for its beautiful galleries and expositions.

25. The Museum was opened in April 1881.

26. England's great architect Sir Christopher Wren is the author of St. Paul's Cathedral.

27. St. Paul's Cathedral was built instead of the old cathedral.

28. St. Paul's Cathedral was destroyed by war of 1666.

29. English Kings and Queens had been crowned in Westminster Abbey.

30. The rose was adopted as England's emblem in the 16th century.

31. The national emblem of England is the rose.

32. The symbol of Ireland is a daffodil.

33. The Scots consider a thistle to be their symbol.

34. William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Charles Darwin and Isaac Newton are buried in Westminster Abbey.

35. In the 11th century London already was the capital of England.

36. The Houses of Parliament has one tower.

37. Since 1973 the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union.

38. London consists of several main districts, and also includes numerous suburbs.

39. The Tower is a world-famous symbol of London.

40. The capital of the UK is London.

Snowdonia

Snowdonia is a national park, the first national park in Wales and one of the first three in the UK, after the Rocky Edge and the Lake District. It is located in the northern part of Wales. The name Snowdonia comes from the name of Mount Snowdon — the highest in Wales (1085 m), originally it meant only the surroundings of the mountain, but with the creation of the national Park in 1951, the whole park began to be called that.

The area of the park is 2,140 km², on its territory there are the highest mountain in Wales and England, the largest lake in Wales, picturesque villages, 26,000 people live here, more than half of them speak Welsh. The length of the coastline is more than 60 km. In the UK, unlike other countries, national parks include not only public, but also private land. The central office of the park management is located in the village of Penrindadright. More than 6 million tourists visit the park every year.

Snowdonia is traditionally divided into four parts, and the northern one, where the highest mountains are located, is the most popular among tourists. In the center of the national park there is a site that is not part of it — this is the town of Blainai Ffestiniog and its surroundings. It was not included in the national park, because otherwise the city's industry would have suffered.

Snowdonia has 2,381 km of hiking trails, 264 km of trails for hiking, horseback riding and cycling, and 74 km of other roads. A significant part of the park also does not require a special permit to visit. Climbing Snowdon itself and other peaks are very popular, because almost all of these mountains can be reached on foot without having special climbing or climbing skills.

Horse riding, trekking and cycling are very popular here. Golf, water sports, rafting on canyons, caving and bird watching are no less in demand. Moreover, in the village of Llanberis, you can take a small train and arrange a wonderful walk that will allow you to see most of the reserve. The trip can run along one of the historical routes: Snowdon Mountain, Welsh Highland and Ffestiniog.

Most of the park is covered with forests, mostly deciduous. Some plants are endemic to Snowdonia and are protected. There are also rare animals and birds, such as otters, ferrets, martens, crows, peregrine falcons, ospreys, gyrfalcons and red kites.

The park is also home to the largest lake in Wales, Llyn Tegyd. There is a kind of Loch Ness monster here (of course, his name is Teggy). However, it is rumored that this is just an incredibly large pike. The wonders of Snowdonia can be found in the small. Do not overlook the cereal leaf beetle with rainbow wings along the back.

Given that the park is located in the north of Wales, there are several ways to get to it: by train from Conwy; by car on the M56 and A55 highways, as well as on the M1, M5 and M6 roads; by bus from Llandudno, Carnarvon and Bangor and from Manchester, Chester and London. In addition, it is possible to fly by plane from Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Cardiff to Angsley, and sea ferries sail from Liverpool and the Irish Dunleary to Snowdonia. Entrance to the park is free.

Questions

1. What is "Snowdonia"?
2. Where is "Snowdonia"?
3. What is the origin of this name?
4. What is the height of Mount Snowdon?
5. In what year was the park "Snowdonia" created?

6. What is the area of the park?
7. What is in the park?
8. What the mountain is the highest in Wales?
9. How many people live in local villages?
10. What language do the villagers speak?
11. What is the length of the coastline?
12. Which lands are part of the park?
13. What is the name of the village where the central office of the leadership is located?
14. How many tourists visit the park every year?
15. How many parts is Snowdonia divided into?
16. Which part is the most popular for tourists?
17. What is located in the northern part?
18. What is in the center of the park?
19. What would have happened if Blainai Ffestiniog had not become part of Snowdonia?
20. What is the length of hiking trails in Snowdonia?
21. How many km are allocated for hiking and cycling roads?
22. What document do I need to get to visit the main part of the park?
23. What is the most popular destination in Snowdonia?
24. What skills are needed to climb Mount Snowdon?
25. Are special vehicles required to climb to the top of the park?
26. What is located on most of the park?
27. What is known about plants in the park?
28. What animals are found in the park?
29. What birds are most often found in the park?
30. What kind of entertainment is very popular in this park?
31. Is it possible to travel around the park by train?

32. What does the historical route that can be overcome by train look like?
33. By what transport can I get to Snowdonia?
34. What is the cost of admission?
35. What is the name of the monster in the local lake?
36. Who is this monster really?
37. Which insect is the celebrity of Snowdonia?
38. What does the famous leaf beetle look like?
39. What is the name of the lake located in the park?
40. What is the largest place this lake occupies in all Wales?

British Holidays

There are a number of holidays, which are celebrated in Great Britain every year.

One of them is, of course, New Year's Day on the first of January. It is not so popular in England as in our country, but it is rather popular in Scotland. On that day people usually visit their friends and there is a lot of dancing and eating. In Scotland people bring a piece of coal for good luck in the New Year.

The next holiday of the year is St Valentine's Day. It is on the 14th of February. People buy or make Valentine cards and send them to the people they love.

In March there is Mother's Day. All the children, little or adult ones, come to their mothers on that day to express their love and gratitude.

In April there is Easter. At Easter children eat chocolate Easter eggs. Sometimes parents hide them in the house or in the garden and children have to look for them.

In June there is Father's Day. On Father's Day children give or send their fathers and grandfathers cards and presents.

On October 31 there is a Halloween. They say ghosts and witches come out on Halloween. People make lanterns out of pumpkins. Some people have Halloween parties and dress as witches and ghosts.

The 25th of December is Christmas Day. It is one of the people's favourite holidays. People put Christmas trees in their houses and decorate them. There are beautiful Christmas decorations in the streets. On Christmas Eve everybody puts the presents under the Christmas tree. People say that at night Father Christmas puts presents into the stockings, which children usually hang on their beds. The traditional Christmas meal is roast turkey and Christmas pudding.

Exercises

I. FIND THE EQUIVALENTS IN THE TEXT.

1. Есть несколько праздников, которые празднуют в Британии каждый год.
2. Он не такой популярный в Англии как в нашей стране.
3. В Шотландии люди приносят кусочек угля на удачу в Новый год.
4. Все дети, маленькие и взрослые, приходят к мамам в этот день, чтобы выразить свою любовь и благодарность.
5. Иногда родители прячут их дома или в саду.
6. Говорят, что привидения и ведьмы появляются на Хэллоуин.
7. Люди делают фонари из тыкв.
8. Говорят, что Дед Мороз кладет подарки в чулки.
9. Жареная индейка и рождественский пудинг.

II. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What country celebrates New Year's Day as in our country?
2. What do people do on New Year's Day?
3. What people buy or make on St. Valentine's Day?
4. What is Mother's Day and Father's Day?
5. Where do parents hide chocolate Easter eggs?
6. When do people celebrate Halloween?
7. What do people decorate on Christmas Day?
8. Who puts presents into the stockings, which children usually hang on their beds?
9. What is the traditional Christmas meal?

III. MAKE THE SENTENCES TRUE OR FALSE.

1. New Year's Day is as popular in England as in our country.
2. On New Year's Day people usually visit their friends and there is a lot of dancing and eating.
3. St. Valentine's Day is on the 15th of February.
4. People buy or make Valentine cards and send them to the people they hate.
5. Only little children come to their mothers on Mother's Day to express their love and gratitude.
6. At Easter children eat chocolate Easter eggs.
7. Some people have Halloween parties and dress as animals.
8. At night parents put presents into children's stockings.
9. The traditional Christmas meal is roast turkey and Christmas pudding.

Holidays in Britain

Every country and every nation has its own holidays. In the United Kingdom there are two types of them bank and public holidays. Bank holidays are the days, when all people in the UK have

a day off and celebrate a national event. Those days are: New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Early May, Spring Bank holiday, Summer Bank holiday, Christmas and Boxing Day.

Public holidays are special occasions like Guy Fawkes Night, Mother's Day, Remembrance Day, Valentine's Day and so on. People usually celebrate them but do not have a day off on these events, unless they fall on weekends.

Each holiday is good, but there are some of them that are really special and more popular than others.

New Year's Day (December 31 – January 1) is a bank holiday. Like many nations around the world, British people celebrate it by hosting parties with their friends and families to await the countdown to the New Year. In Scotland they call it Hogmanay and celebrate it by having a party with friends and setting fireworks off. In many cities there are free celebrations that anyone can join.

Valentine's Day (February 14) is celebrated in many countries around the world, although it is not a public holiday in most of them. This day has a Catholic origin and has been associated with romantic love since it was mentioned in one of Geoffrey Chaucer's poems. Nowadays, it's the day of anyone who is in love. On the Valentine's Day people usually give to the person they love some sweets, a traditional heart-shaped card ("valentine") and say, "Be my Valentine".

Halloween (October 31) also known as All Hallows' Eve, or All St. Eve, is a yearly celebration observed in a number of countries on October 31. It is the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead. On this day children will dress up in costumes and go "trick or treating" around the neighborhood. "Trick or Treating" involves knocking on someone's door and saying "Trick or Treat". That person gives them a treat (usually sweets). Children enjoy the holiday because they go home with a bag of sweets!

Guy Fawkes Night (November 5) is a firework festival associated with the tradition of celebrating Guy Fawkes's failed attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605. It is an annual event dedicated to bonfires, fireworks and celebrations.

Christmas (December 25) is the most important holiday for British families. This is the day that people spend with their families. There are many Christmas traditions, but the most important one is about presents. Family members prepare their gifts and put them under the Christmas tree. In the evening they sit down around the table and enjoy the meal. Then they watch the Queen's speech on the television as she delivers her traditional Christmas message to the people of the United Kingdom. After that, family eats the Christmas cake and goes to sleep. In the morning all the family members wake up and gather around the tree to find the presents that were prepared for them.

Boxing Day (December 26) is based on the tradition of giving gifts to poor people after celebrating Christmas. The word "boxing" refers to gift boxes, and has nothing to do with the sport.

There are also a few uniquely British holidays, such as Burns Supper in Scotland, dedicated to the poet Robert Burns, or the Queen's Birthday, but these are the most important and popular holidays in the United Kingdom.

Traditions and Culture of Northern Ireland

Culture Northern Ireland is mixed. On the one hand, this is a traditional British culture with English traditions and customs, with other Irish, originating in ancient Celtic history of the indigenous inhabitants of the island. For example, in Northern Ireland St. Patrick's Day is a public holiday, unlike the UK.

Irish death traditions & customs

Although death is a sad occasion, a traditional wake is seldom solemn. Friends and family alike gather and share memories and funny stories about the deceased. Food and drink is always present and although the church tried to ban alcohol from wakes it was unsuccessful.

St. Patrick's Day Traditions

March 17th marks the day of St. Patrick, celebrated by millions of people around the world. In Ireland, St. Patrick's Day was always held as an important religious day to celebrate the teachings of Christianity by St. Patrick.

Easter Sunday in Ireland

Many family households would prepare their homes for Easter Sunday by doing what would be better known as "spring cleaning" to prepare the house for blessing by the local priest which is a religious ceremony that dates back hundreds of years.

Halloween Traditions in Ireland

Today Halloween is celebrated all around the globe but the Halloween Holiday has its history firmly planted in Ireland. Halloween is also known as Samhain, All Hallows Eve, Hallowmas and Hallowtide. It is celebrated on 31st October but the holiday of Halloween is not just celebrated on the one day any more as the Christian holidays of All Saints Day, November 1st and All Souls Day, November 2nd are celebrated as well.

Celebrating Christmas in Ireland

Most, if not all, Irish families decorate their homes with lights, tinsel and baubles. A Christmas tree is usually erected in the family home on the first day of the holy advent calendar. The tree will be

beautifully decorated with an angel on top, presents will lay underneath as seen with many family homes around the world.

Tasks

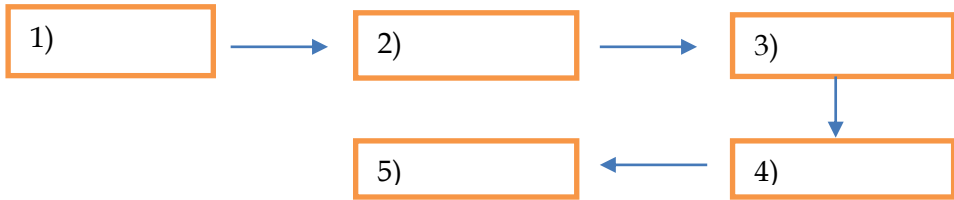
I. MATCH THE PARTS OF THE SENTENCE WITH HEADINGS.

1. Irish death traditions & customs	A. A Christmas tree is usually erected in the family home
2. St. Patrick's Day Traditions	B. It is celebrated on 31st October
3. Easter Sunday in Ireland	C. To prepare the house for blessing by the local priest which is a religious ceremony
4. Halloween Traditions in Ireland	D. Day was always held as an important religious day to celebrate the teachings
5. Celebrating Christmas in Ireland	E. Friends and family alike gather and share memories

II. TRANSLATE INTO RUSSIAN.

1. Culture of Northern Ireland is mixed.
2. For example, in Northern Ireland St. Patrick's Day is a public holiday, unlike the UK.
3. St. Patrick's Day was always held as an important religious day.
4. Today Halloween is celebrated all around the globe.
5. Easter Monday is celebrated on the first day after the Resurrection.
6. The tree will be beautifully decorated with an angel on top.
7. A Christmas tree is usually erected in the family home.
8. Food and drink is always present and although the church tried to ban alcohol from wakes

III. RESTORE THE ORDER OF THE PARTS OF THE CONTENT OF THE TEXT.



IV. FIND THE MISTAKES.

1. Culture Western Ireland is mixed.
2. For example, in Northern Ireland St. Patricia's Day is a local holiday.
3. May 27th marks the day of St. Patrick, celebrated by millions of people around the Ireland.
4. Food and drink is always present and although the pub tried to ban alcohol.
5. Many family households would prepare their hotels for Easter Friday.
6. The Halloween Holiday has its history firmly planted in Scotland.
7. A death tree is usually erected in the family home.
8. The tree will be beautifully decorated with a bear on top.
9. Halloween is celebrated on 20th September.
10. Mother and Father alike gather and share memories.
11. St. Patrick's Day is a public holiday, unlike the USA.
12. In ancient Celtic history of the indigenous inhabitants of the continent.
13. Most, if not all, Italians families decorate their homes.
14. In United Kingdom very fond of Sunday.
15. Friends and family alike gather and share memories and sad stories.

Conquest of England by the Normans

The Anglo-Saxon tribes formed 7 kingdoms on the territory of Britain, constantly at war with each other. In the 9th century they united among themselves in the English kingdom. At the end of the 10th century, the Danes conquered it.

In the 9th century, the Anglo-Saxons freed themselves from the domination of the Danes. But the state remained weak. The feudal lords were at enmity with each other and the king. Taking advantage of this, in 1066 Duke William of Normandy invaded England. In the battle of Hastings, he defeated the Anglo-Saxons. The English king, despite the courage of the peasants, died along with his cavalry squad.

In London, William was proclaimed King of England. He was nicknamed "The Conqueror". Wilhelm took the land from the local nobility and distributed it among his knights. All Anglo-Saxon feudal lords took an oath of allegiance to the king. This strengthened royal power and marked the beginning of the formation of a centralized state in England.

In the judiciary system: limitation of the power of feudal lords over free people, the emergence of a jury. In military power: the dependence of the king on the military forces of the feudal lords decreased. In the administration: the power of the king was based on officials directly subordinate to him.

After the death of Henry II, his sons Richard the Lionheart (1189-1199) and John Landless (1199-1216) continued the transformation, tried to further strengthen the authority of royal power. John faced the resistance of barons, who were unhappy with the increase in requisitions for organizing the fight against the French. The war was unsuccessful, the king was losing his lands in France. The king

was forced to accept the demands of the rebellious barons and sign a special document on June 15, 1215 “Magna Carta”.

Under the son of John the Landless, Henry III (1216–1272), baronial rule was established several times in the country, which inevitably led to civil war. The army of the rebels, led by Simon de Montfort, defeated the royal forces near Lewes. Captured in the battle, King Henry and his heir Edward were forced to sign an agreement and accept the demands of the rebels. To strengthen his power, Simone de Montfort on January 20, 1265 gathered the first English parliament in Wesminster (from the French “parle” — to speak).

In the spring of 1381, an uprising began in the southeast of England, covering half the country. Peasants sacked monasteries and feudal estates, burned lists of feudal duties, and killed tax collectors. On their banner, the English peasants wrote: “Long live King Richard and his faithful communities” and explained that they were fighting not against the king, but against his “bad advisers”.

Wat Tyler was lured into negotiations and killed, after which the feudal lords defeated the rebels who were left without a leader. During Wat Tyler’s rebellion, the rebels were actually the masters of London, the king wrote a charter stating: “Let it be known that by our special mercy we set free all our subjects and free each and all from serfdom”. When the uprising was crushed, the king announced to the peasants: “You were serfs and will remain so; you will remain in a state of serfdom, but even incomparably worse and more difficult”.

After Wat Tyler’s rebellion was put down, many of its members were put on trial. They were accused of taking away documents and court records, which indicated the size of peasant allotments and duties, having captured a castle or a monastery, destroying lists of taxpayers in the offices of officials.

Questions

1. How many kingdoms appeared?
2. In what century did they unite among themselves to form the Kingdom of England?
3. Who conquered the kingdom in the 10th century?
4. In what century did the Anglo-Saxons free themselves from the dominance of the Danes?
5. Who were the feudal lords at odds with?
6. Who invaded England?
7. What was the name of the general who invaded England?
8. What was the name of the battle in which the Anglo-Saxons were defeated?
9. Who was proclaimed King of England?
10. What was the king's nickname?
11. What did the new king do?
12. What did the Anglo-Saxon feudal lords do?
13. Is it true that this strengthened the royal power?
14. Is it true that the beginning of the formation of a centralized state in England was laid?
15. In how many systems of state structure have there been changes?
16. What changes have taken place in the judicial system?
17. What changes have taken place in the military system?
18. What changes have taken place in the administration system?
19. How many children did Henry II have?
20. What did the children of Henry II continue to do after his death?
21. Whose resistance did John face?
22. In what year was the special document signed?

23. What was this document?
24. Under what king was the baronial government established?
25. What war did this event lead to?
26. Which army defeated the royal troops?
27. Under whose leadership was the rebel army?
28. Where did this battle take place?
29. Who was captured from the royal nobility?
30. Who assembled the first English Parliament?
31. In what year was the first English Parliament convened?
32. In what year did the South East of England revolt?
33. What did the peasants do?
34. What happened to Wat Tyler?
35. What did the king write?
36. What did the king announce when the rebellion was crushed?
37. Was there a trial after the uprising?
38. Did the serfs remain in the same status?
39. Is it true that the participants in the uprising destroyed the list of taxpayers?
40. Is it true that the participants in the uprising captured all the castles and monasteries?

Sport in Britain

In the UK, there are only three subjects required throughout school — these are mathematics, English and physical education

In addition to traditional physical culture, students are additionally offered various sports there. Almost all schools have swimming pools, tennis, basketball and football courts, golf lawns, cricket or squash courts, beloved by the British.

Secondary schools have a program called “Physical education as a preparation for life”.

Starting from the age of 11–13, schoolchildren decide for themselves what kind of sport they will do in the current trimester. The list of sports that can be practiced in a British school is huge. These are field hockey, cricket, badminton, fencing, golf, swimming, rowing, water polo, sailing, squash, sport shooting, equestrian polo, archery, yoga, rock climbing and much more.

The most popular sport at school is football, and both boys and girls play it. Team games such as rugby, field hockey, cricket, squash, netball, rounders, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee are also very popular.

Football. In England and Scotland, football is the national sport, and it is the passion of many Britons. The teams of the Scottish Premier League are at a high level, and the English Premier League is considered the best in the world. There are fans of famous English clubs all over the world, such as Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal and Chelsea, and broadcasts of matches involving these teams sometimes attract an audience of more than a billion people.

Each of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom has its own national football association, which manages football issues within the borders of its territory.

1. It is the Football Association of England, founded in 1863.
2. The Scottish Football Association, founded in 1873.
3. The Football Association of Wales, founded in 1876.
4. The Irish Football Association, founded in 1880.

These are the four oldest football associations in the world, they occupy four out of eight seats in the International Council of Football Associations (IFAB), which determines the rules of the game of football (the remaining four seats on the council belong to FIFA).

Cricket is a team non-contact sport, part of a family of games in which bat and ball are used. Cricket originated in the XVI century in the south of England. By the end of the XVIII century, the game became one of the national sports. The expansion of the British Empire contributed to the spread of the game around the world. Cricket was invented in England and is very popular throughout the country and in the former colonies. Wales does not have its own national team and plays together with England, as well as representatives of Scotland and Ireland, whose cricket teams have only recently begun to develop. Cricket is the main summer sport in the UK. It is played by athletes of different levels of training — from teams of small towns to the national team of England. The rules of the game of cricket appeared in the XVIII century, and still this game is very popular among young people. The England national team holds tournament matches at home, one-day international matches, plays various 20 cricket games every summer, and travels to matches outside the country in winter. The main event is, of course, the biennial Ashes Cup competition between England and Australia.

Rugby is a contact team sport that originated in the XIX century in England. In addition, some elements of rugby have been incorporated into the rules of American and Australian football and their derivatives. A rugby match is a competition between two teams, each of which is represented by fifteen fielders. The main task of each of the opponents is to perform effective actions, that is, to defeat the goal (kick above the crossbar) or to bring the ball into the opponent's scoring zone. The rules allow touching the ball with your hands, which determines the main difference between rugby and football. At the same time, a restriction is imposed on the game with your hands: the ball cannot be passed by hands if the receiving

player is closer to the opponent's scoring zone than the passer. "Harlequins".

Golf is a sports game in which individual participants or teams compete, driving a small ball into special holes with strokes of clubs, trying to pass the allotted distance in the minimum number of strokes. It is believed that the game of golf originated in Scotland and was invented by shepherds who used staves to hammer stones into rabbit holes. Presumably the game existed already in the XIV century, and in the XV century in Scotland there were several laws prohibiting playing "golf". The game in its modern form was formed in the XIX century in Scotland. Great Britain is the birthplace of golf. There are hundreds of beautiful playing fields where world-class competitions are held. Wentworth, Belfrey and Carnoustie, as well as the course at St. Andrews, are some of the best golf courses in the world. The British Open Golf Championship, held annually in July, is the oldest and most famous of the four golf championships. Competitions are held on different fields in the UK.

Athletics. In the UK, many international athletics competitions are held every year, including the London Marathon and the annual London Grand Prix competition. Athletics competitions were a significant part of the program of the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Squash is another extremely popular sport in the UK. Among the best squash players in the world are James Willstrop and Nick Matthew. The history of squash has its roots in the distant past of England, where it still remains one of the most prestigious and popular sports. At the end of the last century, squash began to spread around the world, which was largely facilitated by the small size of the court and the possibility of creating indoor courts. Squash is a sport in which an athlete uses a racket and a soft ball. The name

comes from the English word squash, meaning “crushed”, and is associated with the use of a small hollow ball with a diameter of 4 cm in the game. Squash is played on an indoor court by two or four people

Curling is a team sport in which players take turns launching granite projectiles (stones) into a “house” (a special target). The goal of the game is to launch as many shells as possible into the center of the “house” or push out the shells of opponents, depriving opponents of earned points. Many of us now know about such a sport as curling, which is included in the Olympic Games program. It turns out that it originates in Scotland. It comes from the English word curl — “spiral, curl”. The first mention of curling dates back to the distant sixteenth century. A fragment of a stone with an engraved date was found in the highlands of Scotland. Therefore, Scotland is now considered the birthplace of curling.

In winter, on the frozen lakes between the wars, the mountaineers trained and played this game. At first, ordinary stone fragments were used, but in the eighteenth century, English soldiers “optimized” the stones, giving them the look they have now. Over time, the game transformed, the rules changed and developed. The first European Curling Championship was held in 1975 (France). Fifteen teams took part in the competition. The Men’s World Curling Championship was held in 1959 (Edinburgh) under the name “Scottish Cup Competition”. The first women’s championship was held in Perth (1979), the Swiss national team won. The year 924 was a significant one in the history of curling — it first appeared at the Olympic Games. But officially it was recognized as an Olympic sport only in 1998, until that time only demonstration competitions were held.

Snooker is a relatively popular game and the most developed type of billiards. It is believed that snooker was invented by the British colonel of the British colonial troops in India, Neville Chamberlain. Until the 20s of the XX century, this game was inferior in popularity and development to English billiards, but soon became the most famous type of billiards in the country. Since the 1970s, snooker tournaments have been broadcast on national television (mainly by the BBC). At the peak of the popularity of the game, most professional snooker players were British, and, accordingly, most major tournaments were also held in this country. Currently, snooker remains perhaps the most famous type of billiards in England, and at the same time it is in England that it is most popular. The most titled and famous snooker players of this country: Steve Davis, Jimmy White, etc.

Test

1. Name 3 important subjects in the British school.
2. At what age do students decide what kind of sports they want to do?
3. "Summer is not summer" means:
 - a) Without cricket;
 - b) Without football;
 - c) Without golf.
4. The most famous boat race in England is between:
 - a) professional sportsmen from all over the world;
 - b) boat teams from London;
 - c) students from Oxford and Cambridge.
5. The London Marathon:
 - a) is an international competition for athletics;
 - b) is an international competition for runners;
 - c) is an international competition for tennis.

6. The British:
 - a) don't care about sports;
 - b) are crazy about sports;
 - c) go in for sport time to time.
7. The British queen enjoyed:
 - a) lawn tennis; b) golf; c) racing
8. Explain the word: Wimbledon Derby Highland Games IFAB.
9. There are all kinds of it in England:
 - a) racing; b) tennis; c) wrestling.
10. Name the most popular British sports games.
11. At English schools children learn how to play:
 - a) football; b) golf; c) cricket; d) racing.
12. The main summer sport in the UK is _____ .
13. A rugby match is a competition:
 - a) one team; b) two teams; c) three teams.
14. It is believed that the game of golf was originated in:
 - a) Germany; b) Scotland; c) Russia.
15. In the XV century in Scotland there were several laws prohibiting playing:
 - a) golf; b) football. c) tennis.
16. Squash is a sport in which an athlete uses:
 - a) a racket and a hard ball;
 - b) a racket and a soft ball;
 - c) the ball.
17. Squash, translated as:
 - a) soft; b) crushed; c) crumpled.
18. The diameter of the squash ball:
 - a) 6 cm; b) 20 cm; c) 4 cm.

19. Squash is played on:
a) closed court two or four people;
b) closed court three or six people;
c) open court two or four people.
20. Curling is a team sport where players _____ .
21. From what word did the name Curling come from:
a) curl; b) throw.
22. The birthplace of curling:
a) Germany; b) Scotland; c) Libya.
23. The first European Curling Championship was held in:
a) 1975; b) 1985; c) 1945.
24. The first women's championship was held in:
a) France; b) Perth; c) Scotland.
25. What is the most famous type of billiards?
26. Name the famous snooker players.
27. The sport of kings is:
a) golf; b) horse racing; c) tennis.
28. The only major tennis tournament in the world is _____ .
29. The traditional Wimbledon treat is:
a) fish and chips;
b) strawberries with cream;
c) sweet apples.
30. The annual 1.5 mile race is held:
a) on the first Saturday of June;
b) on the last Sunday of June;
c) every Monday.
31. Oxford and Cambridge Boat racing is held on the river _____ .
32. The English aristocrat founded Derby is _____ .

Wales. General information

Wales is a country that is part of the United Kingdom. Wales is bordered by England to the east and by sea in all other directions: the Irish Sea to the north and west, St. George's Channel and the Celtic Sea to the southwest and the Bristol Channel to the south. Over 50 islands lie off the Welsh mainland; the largest being Anglesey, in the north-west.

Subdivisions of Wales

Wales is divided into 22 single-tier principal areas, styled as counties or county boroughs for local government purposes (since April 1, 1996).

Area	20,779 km ²
Population	3,153,000
Official languages	Welsh, English
Religion	57,6 % Christianity 32,1 % no religion 1,5 % Islam 1,2 % other 7,6 % not stated

The capital of Wales is Cardiff. Other big cities are: Swansea, Newport, Wrexham.

Economy of Wales

Over the last 250 years, Wales has been transformed from a predominantly agricultural country to an industrial, and then to a post-industrial economy. In the 1950s Wales' GDP was twice as big as Ireland's; by the 2020s Ireland's economy was four times that of Wales. In 2019 Wales was the world's 5th largest exporter of electricity. In 2021, the Welsh government said that more than half the country's energy needs were being met by renewable sources, 2

percent of which was from 363 hydropower projects. From the middle of the 19th century until the post-war era, the mining and export of coal was the dominant industry. Cardiff was once the largest coal-exporting port in the world and, for a few years before the First World War, handled a greater tonnage of cargo than either London or Liverpool. From the mid-1970s, the Welsh economy faced massive restructuring with large numbers of jobs in heavy industry disappearing and being replaced eventually by new ones in light industry and in services.

Poor-quality soil in much of Wales is unsuitable for crop-growing so livestock farming has been the focus of farming. About 78 per cent of the land surface is harnessed for agriculture.

Climate of Wales

Wales lies within the north temperate zone. It has a changeable, maritime climate and is one of the wettest countries in Europe. Welsh weather is often cloudy, wet and windy, with warm summers and mild winters.

Landscape

Much of Wales' diverse landscape is mountainous, particularly in the north and central regions. The mountains were shaped during the last ice age, the Devensian glaciation. The highest mountains in Wales are in Snowdonia, of which five are over 1,000 m. The highest of these is Snowdon, at 1,085 m.

Rivers and lakes

The Severn is the longest river in Wales. Its length is 354 km. Other rivers in Wales are: the Wye, the Teme, the Dee. The lakes of Wales occupy a surface area of only about 130 km², less than 1 % of the land area of Wales. Most lakes in Wales start with the word "Llyn", which is Welsh for "Lake". Lake Bala or Llyn Tegid, in

Welsh, the largest lake in Wales in Snowdonia, North Wales, joins with the river Dee, which runs north west through to Chester in England on the border between the two countries. Llyn Syfaddon or Llangorse Lake is the largest natural lake in South Wales.

Flora and Fauna

Wales' wildlife is typical of Britain with several distinctions. Because of its long coastline, Wales hosts a variety of seabirds. The coasts and surrounding islands are home to colonies of gannets, Manx shearwater, puffins, kittiwakes, shags and razorbills. Birds of prey include the merlin, hen harrier and the red kite, a national symbol of Welsh wildlife. Larger mammals, including brown bears, wolves and wildcats, died out during the Norman period. Today, mammals include shrews, voles, badgers, otters, stoats, weasels, hedgehogs and fifteen species of bat. The polecat was nearly driven to extinction in Britain, but hung on in Wales and is now rapidly spreading. The waters of south-west Wales of Gower, Pembrokeshire and Cardigan Bay attract marine animals, including basking sharks, Atlantic grey seals, leatherback turtles, dolphins, porpoises, jellyfish, crabs and lobsters. Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion, in particular, are recognised as an area of international importance for bottlenose dolphins, and New Quay has the only summer residence of bottlenose dolphins in the whole of the UK.

Test

1. Wales is a country that is part of:
 - a) the UK;
 - b) USA;
 - c) Canada;
 - d) France.
2. It is bordered by ... to the east.
 - a) Northern Ireland;
 - b) England;
 - c) Scotland.

3. It is bordered by ... to the north and west.
 - a) the North Sea;
 - b) the English Channel;
 - c) the Irish Sea.
4. It is bordered by ... to the southwest.
 - a) St. George's Channel and the Celtic Sea;
 - b) the English Channel and the Celtic Sea.
5. It is bordered by ... to the south.
 - a) the Bristol Channel;
 - b) the English Channel.
6. Over ... islands lie off the Welsh mainland.
 - a) 50;
 - b) 30;
 - c) 40.
7. The largest Island of Wales is:
 - a) the Isle of Wight;
 - b) the Isle of Man;
 - c) Anglesey.
8. Since when has Wales been divided into principal areas?
 - A. Since 1 April 1994.
 - B. Since 1 April 1996.
 - C. Since 1 April 1998.
9. How many principal areas was Wales divided into?
 - A. 22.
 - B. 15.
 - C. 25.
 - D. 18.
10. How are the principal areas of Wales styled?
 - A. As shires or counties.
 - B. As counties or county.
11. Why was Wales divided into principal areas?
 - A. For cultural purposes.
 - B. For local government purposes.
12. The area of Wales is:
 - a) 15, 779 km²;
 - b) 25, 779 km²;
 - c) 20,779 km².

13. The population of Wales is:
a) 3,153,000; b) 4,153,000; c) 5,153,000.
14. The official languages of Wales are:
a) English, Scots;
b) English, Cornish;
c) English, Welsh.
15. The majority of people in Wales profess:
a) Islam; b) Christianity; c) Hinduism.
16. The capital of Wales is:
a) London; b) Edinburgh;
c) Belfast; d) Cardiff.
17. Other big cities in Wales are:
a) London, Manchester, Birmingham;
b) Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee;
c) Swansea, Newport, Wrexham.
18. In the 1950s Wales' GDP was twice as big as:
a) Ireland's; b) England's; c) Scotland's.
19. By the 2020 ... economy was four times that of Wales.
a) England's; b) Ireland's; c) Scotland's.
20. In 2019 Wales was the world's 5th largest exporter of:
a) petroleum; b) electricity; c) coal.
21. In 2021, the Welsh government said that more than half the country's energy needs were being met by:
a) renewable sources;
b) non-renewable sources.
22. From the middle of the 19th century until the post-war era, the mining and export of ... was the dominant industry.
a) iron ore; b) peat; c) coal.

23. From the ... the Welsh economy faced massive restructuring with large numbers of jobs in heavy industry disappearing and being replaced eventually by new ones in light industry and in services.

a) mid-1980s; b) mid-1970s; c) mid-1990s.

24. Is the soil in much of Wales suitable for crop-growing?

A. Yes, there is good quality soil in much of Wales.

B. No, because there is poor quality soil in much of Wales.

25. ... has been the focus of farming.

A. Livestock farming; B. Crop-growing.

26. About ... per cent of the land surface is harnessed for agriculture.

a) 80; b) 78; c) 65.

27. Choose the right description of the climate of Wales:

A. This country lies within the north temperate zone. It has a changeable, maritime climate and is one of the wettest countries in Europe. The weather here is often cloudy, wet and windy, with warm summers and mild winters.

B. The climate of most of this country is temperate and oceanic, and tends to be very changeable. As it is warmed by the Gulf Stream from the Atlantic, it has much milder winters (but cooler, wetter summers) than areas on similar latitudes.

28. What type of landscape prevails in Wales?

A. Mountain landscape.

B. River landscape.

C. Beach landscape.

29. The highest mountains in Wales are in:

a) the Pennines;

b) the Grampian Mountains;

c) Snowdonia.

30. The highest mountain in Wales is:
 a) Snowdon; b) Ben Nevis; c) Scafell Pike.
31. The height of the highest mountain of Wales is:
 a) 2,000 m; b) 1,085 m; c) 1,070 m.
32. The longest river in Wales is:
 a) the Severn; b) the Thames; c) the Trent.
33. The lakes of Wales occupy a surface area of only about:
 a) 100 km²; b) 150 km²; c) 130 km².
34. The word "Llyn" is Welsh for:
 a) rive; b) lake; c) sea.
35. The largest lake in Wales is:
 a) Lake Bala; b) Loch Ness; c) Windermere.
36. Because of its long coastline, Wales hosts a variety of:
 a) mammals; b) seabirds; c) amphibians.
37. The national symbol of Welsh wildlife is:
 a) the red kite; b) hen harrier; c) the merlin.
38. Today, mammals in Wales include:
 a) bears, wolves and wildcats;
 b) shrews, voles, badgers, otters, stoats, weasels, hedgehogs.
39. ... was nearly driven to extinction in Britain, but hang on in Wales and is now rapidly spreading.
 A. Polecat... B. Badger... C. Otter...
40. New Quay has the only summer residence of ... in the whole of the UK.
 a) basking sharks
 b) Atlantic grey seals
 C. bottlenose dolphins

The Welsh Language

Welsh is a Brittonic language of the Celtic language family that is native to the Welsh people. Welsh is spoken natively in Wales, by some in England, and in Y Wladfa. Historically, it has also been known in English as “British”, “Cambrian”, “Cambric” and “Cymric”. According to the 2011 census, 19 % of the population of Wales aged three or older (562,016 people) were able to speak Welsh, and nearly three quarters of the population in Wales said they had no Welsh language skills. Estimates suggest that 29 % (892,200) of people aged three or older in Wales could speak Welsh in December 2021.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 gave the Welsh language official status in Wales, making it the only language that is de jure official in any part of the United Kingdom, with English being de facto official. Both the Welsh language and English are de jure official languages of the Welsh Parliament, the Senedd. The Welsh government plans to increase the number of Welsh language speakers to one million by 2050. Since 1980, the number of children attending Welsh-medium schools has increased, and the number going to Welsh bilingual and dual-medium schools has decreased. Welsh is the most vibrant of the Celtic languages in terms of active speakers, and is the only Celtic language not considered endangered by UNESCO.

The language of the Welsh developed from the language of Britons. The emergence of Welsh was not instantaneous and clearly identifiable. Instead, the shift occurred over a long period of time, with some historians claiming that it had happened by as late as the 9th century, with a watershed moment being that proposed by linguist Kenneth H. Jackson, the Battle of Dyrham, a military battle between the West Saxons and the Britons in 577 AD, which split the South Western British from direct overland contact with the Welsh.

Four periods are identified in the history of Welsh, with rather indistinct boundaries: Primitive Welsh, Old Welsh, Middle Welsh, and Modern Welsh. The period immediately following the language's emergence is sometimes referred to as Primitive Welsh, followed by the Old Welsh period – which is generally considered to stretch from the beginning of the 9th century to sometime during the 12th century. The Middle Welsh period is considered to have lasted from then until the 14th century, when the Modern Welsh period began, which in turn is divided into Early and Late Modern Welsh. Linguist Kenneth H. Jackson has suggested that the evolution in syllabic structure and sound pattern was complete by around AD 550, and labelled the period between then and about AD 800 “Primitive Welsh”. The next main period is Old Welsh (Hen Gymraeg, 9th to 11th centuries); poetry from both Wales and Scotland has been preserved in this form of the language. As Germanic and Gaelic colonisation of Britain proceeded, the Brittonic speakers in Wales were split off from those in northern England, speaking Cumbric, and those in the southwest, speaking what would become Cornish, and so the languages diverged. Both the works of Aneirin (Canu Aneirin, c. 600) and the Book of Taliesin (Canu Taliesin) were written during this era. Middle Welsh (Cymraeg Canol) is the label attached to the Welsh of the 12th to 14th centuries, of which much more remains than for any earlier period. This is the language of nearly all surviving early manuscripts of the Mabinogion, although the tales themselves are certainly much older. It is also the language of the existing Welsh law manuscripts. Middle Welsh is reasonably intelligible to a modern-day Welsh speaker.

The Bible translations into Welsh helped maintain the use of Welsh in daily life. The New Testament was translated by William Salesbury in 1567, and the complete Bible by William Morgan

in 1588. Modern Welsh is subdivided into Early Modern Welsh and Late Modern Welsh. Early Modern Welsh ran from the 15th century through to the end of the 16th century, and the Late Modern Welsh period roughly dates from the 16th century onwards. Contemporary Welsh differs greatly from the Welsh of the 16th century, but they are similar enough for a fluent Welsh speaker to have little trouble understanding it. During the Modern Welsh period there has been a decline in the popularity of the Welsh language: the number of Welsh speakers declined to the point at which there was concern that the language would become extinct. Welsh government processes and legislation have worked to increase the proliferation of the Welsh language, e. g. through education.

The language has greatly increased its prominence since the creation of the television channel S4C in November 1982, which until digital switchover in 2010 broadcast 70 % of Channel 4's programming along with a majority of Welsh language shows during peak viewing hours. There is also a Welsh-language radio station, BBC Radio Cymru, which was launched in 1977. There is no daily newspaper in Welsh. There is a Welsh-language online news service which publishes news stories in Welsh called Golwg360 ("360° view").

Welsh is now widely used in education, with 101,345 children and young people in Wales receiving their education in Welsh medium schools in 2014/15, 65,460 in primary and 35,885 in secondary. 26 % of all schools in Wales are defined as Welsh medium schools, with a further 7 % offering some Welsh-medium instruction to pupils. 22 % of pupils are in schools in which Welsh is the primary language of instruction. Under the National Curriculum, it is compulsory that all students study Welsh up to the age of 16 as either a first or a second language. On Android devices, both

the built-in Google Keyboard and user-created keyboards can be used. iOS devices have fully supported the Welsh language since the release of iOS 8 in September 2014. Users can switch their device to Welsh to access apps that are available in Welsh. Date and time on iOS is also localised, as shown by the built-in Calendar application, as well as certain third-party apps that have been localised. In 2017, parliamentary rules were amended to allow the use of Welsh when the Welsh Grand Committee meets at Westminster. The change did not alter the rules about debates within the House of Commons, where only English can be used. In November 2008, the Welsh language was used at a meeting of the European Union's Council of Ministers for the first time. The official use of the language followed years of campaigning.

Welsh supplements its core Brittonic vocabulary (words such as *wy* “egg”, *carreg* “stone”), with hundreds of word lemmas borrowed from Latin, such as (*fffenestr* “window” < Latin *fenestra*, *gwin* “wine” < Latin *vinum*). It also borrows words from English, such as (*self* “self”, *fit* “gate”). The phonology of Welsh includes a number of sounds that do not occur in English and are typologically rare in European languages. The voiceless alveolar lateral fricative [ɬ], the voiceless nasals [m̥], [n̥] and [ɲ̥], and the voiceless alveolar trill [ɾ̥] are distinctive features of the Welsh language. Stress usually falls on the penultimate syllable in polysyllabic words, and the word-final unstressed syllable receives a higher pitch than the stressed syllable. Modern Welsh can be considered to fall broadly into two main registers — Colloquial Welsh (*Cymraeg llafar*) and Literary Welsh (*Cymraeg llenyddol*). Colloquial Welsh is used in most speech and informal writing. Literary Welsh is closer to the form of Welsh standardised by the 1588 translation of the Bible and is found in official documents and other formal registers, including much literature.

Questions

1. From which family is the Welsh language?
2. Where is the Welsh language spoken?
3. How was this language known in English?
4. How many percent of people could speak Welsh in 2011?
5. How many percent of people could speak Welsh in 2021?
6. Which organization gave the language an official status in Wales?
7. Is Welsh the official language in Wales de jure or de facto?
8. What other language is de jure official in Wales?
9. By what year does the Welsh Government plan to increase the number of Welsh speakers to one million?
10. Is the Welsh language endangered?
11. From which language did the Welsh language develop?
12. Did the shift of the Welsh language happen in the 9th or 10th century?
13. How did the Battle of Durham affect the development of the Welsh language?
14. Name 4 periods of the Welsh language.
15. From which to which century does the Old Welsh period last?
16. From which to which century does the Middle Welsh period last?
17. What three periods is the Modern Welsh divided into?
18. By what year, according to the assumption of Kenneth H. Jackson has the evolution of syllabic structure and sound pattern completed?
19. Name the time of period of "Primitive Welsh", according to the assumption of Kenneth H. Jackson.

20. In what era were the works of Aneirin (Canu Aneirin, c. 600) and the Book of Taliesin (Canu Taliesin) written?

21. In what era were early manuscripts of the Mabinogion written?

22. Which of the Welsh language is reasonably intelligible to a modern-day Welsh speaker?

23. What helped maintain the use of Welsh in daily life?

24. By whom and in what year was the New Testament translated into Welsh?

25. By whom and in what year was the Bible translated into Welsh?

26. What subgroups is modern Welsh divided into?

27. From what to what century did early modern Welsh exist?

28. With the advent of what has the popularity of this language increased?

29. In what year was the Welsh-language radio station launched?

30. Is there a daily newspaper in Welsh?

31. Is there a Welsh-language online news service in Welsh?

32. Which percent of all schools in Wales are defined as Welsh medium schools?

33. What is the name of the program according to which all students under the age of 16 are required to study Welsh as a first or second language?

34. Do android devices allow using the phone in Welsh?

35. Do IOS devices allow using the phone in Welsh?

36. What amendments were made to the parliamentary rules in 2017?

37. In what year was the Welsh language used for the first time at a meeting of the European Union's Council of Ministers?

38. From which languages are the words borrowed in the Welsh language?

39. What syllable is usually stressed in words of the Welsh language?

40. What two registers is Modern Welsh divided into?

The UK system of Government

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy, and this institution dates back in Britain to the Saxon king Egbert. Its Constitution is an unwritten constitution, however it is unwritten only in the sense that the documents upon which it is based have not been brought together in a single legal document. The major elements comprising this unwritten constitution are historic documents (such as the Magna Carta, signed by King John in 1215, Habeas Corpus Act (закон о неприкосновенности личности), signed by Charles II in 1679, the Bill of Rights, signed after James II lost his throne in 1689 by his daughter Mary II and her husband William III, the Act of Settlement (закон о престолонаследовании) of 1701), decisions taken by courts of law on constitutional matters, judicial interpretations, privileges of Parliament, other customs and conventions, and can be modified by a simple Act of Parliament. There are two basic principles of the British Constitution: the Rule of Law and the Supremacy of Parliament. Power in Great Britain is divided on the principle of the separation of powers among three branches: the legislative branch (by which laws are made), the executive branch (by which laws are put into effect) and the judicial branch (by which laws are interpreted).

The legislative branch is represented by Parliament, which has existed since 1265 and is the supreme legislative authority. The British Parliament is considered to be the oldest parliament in the

world. It consists of two chambers, or houses: the House of Commons and the House of Lords, which share the Palace of Westminster. The third element of the British Parliament is the Queen who is its head. These three elements have different roles in the government of the country, and they only meet together on symbolic occasions, such as the coronation of a new monarch or the State opening of Parliament.

In reality, the House of Commons is the only one of the three which has true power. Its main function is to legislate, but the strong party system in Britain has meant that the initiative in government lies not with Parliament but with the Government (most bills are introduced by the Government, although they may be introduced by individual MPs) and party members almost automatically pass whatever is put before them by their party. So Parliament plays the major role in law-making. It is here that new bills are introduced and debated (bills as well may be introduced and debated also in the House of Lords, apart from bills, connected with taxation and finance). A bill has to go through three stages (readings) in order to become an Act of Parliament. If the majority of the members are in favour of a bill it goes to the House of Lords to be debated and finally to the monarch to be signed, or to get the Royal Assent. Only then it becomes law. The life of the House of Commons is fixed at five years. It consists of Members of Parliament (MPs), each of whom represents an area in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. MPs are elected either at a general election (for this the whole country is divided into constituencies, every one of which chooses one delegate), or at a by-election following the death or retirement of an MP. The minimum voting age is 18, and the voting is taken by secret ballot. The election campaign lasts about three weeks. The election is decided on a simple majority – the candidate with most votes wins. The British parliamentary system depends on political parties.

The political parties choose candidates in elections. The party which wins the majority of seats forms the Government and its leader usually becomes Prime Minister (and heads the executive branch, the main function of which is to administer the laws or actually to rule the country). The size of government is over 100. The Prime Minister chooses about 20 MPs from his or her party to become the Cabinet of Ministers (which is part of the executive branch). The composition of the Cabinet is left to the personal choice of the PM. Each minister is responsible for a particular area of the government. The main functions of the Cabinet are: the final determination of policy, supreme control of the executive, and continuous coordination of the activities of state. The Cabinet's meetings may be held at the Cabinet Room at 10 Downing Street (an official London residence of Prime Minister), at the House of Commons or at Chequers (the Prime Minister's country residence). The second largest party becomes the official Opposition with its own leader and a "Shadow Cabinet". Leader of the Opposition is a recognized post in the House of Commons. The House of Commons is made up of some 650 elected members. The House of Commons is presided over by the Speaker, a member acceptable to the whole House. MPs sit on two sides of the hall, one side for the governing party and the other for the opposition. The first two rows of seats are occupied by the leading members of both parties (called "front-benchers"), the back benches belong to the rank-and-file MPs ("back-benchers"). Each session of the House of Commons lasts for 160–175 days. Parliament has intervals during its work, known as recesses or adjournments.

The House of Lords, before its reforming started at the beginning of the 21st century, had been made up of the Lords Spirituals (representatives of the Church of England: the archbishops

of Canterbury and York and other bishops) and the Lords Temporal: hereditary peers and life peers (who are named by the Sovereign on the advice of the Prime Minister and do not pass on their title when they die). But in November, 1999 the House of Lords Act removed the right of hereditary peers to be members of the chamber. In April 2001 the first new lords were selected, chosen by the committee. The government, reforming the House of Lords, has appointed so called people's peers, who are not chosen for their affiliation to any political party, but are, in theory, appointed on merit, by an independent committee. Members of this Upper House are not elected. The House of Lords is the only non-elected second chamber in the parliaments of the world, and some people in Britain would like to abolish it. But the reforms which started at the beginning of this century will have the following results in the future: they will remove the last of the hereditary peers from Parliament; they will introduce the first ever elected peers into the House of Lords; they will put the appointment of independent members outside political patronage; they will secure a political balance in the House of Lords. The members of the House of Lords debate a bill after it has been passed by the House of Commons. Changes or amendments may be recommended, and agreement between the two Houses is reached by negotiations. The Lords' main power consists of being able to delay non-financial bills for a period of a year, but they can also introduce certain types of bill. The House of Lords is presided over by the Lord Chancellor. He or she is responsible for the administration of justice and is also an automatic member of the Cabinet. Following the latest act of 1999, the House of Lords now consists of some 675 peers in total (2001) as compared to 1200 peers (1999).

The judicial branch interprets the laws. The highest judicial body is the Supreme Court of Judicature, which consists of two

divisions: the High Court of Justice and the Court of Appeal. It is often said that English law is superior to the law of most other countries. Indeed, the English judicial system contains many rules which protect the individual against arbitrary action by the police and the government.

Tasks

I. TRANSLATE INTO RUSSIAN.

1. The Magna Carta.
2. The Rule of Law.
3. Case law.
4. The Bill of Rights.
5. Law Lords.
6. Lords Temporal.
7. With complete impartiality.
8. A tied vote.
9. Free from liability.
10. Backbench revolt.

II. TRANSLATE INTO ENGLISH.

1. Королевская санкция.
2. Совместный комитет.
3. Министр внутренних дел.
4. Парламентские каникулы.
5. Председательствовать.
6. Преемственность.
7. Роспуск (парламента).
8. Исполнительная власть.
9. Отменять.
10. Должностное лицо.

III. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What are the three branches of power?
2. What is a Private Bill?
3. What are the main political parties in Great Britain?
4. When does the Bill become an Act?
5. What is the minimum voting age?

IV. STATE WHETHER THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE TRUE OR FALSE.

1. There are three basic principles of the British Constitution: The Rule of Law, Bill of Rights and the Supremacy of Parliament.
2. Power in Great Britain is divided on the principle of the separation of powers among four branches.
3. The British Parliament is consisting of two chambers, or houses: The House of Commons and the House of Lords, which share the Palace of Westminster.
4. The House of Commons is made up of some 650 elected members.
5. The House of Lords is presided over by the Lord Chancellor.

V. CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIANT.

1. The ... branch is represented by Parliament.
a) legislative; b) executive; c) judicial.
2. The life of the House of Commons is fixed at ... years.
a) six; b) five; c) four.
3. The minimum voting age is:
a) 18; b) 21; c) 20.
4. What parts does UK consists of?
A. England, Scotland. Wales.
B. England, Scotland. Wales, Ireland.
C. England, Scotland. Wales, Northern Ireland.

5. What kind of state is Great Britain?
 - A. A republic.
 - B. A parliamentary monarchy.
 - C. An absolute monarchy.
6. Who heads the government of Great Britain?
 - A. The Queen.
 - B. President.
 - C. Prime Minister.
7. Parliament has existed since:
 - a) 265;
 - b) 1625;
 - c) 1465.
8. The party which wins the majority of seats forms the Government and its leader usually becomes:
 - a) Main judge;
 - b) Prime Minister;
 - c) Foreign Secretary.
9. The highest judicial body is:
 - a) the High Court of Justice;
 - b) the Court of Appeal;
 - c) the Supreme Court of Judicature.
10. The Lords Temporal have:
 - a) hereditary peers and life peers;
 - b) only hereditary peers;
 - c) only life peers.

Belfast

Belfast is the capital and largest city of Northern Ireland, standing on the banks of the River Lagan on the east coast. It is the 12th largest city in the United Kingdom and the second-largest on the island of Ireland. It had a population of 343,542 in 2019. Belfast suffered greatly during the violence that accompanied the partition of Ireland, and especially during the more recent conflict known as the Troubles.

By the early 19th century, Belfast was a major port. It played an important role in the Industrial Revolution in Ireland, becoming briefly the biggest linen-producer in the world, earning it the nickname “Linenopolis”. By the time it was granted city status in 1888, it was a major centre of Irish linen production, tobacco-processing and rope-making. Shipbuilding was also a key industry; the Harland and Wolff shipyard, which built the RMS Titanic, was the world’s largest shipyard. Belfast as of 2019 has a major aerospace and missiles industry. Industrialisation, and the inward migration it brought, made Belfast Northern Ireland’s biggest city. Following the partition of Ireland in 1921, Belfast became the seat of government for Northern Ireland. Belfast’s status as a global industrial centre ended in the decades after the Second World War.

Belfast is still a port with commercial and industrial docks, including the Harland and Wolff shipyard, dominating the Belfast Lough shoreline. It is served by two airports: George Best Belfast City Airport, 3 miles from the city centre, and Belfast International Airport 15 miles west of the city. The Globalization and World Cities Research Network (GaWC) listed Belfast as a Gamma + global city in 2020.

Belfast City Council is the local council with responsibility for the city. The city’s elected officials are the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Deputy Lord Mayor and High Sheriff who are elected from among 60 councillors. The first Lord Mayor of Belfast was Daniel Dixon, who was elected in 1892. The current Lord Mayor is Kate Nicholl, while the Deputy Lord Mayor is Tom Haire of the Democratic Unionist Party. The Lord Mayor’s duties include presiding over meetings of the council, receiving distinguished visitors to the city, representing and promoting the city on the national and international stage.

The architectural style of Belfast's public buildings range from a small set of Georgian buildings, many examples of Victorian, including the main Lanyon Building at Queen's University Belfast and the Linenhall Library, (both designed by Sir Charles Lanyon). There are also many examples of Edwardian, such as the City Hall, to Modern, such as the Waterfront Hall.

Sitting at the mouth of the River Lagan where it becomes a deep and sheltered lough, Belfast is surrounded by mountains that create a micro-climate conducive to horticulture. From the Victorian Botanic Gardens in the heart of the city to the heights of Cave Hill Country Park, the great expanse of Lagan Valley Regional Park to Colin Glen, Belfast contains an abundance of parkland and forest parks.

Parks and gardens are an integral part of Belfast's heritage, and home to an abundance of local wildlife and popular places for a picnic, a stroll or a jog. Numerous events take place throughout including festivals such as Rose Week and special activities such as bird watching evenings and great beast hunts.

The Belfast Health & Social Care Trust is one of five trusts that were created on 1 April 2007 by the Department of Health. Belfast contains most of Northern Ireland's regional specialist centres. The Royal Victoria Hospital is an internationally renowned centre of excellence in trauma care and provides specialist trauma care for all of Northern Ireland. It also provides the city's specialist neuro-surgical, ophthalmology, ENT, and dentistry services. The Belfast City Hospital is the regional specialist centre for haematology and is home to a cancer centre that rivals the best in the world. The Mary G McGeown Regional Nephrology Unit at the City Hospital is the kidney transplant centre and provides regional renal services for Northern Ireland. Musgrave Park Hospital in south Belfast specialises in orthopaedics, rheumatology, sports medicine and

rehabilitation. Other hospitals in Belfast include the Mater Hospital in north Belfast and the Children's Hospital.

Questions

1. What is the capital of Northern Ireland?
2. Where is Belfast situated?
3. What population did Belfast have in 2019?
4. What nicknames did Belfast have?
5. Why is it also known as the Troubles?
6. Why did Belfast play an important role in the Industrial Revolution in Ireland?
7. When was Belfast granted city status?
8. What was produced in this city in 1888?
9. What was the world's largest shipyard?
10. What does the city have nowadays?
11. What made Belfast Northern Ireland's biggest city?
12. When did Belfast become the seat of government for Northern Ireland?
13. When did Belfast's status as a global industrial centre end?
14. What two shipyards does Belfast have?
15. It is served by two airports: ... and
16. What status did the city get in 2020?
17. What is Belfast City Council?
18. The city's elected officials are
19. How are they elected?
20. Who was the first Lord Mayor of Belfast?
21. Match the names with the officials:

Kate Nicholl	Deputy Lord Mayor
Tom Haire	Lord Mayor

22. What are Lord Mayor's duties?
23. What does the architectural style of Belfast's public buildings include?
24. Name architectural styles these buildings present.
- The main Lanyon Building _____ .
 - The Linenhall Library _____ .
 - The Waterfront Hall _____ .
 - The City Hall _____ .
25. Why are there a lot of gardens in Belfast?
26. What gardens are situated in the heart of the city?
27. Some other examples of gardens in Belfast are
28. What are gardens in this city for?
29. What is Rose Week?
30. When was the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust created?
31. Some examples of hospitals in Belfast are _____

32. Match hospitals with their activities:

The Royal Victoria Hospital	kidney transplantation
The Belfast City Hospital	trauma care
The Mary G McGeown Regional Nephrology Unit	haematology
Musgrave Park Hospital	sports medicine and rehabilitation

33. What hospital is situated in north Belfast?

Cardiff is a City of Vivid Impressions and Rich History

Cardiff has been the capital of Wales since 1955 and one of its largest cities. The history of this area is connected with industry: more than a century ago, coal from Wales began to be actively transported through this city. Cardiff got its name from two different words. The first half translates as “fortress”, but the second half is “day”. But this option is unclear, so the modern interpretation of the name is different — Cardiff is translated as “castle on the River Taf”.

The size of the city is not very large (about 6.5 km²), all the sights can be easily visited by leisurely cycling. The weather in Cardiff is quite favorable for both locals and tourists — the climate is quite dry, the precipitation rate does not exceed the average. In July, the average temperature is 16 degrees, and in January — 4-5 degrees. Therefore, you can safely visit Cardiff at any time of the year without fear of severe cold.

Cardiff is very much appreciated for its rich cultural life. There are quite a lot of residents who speak the ancient Welsh language, mainly in the western part of the city. Locals are very fond of various concerts of symphony orchestras and actively attend theaters and choral singing. It is also in this city that all the main TV channels and radio stations of Wales are located.

Since Cardiff is the capital of Wales, the road and transport network is very well developed here. The quality of the roads amazes tourists, all roads are at the proper level here, from small lines to highways. But the Cardiff Central railway station has become the busiest in the whole country, as it helps to connect Wales with the rest of the major cities throughout the UK.

The main attractions of this city can be called the eponymous Cardiff Castle, as well as Cosmeston — an open-air museum.

The castle was built in 1091 and is still considered the oldest building in all of Wales. Its fate is ambiguous — during its existence, the castle was both a fort and a judicial institution, and eventually became the private property of the local nobility. Now the castle is open to tourists, tours of the interior and the adjacent luxurious garden are constantly conducted. Although this castle is not the only urban luxury. Going to the north of Cardiff, you can see another castle with the name Red. This is an excellent building in the Neo-Gothic style, which was built in the 13th century. The castle is located almost in the center of the city on a small hill.

But the Cosmeston Museum is interesting because it is the pure embodiment of a traditional Welsh village that existed around the 14th century. It is assumed that the village of Cosmeston ceased to exist in the 1340, when the plague was raging. Skillful reenactors conducted research and managed to restore the appearance of the village almost completely, now excursions and various historical events are often held here.

Tourists will appreciate the local bay and port, where there are numerous restaurants and souvenir shops. But those who appreciate active recreation should visit one of the major entertainment centers called Taff valley quads. Here you can shoot arrows, ride quad bikes and even try yourself as a golfer.

The atmosphere of this city is pleasantly relaxed and peaceful. Here you can enjoy the beauty of local attractions and relax in quiet cafes, or you can get into active recreation and attend a variety of excursions. Cardiff is friendly to tourists, so if you decide to visit the UK, you should definitely visit it.

Tasks

I. CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

- Cardiff is the capital of:
 - Wales;
 - Northern Ireland;
 - England;
 - Scotland.
- The city of Cardiff is translated as:
 - “city on the River Severn”;
 - “castle on the River Taf”.
- The size of the city is:
 - about 4 km²;
 - about 6 km²;
 - about 10 km²;
 - about 12 km²;
- Climate in Cardiff is:
 - very humid;
 - temperate and mild;
 - harsh;
 - arid.
- There are quite a lot of residents who speak:
 - Scottish Celtic;
 - ancient Welsh;
 - Cornish;
 - Irish.

II. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES.

- In July, the average temperature is 16 degrees, and in January _____ .
- Cardiff is very much appreciated for its rich _____ .
- The road and transport network in Cardiff are very _____ .
- The Cardiff Central railway station has become the busiest in the whole country, as it helps to connect Wales with _____ .
- The main attractions of this city can be called the eponymous _____ .

III. MARK STATEMENTS AS TRUE OR FALSE.

1. The castle was built in 1091.
2. During its existence, the castle was both a fort and a judicial institution.
3. Now the castle is closed to tourists.
4. The Cosmeston is an open-air theatre.
5. The Cosmeton is the pure embodiment of a traditional Welsh village.

IV. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What is the history of the city of Cardiff connected with?
2. What kind of material began to be transported through Cardiff more than a century ago?
3. How did the city of Cardiff get its name?
4. What transport is the most convenient way to visit the sights of the city?
5. What is the usual weather in Cardiff?
6. What is the average temperature in summer and winter?
7. Which part of the city speaks ancient Welsh?
8. What are the residents of the city interested in?
9. What else is the city of Cardiff known for?
10. At what level is the quality of roads?
11. Why has Cardiff Central Railway station become busy?
12. What is the name of the castle in Cardiff, built in the Neo-Gothic style in the middle of the 13th century?
13. Where is this castle located?
14. What is the castle Cosmeton popular for?
15. What place is worth visiting for people who prefer active recreation?
16. What is the atmosphere in the city?

V. MATCH

1. The average temperature in July	1955
2. The size of the city	1091
3. The average temperature in January	4-5 degrees
4. Date of disappearance of the village of Cosmeston	6 km ²
5. Date of occurrence of the Red Castle	1340
6. Date of origin of Cardiff Castle	13th century
7. The date when Cardiff became the capital of Wales	16 degrees

Cultural traditions of Wales

Wales is a country that clings tightly to its culture and traditions. It's country rich with history, myths and legends, and music, literature and poetry.

Saint David's Day

This time of year, in particular, is extra special for the Welsh. The 1st of March marks St. David's Day or Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant. David is the patron saint of Wales, a 6th century bishop thought to be the grandson of the king of Ceredigion.

David is credited with establishing Christianity in Wales and is associated with learning and kindness to others. On St. David's Day school children are encouraged to mimic David's kindness by doing their own small acts, such as helping wash the dishes or tidying their rooms.

Like all good saints, David made more than his fair share of miracles. One of the best-known happened at Llanddewi Brefi in mid-Wales, when a small hill rose on the spot he was preaching – as if Wales needed more hills!

Today, towns, villages and schools across Wales celebrate St. David's Day with parades in traditional costume and the wearing of Wales' national emblems: the daffodil (for females) and the leek (for males).

Love spoons

These are wooden spoons with intricate designs carved into them. The designs all have special meanings and are meant to convey a message to the recipient.

Traditionally, love spoons were carved by young men and presented to the women they loved as a token of their affection. The wooden spoons also signified that they were skilled and capable with their hands, in other words, good husband material!

Different carvings have different meanings — bells are a symbol of weddings and anniversaries, crosses show faith, hearts show love, and so on.

Red dragon

The national flag we associate with Wales wasn't officially unrolled until 1959.

The dragon came about because of an Arthurian legend — Merlin had a vision of a red dragon (the Welsh) fighting with a white dragon (the Saxons). Naturally, the red dragon triumphed and banished the invaders from the land.

The green and white of the flag are a reference to the House of Tudor, 15th century Welsh nobility whose descendants went on to become the rulers of England.

Leeks and daffodils

The link between leeks and Wales is a little bit obscure, and no one is exactly sure how they came to be the emblem. The most common explanation is that, in the days before uniforms, Welsh

soldiers would wear a leek to distinguish them from their enemies on the battlefield.

There is evidence that Cadwaladr, 7th century king of Gywnedd, ordered his men to wear a leek in battle and Shakespeare makes reference to it in his play Henry V.

How daffodils came to be a symbol of Wales is even more odd. It's possibly because the Welsh word for leek, *cennyn*, and the Welsh word for daffodil, *cenhinen pedr*, are very similar.

Welsh cakes and bara brith

Despite the name, Welsh cakes fall somewhere between a cake and a scone, and are traditionally cooked on a griddle or hot stone. Bara brith literally translates as “speckled bread”, and is a spiced fruit bread flavoured with tea.

Both are made from ingredients that lowly mining families would have readily available in the pantry — dried fruit, tea, lard, milk and eggs.

Today, Welsh cakes and bara brith make a perfect tea time treat and feature on many tea room menus across Wales. Like the Cornish pasty, they were the perfect calorific snack for hungry miners and just the right size for slipping into a pocket to eat later in the working day.

Eisteddfod

Wales is also a nation of artists: poetry, storytelling, music making and theatrics among others.

Some of the world's greatest performers come from Wales: Catatonia, Stereophonics, Dame Shirley Bassey, Manic Street Preachers, and of course, Tom Jones. Not to mention Hollywood A-listers like Luke Evans, Catherine Zeta Jones, Ioan Gruffydd and Iwan Rheon.

They celebrate their love of the arts with eisteddfods — festivals of poetry, literature and performance with a Welsh flavour. This no new fad either. The first eisteddfod took place in the 12th century when Rhys ap Gruffydd held a meeting of Welsh artists at his court in Ceredigion.

The traditional seasonal festivals in Wales are

Calan Gaeaf is the name of the first day of winter in Wales, observed on 1 November. The night before is Nos Galan Gaeaf, an Ysbrydnos when spirits are abroad. Traditionally, people avoid churchyards, stiles, and crossroads, since spirits are thought to gather there.

Calan Mai is a May Day holiday of Wales held on 1 May. Celebrations start on the evening before, known as May Eve, with bonfires. The tradition of lighting bonfires celebrating this occasion happened annually in South Wales until the middle of the 19th century.

Lammas Day is a Christian holiday celebrated in some English-speaking countries in the Northern Hemisphere on 1 August. The name originates from the word “loaf” in reference to bread and “Mass” in reference to the primary Christian liturgy celebrating Holy Communion. It is a festival in the liturgical calendar to mark the blessing of the First Fruits of harvest, with a loaf of bread being brought to the church for this purpose.

Customs only the Welsh can understand

The Welsh are emotional people and nowhere is it seen as more acceptable, even appropriate, to show emotion than at a rugby game. If you feel overwhelmed watching a game in the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, feel free to let it out. You won't be the only one.

Drinking is an unofficial national sport

Pub culture is strong in the country and socializing usually revolves around alcohol. Cardiff has been called the binge drinking capital of Europe many times and last year it was proven Wales has the highest levels of binge drinkers anywhere in the UK.

Rain is barely noticed

In Wales it rains so often that it hardly changes anything about people's day to day lives. Whereas in typically sunny countries where you'll see everyone running and panicking, or the streets deserted as everyone hides away, in Wales rain is like water off a duck's back. You will see people queuing up for rides at a theme park in the rain, getting soaked on a bicycle on their way to the office, or pushing their child on a swing.

Questions

1. What is the country rich with?
2. What time of the year is extra special for the Welsh?
3. When is St. David's Day celebrated?
4. Who is David?
5. What is David associated with?
6. What do schoolchildren do on St. David's Day?
7. How is St. David's Day celebrated today?
8. What do men and women wear on St. David's Day?
9. What are love spoons?
10. What do love spoons mean?
11. What are the meanings of the carvings on the spoons?
12. When did the national flag of Wales unrolled?
13. What legend is associated with the flag of Wales?

14. What are the green and white colors of the flag of Wales related to?

15. What is the most common explanation for the connection between leeks and Wales?

16. What is a Welsh cake?

17. What is a bara brith?

18. Are Welsh cakes and bara brith common in Wales now?

19. What can you call the country Wales?

20. Which of the world's greatest performers come from Wales?

21. Which Hollywood stars come from Wales?

22. What is eisteddfod?

23. When was the first festival held?

24. What is Calan Gaeaf?

25. What do people traditionally do on a day called Calan Gaeaf?

26. What is Calan Mai?

27. What tradition takes place on the day called Calan Mai?

28. What is Lammas Day?

29. From what words does the name of Lammas Day come?

30. What do people bring to church on the day called Lammas Day?

31. Can Welsh people be called emotional people?

32. Where is it considered appropriate to show emotions?

33. If you are at Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, for example, is it possible to show your emotions here?

34. How is pub culture developed in Wales?

35. What has Cardiff been called many times?

36. What was the level of binge drinkers in Wales among UK residents last year?

37. How often does it rain in Wales?

38. How do the people of Wales react to the rain?

39. What is the strangest tradition in Wales for you?

40. Do any traditions of your country converge with the traditions of Wales?

England

England is a country in Europe. It is a country with over sixty cities in it. It is in a union with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. All four countries are in the British Isles and are part of the United Kingdom.

Over 55 million people live in England. This is 84 % of the population of the UK. The capital city of England is London, which is also the biggest city in the country. Other large cities in England are Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds.

The English flag is a red cross on a white background. This cross is the cross of Saint George, who is the patron saint of England. Some other symbols used for England are a red rose, the oak and three lions.

England is the largest part of the island of Great Britain, and it is also the largest constituent country of the United Kingdom. Scotland and Wales are also part of Great Britain (and the UK), Scotland to the north and Wales to the west. To the east and south, and part of the west, England is bordered by sea. France is to the south, separated by the English Channel.

There are many trees and plants in the country. You can find chestnuts, oaks, fir-trees and limes here. There are 10 national parks in England.

London is the largest city and the capital. The longest river in England is the River Severn. Other large rivers are the Thames (which runs through London), the Trent and the Humber.

England was named after a Germanic tribe called the “Angles”, who settled in Central, Northern, and Eastern England in the 5th and 6th centuries. A related tribe called the “Saxons” settled in the south of England. That is why that period of English history is called “Anglo-Saxon”. For most of this time, England did not exist as a united country. The Anglo-Saxons lived in many small kingdoms, which slowly united.

The official language of England is English, which is spoken today by millions of people all over the world. Many students go to England from other countries to study the language and learn about the culture. Although everyone speaks English, there are many different accents around the country. French was the official language in England between 1066 and 1362, which is why there are many French words and expressions in English such as “bon voyage” for “have a good trip” or “bouquet” for “a bunch of flowers”.

English language literature is written by authors from many countries. Eight people from the United Kingdom have won the Nobel Prize in Literature. William Shakespeare was an English playwright, was born in Stratford-upon-Avon. He wrote plays in the late 16th century. Some of his plays were Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth. In the 19th century, Jane Austen and Charles Dickens were novelists. Twentieth century writers include the science fiction novelist H.G. Wells and J.R.R. Tolkien. The children's fantasy Harry Potter series was written by J.K. Rowling. Aldous Huxley was also from the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy, which means that there is a queen or king but they don't make the laws of the country. Laws and political decisions in England are made by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Houses of Parliament are in

central London next to the River Thames and the most famous part is the clock tower, Big Ben.

The official religion of English society is Christianity with the main denomination being the Anglican Church. However, religious laws in the country are complex, diverse and multicultural. Christianity is the most practiced religion in England. It has a minority made up of an active small Catholic Christian group. There is also a Jewish population along with other major religions in the world. The Asian immigrants practice Islam and have a reserved view on equalities and freedom available to women.

Stonehenge is one of the most famous prehistoric places in the world. This ancient circle of stones stands in Southwest England. It measures 80 m across and made with massive blocks of stone up to 4 m high. Why it was built is a mystery.

Not far from Stonehenge stands Salisbury Cathedral. It is a splendid example of an English Gothic Cathedral; inside there is one of four copies of Magna Charta and the oldest clock in England. Chester is very important town in the north-west of England. In the past it used to be a Roman fort; its name comes from the Latin word castra, meaning "fortified camp". In Chester there is a famous museum which contains over 5,000 ancient and modern toys.

Oxford is the home of the oldest university of England. The most famous college is Christ Church. It has a great hall which was built during the reign of Henry VIII and its chapel has become the Cathedral of Oxford. Cambridge is the home of Britain's second oldest university.

The system of rail transport was invented in England, so it has the oldest railway network in the world. It was built mostly during the Victorian era. The system of underground railways in London, known as the Tube, has been copied by many other cities around the globe.

Famous English engineers include Isambard Kingdom Brunel, best known for the creation of the Great Western Railway, a series of famous steamships, and numerous important bridges.

Recent English inventors include James Dyson, inventor of the Dual Cyclone bagless vacuum cleaner.

Other notable figures in the fields of engineering and innovation include:

James Blundell (Performed the first blood transfusion);

Edwin Beard Budding (Inventor of the lawnmower);

Thomas Fowler (Inventor of the thermosiphon);

Richard Trevithick (Builder of the earliest steam locomotive);

Joseph Swan (Developer of the light bulb).

English people love music. In the summer you can go to music festivals all over the country like those at Glastonbury, Leeds or Reading. Glastonbury is a five-day festival of music, dance, comedy, theatre and circus and around 175,000 people go. Many people stay at the festivals for a few days and camp in tents. People listen to all types of music, especially pop and rock. England has produced many international groups and singers like the Beatles, Amy Winehouse, Coldplay, Ed Sheeran and Adele.

The most popular sports in England are football, rugby and cricket and most towns have a sports ground where teams can play. English football teams like Manchester United, Chelsea and Liverpool are world-famous and English football players include David Beckham, Wayne Rooney and Harry Kane. Women's football is also popular and teams play in leagues and competitions all over the country. Every year, the English rugby union team play in the Six Nations Championship against Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France and Italy. Cricket is a traditional sport played with a bat and ball which began in England and is now played all over the world. People like

to watch all these sports on television, as well as other sports like horse racing, tennis, snooker (a type of billiards) and motor racing.

England is a very multicultural country and this has a big influence on the food people eat. Indian, Chinese and Italian cuisines are popular alternatives to traditional English food like fish and chips, roast beef or sausage and mash (mashed potatoes). Many English people drink several cups of tea every day, usually with milk. However, coffee and herbal teas are also popular.

Test

1. What is the largest part of the UK?
A. England. B. Scotland. C. Wales.
2. England shares land borders with:
a) Scotland to the east and Wales to the west;
b) Scotland to the north and Wales to the west;
c) Scotland to the south and Wales to the north.
3. England takes its name from the:
a) Angles; b) Saxons; c) Jutes.
4. What is the capital city of England?
A. Liverpool. B. Manchester. C. London.
5. What is the oldest university in England?
A. Oxford. B. Cambridge. C. Winchester.
6. How many people from the United Kingdom have won the Nobel Prize in Literature?
A. 8. B. 5. C. 12.
7. In which city was Shakespeare born?
A. Stratford-upon-Avon.
B. Newcastle.
C. Bristol.

8. Which river runs through London?
A. Seine. B. Thames. C. Tyne.
9. The sea to the south of England is the:
a) Irish Sea; b) Celtic Sea; c) English Channel.
10. There are:
a) 50 million people living in England;
b) 80 million people living in England;
c) 250 million people living in England.
11. Political decisions in England are made by:
a) the queen or king;
b) the Parliament of the United Kingdom;
c) the Government of England.
12. Lake District is:
a) near London;
b) in the south of England;
c) the north of England.
13. There are lots of words and expressions in English that are:
a) French; b) Welsh; c) Chinese.
14. Reading is the name of:
a) a music festival;
b) an English music group;
c) a type of music.
15. Manchester United, Chelsea and Liverpool:
a) are all from London;
b) play against the national teams of Wales, Scotland and Ireland every year;
c) are known all over the world.
16. In the Six Nations Championship, England doesn't play against:
a) France; b) Spain; c) Italy.

17. People in England:
- a) prefer traditional food;
 - b) the variety of different cuisines;
 - c) don't drink much tea.
18. What are national symbols of England?
- A. Daffodil, snake and pine.
 - B. Tulip, lion and willow.
 - C. Rose, lion and oak.
19. What is France and England separated by?
- A. The English Channel.
 - B. The North Sea.
 - C. The Irish Sea.
20. What's the popular name for the underground system in London?
- A. Metro.
 - B. Subway.
 - C. Tube.
21. What was the official language in England between 1066 and 1362?
- A. French.
 - B. English.
 - C. German.
22. What is the longest river in England?
- A. The Thames.
 - B. The Severn.
 - C. The Avon.
23. What is one of the most famous prehistoric places in the world?
- A. Stonehenge.
 - B. Lake District.
 - C. The Costwolds.
24. What is a splendid example of an English Gothic Cathedral?
- A. Durham.
 - B. Salisbury Cathedral.
 - C. Peterborough.
25. What is traditional sport played with a bat and ball which began in England and is now played all over the world?
- A. Cricket.
 - B. Football.
 - C. Volleyball.

26. What is a very important town in the north-west of England?
A. Bamton. B. Filey. C. Chester.
27. Glastonbury is a ...-day festival of music, dance, comedy, theatre and circus and around 175,000 people go.
a) five; b) seven; c) six.
28. Who is the author of Harry Potter?
A. William Shakespeare.
B. J.K. Rowling.
C. Charles Dickens.
29. What is the official language in England?
A. English. B. French. C. German.
30. What is the official religion of the English society with the main denomination being the Anglican Church?
A. Islam. B. Christianity. C. Judaism.
31. What do Asian immigrants practice?
A. Islam. B. Christianity. C. Judaism.
32. Who is the most famous English engineer?
A. Isambard Kingdom Brunel.
B. Alan Stevenson.
C. Benno Schotz.
33. What is James Blundell famous for?
A. Made the first operation.
B. Performed the first blood transfusion.
C. Had a liver transplant.
34. What is Edwin Beard Budding famous for?
A. Inventer of the lawnmower.
B. Inventer of the teapot.
C. Inventer of the saw.

35. What is Richard Trevithick famous for?
A. Builder of the earliest steam locomotive.
B. Invented the printing press.
C. Invented an electronic thermometer.
36. What is Joseph Swan famous for?
A. Created a refrigerator.
B. Invented an e-book.
C. Developer of the light bulb.
37. Where is Aldous Huxley from?
A. The USA.
B. The United Kingdom.
C. Ireland.
38. What country has produced many international groups and singers like the Beatles, Amy Winehouse, Coldplay, Ed Sheeran and Adele?
A. England. B. Wales. C. Scotland.
39. When was the system of rail transport invented?
A. In Medieval Britain.
B. During the epoch of Renaissance.
C. During Victorian era.
40. How many national parks are there in England?
A. 7. B. 10. C. 16.

London

The Crown of Europe

Famous for red double-decker buses and phone boxes, London, the capital of the United Kingdom (UK), is the most visited city in the world. With a population of around 18,000 people 1,000 years ago, London is now home to approximately 12 million people from all over the world.

Getting to know all of the London's charms is a daunting task, but even a short visit will be an unforgettable experience for every tourist.

A brief history of London

- Although the Romans named the city Londinium during their conquest of Britain, settlements had existed on the site of the city for thousands of years before.

The royal history of England starts in the 9th century with the House of Wessex (the name of the royal family), and continues until today with the currently reigning House of Windsor.

- Under Anglo-Saxons, London emerged as a great trading city, and it eventually replaced Winchester as the capital of England.

- As Britain grew as a supreme maritime power, London drew people from all over world, which boosted its economy.

- London was heavily bombed during World War II, and soon after, the decline of the British Empire followed.

- Still, London managed to grow in size and influence and maintain its status as a global center of culture and finance.

Buckingham Palace

Queen Elizabeth II is probably the most famous reigning monarch in the world, having held the position for more than 55 years. The Queen and her family reside in the Buckingham Palace, which was built in the 19th century. The palace, now a focal point for the British people for both national celebrations and mourning, had Queen Victoria as its first resident. Buckingham Palace is one of the major tourist attractions in London. It is the official residency of the British monarchy. At the moment British monarchy is led by Queen Elizabeth II. Each time the royal family is in the palace, a flag flies on the roof.

Located in Westminster, this grand palace has 775 rooms, and one of the largest private gardens in the world. Tourists are welcome to visit some state rooms, which are normally used for official meetings, in August and September.

Many tourists come here to see the Queen Victoria Memorial which is set right in front of the Buckingham Palace. Every day at 11 am Changing of the Guard ceremony takes place. It is the time when colorfully dressed New Guard parades along the building and replace the existing Old Guard. The ceremony is accompanied by music and attracts a lot of viewers.

Tower Bridge

Standing tall over the Thames River, Tower Bridge is one of the iconic symbols of London. While the bridge is freely accessible to both pedestrians and vehicles, there is an admission charge to enter its twin towers.

Currently blue and white, the bridge had previously been painted red, white and blue for Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee, that is, the 25th anniversary of her accession to the throne.

To allow large ships to pass, the bridge is raised around three times a day. During those times, all the traffic stops or is redirected to a different bridge.

Tower Bridge is the most famous bridge over the River Thames. It is close to the Tower of London, which gives it its name. Sir John Wolfe Barry designed it.

The bridge consists of two towers which are tied together. The bridge was officially opened on June 30, 1894 by the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VII), and his wife. The bridge is 244 m in length with two towers each 65 m high. Thousands of tourists visit Tower Bridge every year.

British Museum

British Museum's permanent collection, which counts as many as 8 million art pieces and artifacts, will overwhelm you. The collection originates from all continents, and it illustrates the story of human civilization, history and culture from the very beginning.

This museum hosts more than 6 million tourists each year. This is where you can see Elgin Marbles, taken from the ancient Greek temple of Parthenon in Athens, and Rosetta Stone, one of oldest writings of Ancient Egyptian literature, carved on a stone.

Like with all other public museums in London, the entrance to the British Museum is free.

London on Film

- Sherlock Holmes, the most famous fictional detective, is from London. According to the book, the movies and the series, his residence is on 221b Baker Street. If you go to this address, you will find a small museum dedicated to Sherlock Holmes and an inevitable long queue of tourists waiting to enter.

- According to the best-selling book, Harry Potter and his wizard friends leave to Hogwarts, the school of magic, from the King's Cross station in London. The secret passage to their world of magic is on the 9³/₄ Platform, which tourists can actually see if they visit the station.

- James Bond, a famous British movie spy, often needs to carry out missions around London. If you are fan, you might want to check out Thames House, the headquarters of Bond's secret service MI5, and many other city locations which have featured in James Bond movies.

Tasks

I. CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIANT.

1. What does “reign” mean?
 - A. To own a palace.
 - B. To rule as a monarch.
 - C. To be from a wealthy family.
2. What does “maritime” mean?
 - A. Located on the beach.
 - B. Done very quickly.
 - C. Connected with the sea.
3. What does “focal” mean?
 - A. Very powerful.
 - B. The center or the most important part.
 - C. Well-known.
4. What does “boost” mean?
 - A. Help increase or improve.
 - B. Cause to explode.
 - C. Decline rapidly.
5. What does “overwhelm” mean?
 - A. Have a strong emotional impact on something.
 - B. Cost a lot of money.
 - C. Require much time.
6. Getting to know all of London’s charms is a ... task.
 - A. intimidating.
 - B. daunting.
 - C. challenging.
7. In the medieval times, London ... as a trading city.
 - a) emerged;
 - b) appeared;
 - c) unfolded.
8. British Museum’s collection ... from all continents.
 - a) derives;
 - b) arises;
 - c) originates.

9. The Silver Jubilee marked the anniversary of Queen's ... to the throne.

- a) elevation; b) accession; c) assent.

10. Rosetta Stone contains important Egyptian writings ... on a stone.

- a) written; b) engraved; c) carved.

11. Many city locations are ... in James Bond movies.

- a) featured; b) starred; c) promoted.

12. Today, London is a ... center of finance and culture.

- a) universal; b) world; c) global.

13. The 9¾ Platform is a ... passage to Hogwarts.

- a) secret; b) hidden; c) covert.

14. The collection ... as many as 8 million art pieces.

- a) equals to; b) counts; c) incorporates.

15. James Bond often ... missions in London.

- a) accomplishes; b) carries out; c) executes.

16. How does Harry Potter access his school of magic?

- A. Across the Tower Bridge.
B. Through the King's Cross station.
C. In the Thames House.

17. Why was Tower Bridge painted red, blue and white?

- A. To celebrate the Olympic Games.
B. To celebrate British independence.
C. To celebrate Queen's Silver Jubilee.

18. When did the British Empire start to decline rapidly?

- A. After World War II.
B. After World War I.
C. In the 1990s.

19. What is the House of Windsor?
 - A. The place where the royal family lives.
 - B. The name of the current royal family.
 - C. Queen Elizabeth's summer house.
20. Who was the first queen to live in the Buckingham Palace?
 - A. Queen Victoria.
 - B. Queen Elizabeth.
 - C. Queen Catherine.

II. MARK STATEMENTS AS TRUE OR FALSE.

1. Tourists can visit some of the rooms in the Buckingham Palace on most months.
2. Tourists can visit some of the rooms in the Buckingham Palace on certain months.
3. You can still cross the Tower Bridge on foot while large ships are passing under it.
4. You cannot use the Tower Bridge while large ships are passing under it.
5. London has always been the capital of England.
6. There are no admission fees for any public museum in London.
7. Tower Bridge is bridge over the River Irtysh.
8. Buckingham Palace is the official residency of the British monarchy.
9. The Tower of London gives it its name to bridge.
10. Sir Cristopher Wren designed it.
11. The bridge was officially opened on June 30, 1894.
12. The bridge is 250 meters in length.

III. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What is the most famous bridge in London?
2. Why does it give its name?
3. When was Tower Bridge officially opened?

4. Who was Tower Bridge officially opened by?
5. Who designed Tower Bridge?
6. What is the Buckingham Palace?
7. When does a flag flies on the roof?
8. When was the palace built?
9. How many rooms has Buckingham Palace?
10. What do many tourists come here to see?

Traditions and Festivals of Scotland

First footing.

Visiting friends and relatives immediately after New Year's Eve, in the early hours of the morning of January 1. First footing after the bells have rung in the New Year is still common: the "first foot" in the house after midnight should be male, dark, and handsome and should carry symbolic coal, shortbread, salt, black bun (a spiced cake) and, of course, whisky.

In Kirkwall, Orkney, there is a New Year Game held in the streets of the town which can last most of January 1, between the Uppies and the Doonies, or more correctly, "Up-the-Gates" and "Doon-the-Gates" from Old Norse "gata" (path or road).

Burning of the Clavie

In Burghead, Morayshire, a tar barrel filled with tar-soaked wood shavings is carried around the harbour and then to the Doorie Hill where the Celtic Druids used to light their fires.

Up-Helly-Aa

Last Tuesday of January Held in Lerwick, Shetland Islands, a full-sized Viking Galley, complete with shields and oars is pulled by a torch-bearing procession dressed as Viking warriors to the beach.

Guizer Jarl calls for three cheers for the builders of the longship and after a bugle call, the galley is set alight by 800 blazing torches.

Burns Night

The anniversary of the birth of the poet Robert Burns, in 1759 at which many a “Burns Supper” is consumed and the “Immortal Memory”, a speech in praise of the Bard, will be given.

Candlemas Day

Candlemas began as a Roman festival to celebrate the return of spring. It is now a Scottish legal “quarter day” when rents and other payments fall due. There is an old traditional poem which said that “If Candlemas Day be bright and fair Half the winter is to come and mair (more). If Candlemas Day be dark and foul Half the winter was over at Yowl (Christmas)”.

St. Valentine’s Day

This used to be an excuse for youngsters to go around begging for sweets, money or fruit, while older brothers and sisters tried to find a sweetheart. “Name-papers” were sometimes used where names were written and placed in a bonnet and each person drew out a paper. If the same name was drawn three times, it meant a marriage would take place!

Original New Year

The Celtic New Year was celebrated on Samhain (November 1). Then, until 1600, the Gregorian Calendar which was used in Scotland, placed New Year on March 25.

Easter

There was a festival for “Eastre”, a Saxon goddess of fertility, in pre-Christian times which was integrated into the Christian calendar. The date often moves because the calculation is based on phases of

the moon. In Scotland, to this day, "hot cross buns" are baked, containing spices and fruit and with a white pastry cross. On Good Friday, no ploughing was done and no seed was sown. The custom of rolling painted, hard-boiled eggs down a hill took place on Easter Monday.

Hunt the Gowk

On this day people would play tricks and tell lies to catch each other out. But the jokes had to stop at mid-day. Now called April Fool's Day, hunting the gowk was originally sending someone on a foolish errand. "Dinna laugh, an' dinna smile But hunt the gowk another mile".

Preen-tail Day or Tailie Day

The day following All Fool's Day when paper tails were attached to the backs of unsuspecting people as a joke.

Beltane's Day

A pagan fire festival which goes back to pre-Christian times — originating with Baal in Phoenicia. It was supposed to encourage the crops to grow. There has been a holiday at the start of May in many parts of Scotland for centuries. Young girls would also rise early to wash their faces in the May dew. The custom of lighting fires at this time has come through in place names such as Tarbolton in Ayrshire ("tor" meaning hill and "Bolton" from "Beltane"). The ancient Druidic Fire Festival has been revived by "New Age" followers who gather on the historic Calton Hill in Edinburgh.

Empire Day/Victoria Day

Flags were flown from public buildings and schools decorated classrooms with flags of the British Empire. The name was changed to Commonwealth Day. The nearest Monday to May 24 was a local trades holiday in many parts of Scotland to celebrate Queen

Victoria's birthday and the tradition has continued long after Queen Victoria's reign.

Braemar Gathering

First Saturday in September. The origin of this major Highland Games is said to go back to the 11th century when King Malcolm III "Canmore" gave a prize to the winner of a race to the top of Craig Choinnich. Queen Victoria ensured the success of the games into modern times by attending them in 1848 and the Royal family has been associated with them ever since.

Michaelmas Day

St. Michael was the patron saint of the sea and sailors and his saint's day was celebrated in the West of Scotland in particular. In the island of Barra, a bannock was baked from the first grain of the year and eaten on St Michael's day. Everyone was given a piece to eat.

Halloween

The evening of All Hallows (Saints) Day and the last day of the year in the old Celtic calendar. It was celebrated by the Druids as "Samhain" from "Sain" meaning summer and "fuin" meaning "ending". It was associated with witches and celebrated with bonfires and "guising" as children dressed up and went round neighbouring houses with "tattie bogles" or "neep lanterns" (candles inside turnips). There is a (long) poem by Robert Burns on Halloween which gives a good description of the traditions which were followed in his day.

Guy Fawkes and Bonfire Night

Recalling the attempt by Guy Fawkes to blow up the Houses of Parliament with 20 barrels of gunpowder in 1605. Bonfires, fireworks and "penny for the guy" (an effigy of Guy Fawkes, providing an

excuse for children to plead for money from passers-by). This is not a specifically Scottish festivity — it is UK wide but it took place shortly after the Union of the Crowns when King James VI of Scotland became king of England and Wales also.

Martinmas

The last Scottish legal “Quarter Day” when rents and contracts fell due. Since fodder was becoming scarce by this time of the year, cattle were often killed at this time. As a by-product of this the offal was mixed with oatmeal to make haggis and the blood used to make black puddings.

St. Andrew’s Day

Although St. Andrew has been the patron saint of Scotland since a Pictish victory in a battle in 747 AD, for many years November 30 was not a recognised public holiday in Scotland. Indeed, St. Andrew’s night is celebrated more by expatriate Scots around the world. However, in 2006, the Scottish Parliament passed the St. Andrew’s Day Bank Holiday (Scotland) Act 2007, which designated the Day as an official bank holiday. Even so, it was left to individual businesses to negotiate whether to give up another holiday in favour of St Andrew’s Day. As the end of November is not a time when good weather might be expected, few companies have adopted it.

Sowans Nicht — Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve in some parts of Scotland is called “Sowans Nicht” from “sowans” — a dish made from oat husks and fine meal steeped in water. And branches of a rowan tree were burnt on Christmas Eve to signify that any bad feeling between friends or relatives had been put aside for Yuletide.

Christmas

Like many ancient races, particularly those located in the northern latitudes, where winter days were short and the nights long, the pagan Celts had celebrations around the time of the winter solstice, in part to brighten the darkest days, in part to propitiate the gods to allow the sun to return. In Norse mythology, Odin the gift-bringer, swept across the night sky in a chariot drawn by horses. The Christian Church took over the festival but some of the traditions harked back to the pagan roots. The Yule log was burned in the fireplace, there was kissing under the mistletoe (related to a Druidic fertility rite) and the house was decorated with holly (evergreen trees were regarded with reverence). But during the Church Reformation in the 16th century these traditions were frowned on by the Kirk which regarded Christmas as a popish festival. Bear in mind that "Christmas" is "Christ's Mass" and mass was banned in Scotland at that time. There are records of charges being brought against people for keeping "Yule" as it was called in Scotland. Amazingly, this dour, joy-crushing attitude lasted for 400 years. Until the 1960s, Christmas Day was a normal working day for most people in Scotland. So, if there is a specifically "Scottish" aspect to Christmas it is that it was not celebrated!

The traditional Christmas celebrations (other than the religious festival) originated in the 19th century (Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband, had a lot to do with it!) and England and Scotland developed the same traditions from around that time — Christmas trees, decorations, Santa Claus or Saint Nicholas, presents, stockings at the end of the bed, Christmas carols Christmas cards etc. Christmas cards are said to have been invented in Edinburgh in the mid-nineteenth century.

Hogmanay – New Year’s Eve

The origins of the word “Hogmanay” are lost in the past. Some say it is from the Norse “Hoggunott” or night of slaughter when animals were killed for a midwinter feast. Also, that it is from “Huh-me-naay” or kiss me now when even strangers embraced. Another theory is that it comes from the French “Hoguinane” sung by children on “Cake Day”.

To this day, Hogmanay is still a more important festival in Scotland than Christmas. Historians believe that we inherited the celebration from the Vikings who, coming from even further north than ourselves, paid even more attention to the passing of the shortest day. While clearly celebrated around the world, the Scots have a long rich heritage associated with this event, when the whole country celebrates in the build up to “the bells” chiming midnight—and Burns’ song “Auld Lang Syne” is murdered once again!

There are traditions such as cleaning the house on December 31 (including taking out the ashes from the fire in the days when coal fires were common). And Scotland is the only part of the UK that has a statutory holiday on January 2 as well as January 1 so we can recover from the excesses of December 31!

In Stonehaven, around 45 local folk walk up the High Street at the first stroke of midnight from the Old Town Clock, swinging massive balls of flame around their heads. The fireballs are extinguished in spectacular fashion as they are hurled into the harbour, and then the New Year is celebrated with fireworks and a party. This is known as the Fireballs Ceremony.

Test

1. When is Up-Helly-Aa celebrated?
 - A. Last Tuesday of January.
 - B. First Monday of January.
 - C. Third Thursday of February.
2. What does the word Hogmanay mean?
 - A. The origins of the word "Hogmanay" are lost in the past.
 - B. It means hugging during all the day.
 - C. Night of massacre.
3. What is known as the Fireballs Ceremony?
 - A. New Year celebrated with fireworks and a party.
 - B. Christmas celebration with family and candles.
 - C. Firing big wooden figures.
4. Christmas Eve in some parts of Scotland is called:
 - a) "Sowans Nicht";
 - b) Night;
 - c) Scotland nightingale.
5. Martinmas is ...
 - a) the last Scottish legal "Quarter Day" when rents and contracts fell due;
 - b) the Easter;
 - c) celebration of fall.
6. On the 2nd of November ... is celebrated.
 - a) All Souls Day;
 - b) Day of all Saints;
 - c) St. Andrew's Day.
7. In which Scottish lake is Nessie supposed to live?
 - A. Loch Lomond. B. Loch Ness. C. Loch Awe.
8. What is the capital of Scotland?
 - A. Edinburgh. B. Inverness. C. Glasgow.

9. What is the national symbol of Scotland?
A. Shamrock. B. Rose. C. Thistle.
10. Who is the Patron saint of Scotland?
A. St. Andrew. B. St. Georg. C. St. Patrick.
11. Is Scotland Yard in Scotland?
A. Yes. B. No.
12. Who was Queen of Scotland?
A. Queen Victoria (1837-1901).
B. Queen Mary (1542-1587).
C. Queen Elisabeth I (1558-1603).
13. What is the traditional Scottish dish Haggis eaten with?
A. Potatoes and turnips.
B. Chips and carrots.
C. Potatoes and cauliflower.
14. What is the Royal Mile in Scotland?
A. The street between Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyrood House.
B. The distance for races with sailing boats in Scotland.
C. The Name of a festival in Edinburgh.
15. When does the Military Tattoo in Edinburgh take place?
A. In May. B. In August. C. In October.
16. Which is the oldest university in Scotland founded in 1413?
A. St. Andrews. B. Edinburgh. C. Dundee.
17. Candlemas began as a ... festival
a) Celtic; b) Roman; c) Italian.
18. When is Candlemas celebrated?
A. February 20. B. March 2. C. February 2.

19. Another name for the holiday that is celebrated on the 1st of April is:
- a) Hunt the Gowk;
 - b) Kill the Nicht;
 - c) Candlemas.
20. In Norse mythology, Odin the gift-bringer, swept across the night sky in a ... drawn by
- a) chariot, horses;
 - b) ship, slaves;
 - c) firing sphere, his own powers.
21. Queen ... was the one who ensured the success of the Highland games into modern times by attending them in 1848.
- a) Victoria;
 - b) Mary;
 - c) Elisabeth.
22. On the 1st Saturday in September ... is celebrated.
- a) Christmas Night;
 - b) Firing Day;
 - c) Braemar Gathering.
23. St. Andrew's Day is celebrated on the ... of November.
- a) 15th;
 - b) 30th;
 - c) 2nd.
24. St. Andrew was the ... of Scotland.
- a) patron saint;
 - b) Apostol;
 - c) priest.
25. St. Michael was the patron saint of the:
- a) sun;
 - b) day;
 - c) sea.
26. In the island of Barra, a ... was baked from the first grain of the year and eaten on St. Michael's day.
- a) Bannock;
 - b) pie;
 - c) cake.
27. The pagan Celts had celebrations around the time of the ... solstice.
- a) winter;
 - b) summer;
 - c) spring.

28. The Christian Church took over the festival but some of the traditions harked back to the pagan roots and they are:

- a) the Yule log, kissing under the mistletoe, holly;
- b) Christmas Tree, holly, turkey;
- c) Ornaments, the Yule log, holly.

29. Celebration of Yule and Christmas was banned in Scotland once for ... years.

- a) 40;
- b) 400;
- c) 390.

30. Until the ..., Christmas Day was a normal working day for most people in Scotland.

- a) 1960s;
- b) 1910s;
- c) 1850s.

31. The "traditional" Christmas celebrations originated in the ... century and England and Scotland developed the same traditions from around that time.

- a) 16th;
- b) 17th;
- c) 19th.

32. Christmas ... are said to have been invented in Edinburgh in the mid-nineteenth century.

- a) presents;
- b) cards;
- c) toys.

33. There are traditions such as ... (known as "...") on December 31.

- a) cleaning the house, redding;
- b) Decorating the house, kraddin;
- c) kissing beloved ones, plurri.

34. "Sowans" — a dish made from oat husks and fine meal steeped in water:

- a) bread, bourbon;
- b) oat husks, water;
- c) beans, alcohol.

35. 1st of January is also know as:

- a) second footing;
- b) first footing;
- c) third footing.

36. Black bun is:
a) sweet cake; b) spiced cake; c) salty cake.
37. First footing after the bells have rung in the New Year is still common — the “first foot” in the house after midnight should be:
a) male; b) female.
38. In Kirkwall, Orkney, there is a New Year Game held in the streets of the town which can last most of January:
a) 5th; b) 1st; c) 2nd.
39. Old Norse “gata” means:
a) path or road;
b) field or forest;
c) person or warrior.
40. The Uppies and the Doonies, or more correctly, “...-the-Gates” and “...-the-Gates”.
a) up, doon; b) down, up; c) right, left.

Roman Britain

Roman Britain, Latin Britannia, area of the island of Great Britain that was under Roman rule from the conquest of Claudius in 43 CE to the withdrawal of imperial authority by Honorius in 410 CE.

The Roman conquest of northern Gaul (58–50 BCE) brought Britain into definite contact with the Mediterranean. It was already closely connected with Gaul, and, when Roman civilization and its products invaded Gallia Belgica, they passed on easily to Britain. British coins then began to bear Latin legends, and, after Julius Caesar’s raids in 55 and 54 BCE, the Romans began to regard Britain's southern tribes as vassals. However, these tribes do not seem to have regarded themselves as such, and the direct imposition of Roman rule was delayed. The emperor Augustus planned it, but

both he and his successor, Tiberius, realized that the greater need was to consolidate the existing empire and absorb the vast additions recently made to it by Pompey, Caesar, and Augustus.

The Roman conquest of Britain

Preparations for the Roman conquest of Britain had been started and then canceled by the emperor Caligula, and the invasion was finally undertaken by Claudius in 43 CE. Two causes coincided to produce the action: Claudius desired the political prestige of an outstanding conquest; and Cunobelinus, a pro-Roman prince (known to literature as Cymbeline), had just been succeeded by two of his sons, Caratacus and Togodumnus, who were hostile to Rome. Cunobelinus's sons had expelled Verica, a Roman client king, and were blamed for raids upon Gaul which were then taking place from across the English Channel.

Aulus Plautius, with a well-equipped army of about 40,000 men, landed in Kent and advanced on the Thames, crossing at the site of Londinium (London). Claudius himself appeared there — the one emperor of the 1st century who crossed the ocean — and the army moved through Essex to capture the native capital, Camulodunum (now Colchester). From the bases of London and Colchester the legions and their auxiliaries continued the conquest. On the left wing, the 2nd Legion (under Vespasian, afterward emperor), subdued the south; in the centre, the 14th and 20th Legions pacified the Midlands; on the right wing, the 9th Legion advanced through the eastern part of the island.

This strategy was at first triumphant. The lowlands of Britain, with a partly Romanized population and easy terrain, presented no obstacle. Within three or four years everything south of the Humber estuary and east of the River Severn had been either directly annexed or entrusted, as protectorates, to native client

princes. Farther north, even the Brigantes in the area of the Pennine range came into the sphere of client realms. The peoples of Wales, notably the Silures, offered fiercer resistance, and there followed more than 30 years of intermittent fighting (47-79 CE). The precise details of the struggle are not known. Legionary fortresses were established at Gloucester, Wroxeter (until 66 CE at least), and Lincoln. Later bases included Caerleon, Chester, and York. The method of conquest was the erection and maintenance of small detached forts in strategic positions, each garrisoned by 500 or 1,000 Roman legionaries and auxiliaries.

Progress was delayed in 60-61 CE by a revolt in the nominally conquered lowlands led by Queen Boudicca of the Iceni. Boudicca's forces burned Colchester, St. Albans (Verulamium), and London and destroyed the 9th Legion. Provincial Governor Suetonius Paulinus, who had been campaigning in Anglesey, returned to crush the rebellion, but the government was obviously afraid for a while to move its garrisons forward. Indeed, other needs of the empire caused the withdrawal of the 14th Legion in 69 CE. But the decade 70-80 CE was decisive. A succession of three generals commanded an army which was restored to full strength by the addition of the 2nd Legion (Legio II Adiutrix) and achieved the final subjugation of Wales and the first conquest of Yorkshire.

The third and probably the ablest of these generals, Gnaeus Julius Agricola, moved in 79 CE to the conquest of the farther north. He built forts in Cumberland and Durham, began the network of roads, held down the north, and pushed on into Scotland. There he established between the rivers Clyde and Forth a temporary frontier that was guarded by a line of posts, the most certainly identifiable of which was at Bar Hill in Dunbartonshire. He advanced into Caledonia and won a victory against the Picts at Mons Graupius, the

site of which is unidentified but was not south of the approaches to the county of Banff. He even dreamed of invading Ireland and thought it would be an easy task. He prepared for it by the conquest of southwestern Scotland with forts at Loudoun Hill, Ayrshire; Dalswinton, Dumfriesshire; and Glenlochar and Gatehouse-of-Fleet, Kirkcudbrightshire. His permanent occupation of Scotland enveloped Strathmore, the large valley in central Scotland stretching from southwest to northeast through the counties of Perthshire, Angus, and Kincardineshire.

Military areas

Geographically, Britain consists of two parts: (1) the comparatively flat lowlands of the south, east, and midlands, suitable for agriculture and open to the continent, i. e., to the rest of the Roman Empire, and (2) the area comprising Devon, Cornwall, Wales, and northern England. These latter regions lie more — often very much more — than 600 feet (183 metres) above sea level and are scarred with gorges and deep valleys. They are mountainous in character and difficult for armies to traverse. The lowlands were conquered easily and quickly, though the midlands were garrisoned until about 79 CE. The uplands were hardly subdued completely until the end of the 2nd century. They differ, moreover, in the character of their Roman occupation. The lowlands were the scene of civil life. Towns, villages, and country houses were their prominent features; troops were hardly seen in them save in some fortresses on the edge of the hills and in a chain of forts built in the 4th century to defend the south and southeast coast, the so-called Saxon Shore. The uplands of Wales and the north were an entirely different matter. There civil life straggled into Glamorgan and Pembrokeshire and even touched Brecknockshire, while in the north it penetrated as far as County Durham. The hills, however, were one extensive military frontier,

covered with forts and the strategic roads that connected them. Only the trading settlements outside the forts afforded any hint of organized Roman communities.

Roman roads

The road system was laid out to meet the strategy of Roman conquest, which was carried out in stages.

There were four main groups of roads radiating from London and a fifth which ran obliquely. These roads and their various branches provided adequate communication throughout lowland Britain. Besides these detached forts and their connecting roads, the north of Britain was defended by Hadrian's Wall.

Life in Roman Britain

Behind this formidable garrison, sheltered from barbarians and in easy contact with the Roman Empire, stretched the lowlands of southern and eastern Britain. There Roman culture spread. In the lands looking on to the Thames estuary (Kent, Essex, Middlesex), the process had perhaps begun before the Roman conquest. It was continued after that event, and in two ways. To some extent it was encouraged by the Roman government, which founded towns settled with Roman citizens — generally discharged legionaries — and endowed them with franchise and constitution like those of Italian municipalities. It developed still more by its own volition. The coherent civilization of the Romans was accepted by the British tribal notables, as it was by the Gauls, with something like enthusiasm. Encouraged perhaps by sympathetic Romans, spurred on still more by their own interests, they began to speak Latin, to use the material resources of Roman city life, and presently to consider themselves not as unwilling subjects of a foreign empire but as British members of the Roman state.

The steps by which these results were reached can to some extent be dated. In 49 CE a colonia, or municipality of time-expired soldiers, had been planted in the old native capital of Colchester, and, though it served at first mainly as a fortress and thus provoked British hatred, it soon came to exercise a romanizing influence. At the same time the British town of St. Albans (Verulamium) was thought sufficiently romanized to receive the status of a municipium, which at this period differed little from that of a colonia. London became important. Romanized Britons were numerous; in the great revolt of Boudicca (60–61 CE) the rebels massacred many thousands of them along with actual Romans. The movement increased over the next 15 to 20 years. Tribal capitals sprang up, such as Silchester, laid out in Roman fashion, furnished with public buildings of Roman type, and filled with houses which were Roman in fittings if not in plan. The hot springs of Bath (Aquae Sulis) were exploited. Another colonia was planted under Domitian (emperor 81–96 CE) at Lincoln (Lindum), and a third at Gloucester in 96. The fourth, established on the west bank of the Ouse at York, belongs to the early 3rd century and marked the upgrading of an existing town. A series of judicial legates were appointed to attend to the increasing civil business.

After the 2nd century, Hadrian and his successors consolidated Roman gains despite the repeated risings in the north, and country houses and farms became common in most parts of the Romanized area. By the beginning of the 4th century, the skilled artisans and builders and the cloth and corn of Britain were famous on the continent. This probably was the age when the prosperity and romanization of the province reached its height. The town populations and the educated landowning class spoke Latin, and the people of Britain regarded it as a Roman land, inhabited by Romans. The civilization which had thus spread over half the island was

identical in kind to that of the other western provinces of the empire, and in particular with that of northern Gaul.

The administration of the Romanized part of the province, while nominally subject to the governor of all Britain, was practically entrusted to local authorities. Each Roman municipality ruled itself and a territory, perhaps as large as a small county, which belonged to it. Some districts formed part of the imperial domains and were administered by agents of the emperor. By far the larger portion of the country was divided up among the old native tribes or cantons, about 10 or 12 in number, each grouped around a country town where its council (*ordo*) met for cantonal business. This system closely resembles that of Gaul. It is a native element recast in Roman form and well illustrates the Roman principle of local government by devolution.

Urban development

London was a rich and important trading town, centre of the road system and of the finance officials of the province, while Bath was a spa provided with splendid baths and a richly adorned temple of Sulis, goddess of the hot springs, whom the Romans called Minerva. Many smaller places within the cantons, for example Kenchester (*Magna*) near Hereford, Rochester (*Durobrivae*) in Kent, Chesterton near Peterborough, Great Chesterford near Cambridge, and Alchester near Oxford, exhibited some measure of town life and served as markets or centres of tax collection.

Christianity

By the mid-20th century, archaeological evidence of Christianity had been found, notably the wall paintings discovered at Lullingstone, Kent, to supplement the isolated literary references of early date (i. e., those of Tertullian and Origen, writing at the beginning and middle of the 3rd century, respectively). These point

to the beginnings of Christianity in Britain, but the evidence, especially for the period before Constantine I (sole emperor 323–337).

Romano-British art

The term Romano-British art embraces objects of varied character and provenance because it includes not only works which were purely British — that is, made in Britain by British craftsmen — but also works made in Britain by immigrants from Gaul, the Mediterranean, and even the Middle East. Imported provincial (e. g., Gaulish and Rhenish) work shows in varying degrees the influence of Greek and Greco-Roman art, as well as a large number of imported objects of actual Greco-Roman workmanship. Art in Roman Britain includes sculpture in the round and relief sculpture (particularly on tombstones, sarcophagi, and the like) in marble and stone; sculpture in bronze; fresco painting, mosaics, carved objects in bone, ivory, and native shale and jet; ceremonial armour (such as the 1st-century bronze parade masks from Ribchester, in the British Museum, and from Newstead, in the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh); vessels of metal and glass for domestic and ceremonial use and pottery; as well as a host of small objects (such as brooches, rings, and toilet articles) for personal adornment and other uses.

The naturalism which, having its origins in classical Greek sculpture, animated such works as these often prevailed over the native tendency toward the abstract and the formalized to produce in Britain works showing a high degree of naturalism and classical restraint.

Excavation of the sites of Roman villas in Britain has revealed examples of mosaic pavements, many of them depicting figure subjects chosen from classical mythology, such as the 4th century pavements from Aldborough representing the nine Muses and that from Lullingstone, showing the abduction of Europa.

Questions

1. Who conquered Roman Britain in 43 CE?
2. What brought Britain to a certain contact with the Mediterranean?
3. What appeared on British coins?
4. Who were the southern tribes of Britain after the raids of Julius Caesar?
5. What was more important for the emperor and his successor?
6. Who started and canceled the preparations for the conquest of Britain?
7. By whom and in what year the invasion was undertaken?
8. Which territories were annexed or entrusted?
9. The peoples of which region offered the fiercest resistance?
10. What was the method of conquest?
11. Why was the progress of the conquest delayed?
12. Who returned to crush the rebellion?
13. Did the three generals achieve the final subjugation of Wales and the first conquest of Yorkshire?
14. The name of the ablest generals?
15. Name a few events that this general did. (2-3)
16. How many parts can Britain be geographically divided into?
17. What is the lowland part of Britain suitable for?
18. Where was civilian life?
19. Were the hills one extensive military frontier?
20. How many main roads were there?
21. What did these roads provide?
22. What was provided to discharged legionnaires in the cities?
23. What happened in the cities under the influence of the Romans?

24. In which city was the colony founded?
25. What was this colony at first mainly?
26. What year was the great revolt of Boudicca?
27. Which tribal capital sprang at that time?
28. How many colonies were founded at that time?
29. What did become common in most parts of the Romanized area?
30. What language did the town populations and the educated landowning class speak?
31. Who ruled each Roman municipality?
32. What is the control system closely resembled?
33. Describe what London was like.
34. What did small towns serve for?
35. Have archaeological evidence of Christianity been discovered and where?
36. What does the definition of Romano-British art include?
37. Whose influence is demonstrated in imported provincial works?
38. What does the art of Roman Britain include?
39. Where does naturalism originate from?
40. What did the excavations at the sites of Roman villas reveal?

Private schools in England

Private education in the UK has long-standing roots. Back in the 17th century, it was considered the norm for girls to receive a private education at home. In the future, the English society came to the idea that it would be more useful for children in socialization and collective learning. Then they began to create private boarding schools for boys and girls.

The first boarding schools were created, as a rule, at Catholic churches. They trained primarily ministers for the church, but taught not only theology, but also all the necessary subjects for obtaining a full secondary education. Such an education was considered very prestigious.

Today, education in private schools in England is considered very prestigious and popular. It certainly ceased to have a strong religious connotation, but it did not cease to exist under the tutelage of the Catholic Church. Most private schools are based at temples.

Important reasons why the British prefer to send their children to private schools:

1. Deeper and more systematic training. Private schools teach more subjects, each subject is considered more deeply.

2. Individual approach to training. Since there are fewer children in classes than in regular schools, the training is almost individual. Every child is given close attention. Here, the more savvy will always be given additional material, and the laggards will be helped to catch up with the excellent students. Homework is also supervised by a teacher. As a rule, there are 10 students per 1 teacher in a private school, whereas in ordinary secondary schools there are 18–20.

3. Much attention is paid to the upbringing of the child, the formation of general principles of humanism, the development of communication and constructive dialogue. At school, they teach to think independently, make choices and make decisions, which contributes to the education of self-confidence in children and spurs the personal growth of the child. Self-confident people achieve great success!

4. Private schools pay attention to the development of the creative potential of the child, as well as instill a love of sports and an active lifestyle.

Students who have received a private education are much more likely to continue their studies at the most prestigious universities in the world.

All this makes studying in private schools in England attractive for Russians as well. Every year the number of Russian children is getting bigger in English private schools.

As a rule, the residence has bedrooms for students, a common recreation room, a kitchen — these are mandatory conditions. Depending on the school, there may be computer classes, libraries, games and gyms, separate dressing rooms.

Life in the residence is subordinated to the general daily routine: time is allocated for classes, meals, homework and free time. As a rule, the total time of lights-out is set in the residences.

To date, there are more than 850 private schools in England, in which more than 180 thousand students are trained. Children.

Preparation for admission to school in England must begin no later than a year before the start of training.

Every school in the UK conducts unique entrance tests. As a rule, these are 3–4 tasks, among which may be listening, reading, grammar, logic, writing, oral speech and checking knowledge of general subjects. Elite schools in England are additionally asked to write an essay and pass an oral interview with a representative of the educational institution.

The average tuition fee at a boarding school in Britain in 2015 was 30,369 pounds per year (over 43 thousand dollars). The high cost of education leads to the fact that fewer and fewer representatives of the local middle class and more and more foreigners, mainly Chinese and Russians, study in private boarding schools every year. According to the director of the oldest Westminster school in England, Patrick Derem, wealthy Chinese are willing to pay almost any amount in order for their children to get an education in the UK.

Test

1. In which century was it considered the norm to receive a private education at home?
 - A. In the 16th century.
 - B. In the 17th century.
 - C. In the 18th century.
2. Who did the children study in schools at Catholic churches?
 - A. On scientists.
 - B. On politicians.
 - C. On ministers for the church.
3. What are most private schools based on now?
 - A. They are based at temples.
 - B. They are based with state support.
 - C. They are based with private entrepreneurs.
4. In private schools they teach:
 - a) more subjects, than in an ordinary school;
 - b) fewer subjects, than in an ordinary school;
 - c) the same number of subjects as in an ordinary school.
5. How many students are there per teacher in a private school?
 - A. 13.
 - B. 18.
 - C. 10.
6. What is given a lot of attention in private schools?
 - A. The development of communication.
 - B. The development of natural sciences.
 - C. The development of personal abilities.
7. Where does the child live?
 - A. In a hostel.
 - B. In private apartments.
 - C. In a residence.

8. How many people live in a room?
A. 1-3. B. 2-5. C. 3-5.
9. What is a prerequisite for a residence?
A. Availability of a kitchen.
B. Availability of a swimming pool.
C. Availability of a library.
10. How many private schools are there in England now?
A. More than 850.
B. More than 550.
C. More than 900.
11. How many children are enrolled in private schools?
A. More than 220 thousand.
B. More than 190 thousand.
C. More than 180 thousand.
12. When should students start preparing for admission?
A. Two years before the start of training.
B. Three months before the start of training.
C. One year before the start of training.
13. How many tasks are in the entrance tests?
A. 2-3 tasks. B. 3-4 tasks. C. 5 tasks.
14. What is not included in the entrance tests?
A. Logic. B. Writing. C. Listening. D. Chemistry.
15. What additional tasks can there be?
A. Write an essay.
B. Pass an oral interview.
C. Check physical abilities.
16. How much does private school tuition cost per year?
A. 30,369 pounds.
B. 30,562 pounds.
C. 47 thousand dollars.

17. Why are fewer and fewer representatives of the local middle class studying every year?
- A. Due to the large flow of foreigners.
 - B. Private schools lose their prestige.
 - C. Due to the high cost of education.
18. What are the Chinese willing to pay any amount for?
- A. So that their children get English citizenship.
 - B. So that their children get an English education.
 - C. So that their children make English friends.
19. Is it prestigious to study in private schools?
- A. Yes.
 - B. No.
20. Who is the headmaster of the oldest Westminster School in England?
- A. Patrick Derem.
 - B. Jardine-Young.
 - C. Paul Feren.

Importance of education

To say Education is important is an understatement. Education is a weapon to improve one's life. It is probably the most important tool to change one's life. Education for a child begins at home. It is a lifelong process that ends with death. Education certainly determines the quality of an individual's life. Education improves one's knowledge, skills and develops the personality and attitude. Most noteworthy, Education affects the chances of employment for people. A highly educated individual is probably very likely to get a good job. In this essay on importance of education, we will tell you about the value of education in life and society.

Importance of Education in Life

First of all, Education teaches the ability to read and write. Reading and writing is the first step in Education. Most information is done by writing. Hence, the lack of writing skill means missing out on a lot of information. Consequently, Education makes people literate.

Above all, Education is extremely important for employment. It certainly is a great opportunity to make a decent living. This is due to the skills of a high paying job that Education provides. Uneducated people are probably at a huge disadvantage when it comes to jobs. It seems like many poor people improve their lives with the help of Education.

Better Communication is yet another role in Education. Education improves and refines the speech of a person. Furthermore, individuals also improve other means of communication with Education.

Education makes an individual a better user of technology. Education certainly provides the technical skills necessary for using technology. Hence, without Education, it would probably be difficult to handle modern machines.

People become more mature with the help of Education. Sophistication enters the life of educated people. Above all, Education teaches the value of discipline to individuals. Educated people also realize the value of time much more. To educated people, time is equal to money.

Finally, Education enables individuals to express their views efficiently. Educated individuals can explain their opinions in a clear manner. Hence, educated people are quite likely to convince people to their point of view.

Importance of Education in Society

First of all, Education helps in spreading knowledge in society. This is perhaps the most noteworthy aspect of Education. There is a quick propagation of knowledge in an educated society. Furthermore, there is a transfer of knowledge from generation to another by Education.

Education helps in the development and innovation of technology. Most noteworthy, the more the education, the more technology will spread. Important developments in war equipment, medicine, computers, take place due to Education.

Education is a ray of light in the darkness. It certainly is a hope for a good life. Education is a basic right of every Human on this Planet. To deny this right is evil. Uneducated youth is the worst thing for Humanity. Above all, the governments of all countries must ensure to spread Education.

Test

1. What is the main idea of the text?
 - A. Education is important for everyone.
 - B. Education is only important for children.
 - C. Education is not important for improving one's life.
 - D. Education is important only for getting a good job.
2. What is the first step in Education?
 - A. Learning to read and write.
 - B. Learning to speak.
 - C. Learning math.
 - D. Learning science.
3. Why is writing skill important in Education?
 - A. Because most information is done by writing.
 - B. Because it helps in getting a good job.
 - C. Because it improves communication skills.
 - D. Because it makes people literate.

4. What is the role of Education in employment?
 - A. It provides high paying jobs.
 - B. It is not important for getting a job.
 - C. It is only important for getting low paying jobs.
 - D. It does not affect job opportunities.
5. What is the disadvantage of being uneducated?
 - A. It affects communication skills.
 - B. It affects personality development.
 - C. It affects job opportunities.
 - D. It affects knowledge and skills development.
6. What is the lifelong process of Education?
 - A. Learning to read and write.
 - B. Developing personality and attitude.
 - C. Improving knowledge and skills.
 - D. Beginning at home and ending with death.
7. What is the most noteworthy effect of Education?
 - A. It affects personality and attitude.
 - B. It affects knowledge and skills development.
 - C. It affects job opportunities.
 - D. It affects the quality of life.
8. What does Education improve besides knowledge and skills?
 - A. Communication skills.
 - B. Physical health.
 - C. Social status.
 - D. Financial status.
9. What is the importance of Education in communication?
 - A. It improves speech and other means of communication.
 - B. It helps in getting a good job.
 - C. It makes people literate.
 - D. It affects personality and attitude.

10. How does Education help poor people?
- A. It provides high paying jobs.
 - B. It improves their lives.
 - C. It makes them literate.
 - D. It affects personality and attitude.
11. What is the main benefit of education in terms of technology?
- A. It provides technical skills necessary for using technology.
 - B. It helps people become more mature.
 - C. It enables individuals to express their views efficiently.
 - D. It spreads knowledge in society.
12. Why would it be difficult to handle modern machines without education?
- A. Because modern machines are too complex for uneducated people.
 - B. Because modern machines require technical skills that education provides.
 - C. Because uneducated people do not value time.
 - D. Because uneducated people cannot express their views efficiently.
13. What value does education teach individuals?
- A. The value of discipline.
 - B. The value of money.
 - C. The value of sophistication.
 - D. The value of time.
14. What is the relationship between education and time?
- A. Educated people value time more than uneducated people.
 - B. Educated people have more time than uneducated people.
 - C. Education teaches people how to manage their time.
 - D. Time is not important to educated people.

15. What is the benefit of educated people being able to express their views efficiently?

- A. They can convince people to their point of view.
- B. They can become more sophisticated.
- C. They can handle modern machines better.
- D. They can spread knowledge in society.

16. What is the most noteworthy aspect of education in society?

- A. It helps in the development and innovation of technology.
- B. It teaches the value of discipline to individuals.
- C. It enables individuals to express their views efficiently.
- D. It helps in spreading knowledge in society.

17. What is the relationship between education and technology?

- A. Education has no impact on technology.
- B. The less education people have, the more technology will spread.
- C. The more education people have, the more technology will spread.
- D. Education only impacts certain types of technology.

18. What is the conclusion of the text?

- A. Education is a basic right of every human on this planet.
- B. Uneducated youth is the worst thing for humanity.
- C. The governments of all countries must ensure to spread education.
- D. All of the above.

19. What is the metaphor used to describe education in the conclusion?

- A. A ray of light in the darkness.
- B. A hope for a good life.
- C. A basic right of every human on this planet.
- D. Evil.

20. What is the author's opinion on denying the right to education?

- A. It is necessary for society.
- B. It is evil.
- C. It is beneficial for uneducated youth.
- D. It is not mentioned in the text.

The 5 best boarding schools in the UK

1. St. Paul's School

St. Paul's School is an academically-selective private school in South West London for boys aged 7 to 18. It was founded by John Colet in 1509, who was clear that education must be spiritual and holistic – not just academic. Throughout both the prep and senior schools, students are actively taught to develop the five core character traits of respect, kindness, humility, integrity, and resilience.

Children have structured daily prep and the independence and freedom to get involved in the school's many activities on offer. Weekend trips are a regular occurrence, including cooking classes, meals out and tours in the city, and activities such as go-karting, indoor skydiving and paintballing.

In 2022, St. Paul's School was ranked the highest-performing boys' school in the UK based on students' grades at A level and GCSE. Students accept offers from Oxford and Cambridge universities, with overseas destinations including top US colleges.

2. Sevenoaks School

Sevenoaks School is a private day and boarding school for boys and girls on a 100-acre campus in the Kent countryside. The school is conveniently located for national and international students, with

Central London and Gatwick Airport both just half an hour by train. Sevenoaks School has won several accolades for its educational provision.

Around 350 boys and girls aged 13 to 18 board at Sevenoaks School in seven modern and family-friendly boarding houses. Younger pupils share rooms with other pupils to allow them to mix and settle quickly, while older students usually have single or double rooms to allow for more quiet and privacy. All students who live abroad need to have a suitable guardian, aged 25 or over, who lives reasonably close to the school.

3. Westminster School

Westminster School is a private day and boarding school for boys aged 13 to 18 and girls aged 16 to 18, situated directly next to Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament in central London. The school is nearly 630 years old and boasts an impressive list of notable alumni, including the architect Christopher Wren, two Nobel Prize winners in physiology, and an extensive list of famous journalists, politicians and sportsmen.

There is a lively boarding community at Westminster School of around 180 boys and girls in six boarding houses (five mixed and one which is girls-only). Boarders have a strong pastoral network; each house is led by a housemaster, resident tutor, resident matron and a team of tutors. A head of international students oversees the care of children whose primary residence is outside of the UK. Boarders have a structured prep session every evening, with plenty of activities for fun and relaxation including a regular Sunday brunch, pizza-and-film nights, karaoke, salsa dancing, group sports and frequent outings to locations around the city.

4. Tonbridge School

Tonbridge School is a day and boarding school in Kent, located 40 minutes by train from London, for boys aged 13 - 18. The academic and co-curricular facilities at the school are outstanding and include an award-winning library, science centre, sports centre and 150 acres of playing fields, and a proscenium arch theatre.

Boys board at Tonbridge School in one of 12 houses, each of around 65 boys, with a housemaster, tutor team and matron assigned to each house. The house system is at the heart of life at Tonbridge, enabling each child to live and learn within a close-knit community. Students can get involved in a wide variety of house and inter-house activities, including general knowledge competitions, music, art, debating, sport, plays, and concerts.

Social responsibility is integral to a Tonbridge education. The school has strong partnerships with 10 local primary and secondary schools, while over 120 boys volunteer in primary and special schools each week.

5. Brighton College

Brighton College is a private day and boarding school located in the southern coastal city of Brighton for boys and girls aged 11 to 18. While academic results are consistently exceptional, the school is well known for its primary focus on kindness and personal happiness, and celebrates every child's individual uniqueness.

Boarding is increasingly popular at Brighton College, with the number of boarders trebling in ten years. Weekly and full boarders benefit from award-winning facilities; a team of leading interior designers, supported by pupil involvement, are always updating the facilities to ensure that they are a real home from home. All boarders have access to a full programme of evening activities after prep,

including dance lessons, sports, mindfulness, film club and movie nights, and board games.

Test

1. What schools offer co-ed education?
 - A. St. Paul's School, Tonbridge School.
 - B. Sevenoaks School, Westminster School, Brighton College.
 - C. Sevenoaks School, Westminster School, Tonbridge School.
 - D. St. Paul's School, Westminster School, Brighton College.
2. What are the five core character traits that are actively taught to students in St. Paul's School?
 - A. Respect, kindness, curiosity, optimism, and resilience.
 - B. Respect, kindness, personal happiness, integrity, and individual uniqueness.
 - C. Respect, kindness, humility, integrity, and resilience.
 - D. Respect, kindness, religiosity, righteousness, and resilience.
3. What schools are located in Kent?
 - A. Sevenoaks School, Tonbridge School.
 - B. Paul's School, Tonbridge School.
 - C. Sevenoaks School, Westminster School, Tonbridge School.
 - D. Sevenoaks School, Westminster School.
4. How many students board at Sevenoaks School?
 - A. 200.
 - B. 250.
 - C. 300.
 - D. 350.
5. Who is the notable alumnus of Westminster School?
 - A. Christopher Prout.
 - B. John Colet.
 - C. Christopher Wren.
 - D. John Frith.

6. What is integral to a Tonbridge education?
- A. Kindness.
 - B. Social responsibility.
 - C. Religiosity.
 - D. Respect.
7. What school celebrates every child's individual uniqueness?
- A. Brighton College.
 - B. Paul's School.
 - C. Westminster School.
 - D. Tonbridge School.
8. Do pupils share rooms with other pupils in Sevenoaks School?
- A. Only older students.
 - B. Only younger students.
 - C. No, none of the students share a room with other pupils.
 - D. Yes, students of all ages may share a room.
9. Who lead each house at Westminster School? (Name all)
- A. A head of international students and a team of tutors.
 - B. Students' committee, a housemaster and a team of tutors.
 - C. A housemaster and a team of tutors.
 - D. A housemaster, resident tutor, resident matron and a team of tutors.
10. Do Brighton College boarders have access to a full programme of evening activities?
- A. Yes, they do.
 - B. Yes, but only during weekends.
 - C. Yes, but not all of them have access to it.
 - D. No, they don't.

11. What universities St. Paul's School students enter?
- A. University of Edinburgh.
 - B. University of Oxford.
 - C. Oxford and Cambridge universities.
 - D. University of Cambridge.
12. Where do Westminster School boarders live?
- A. Six boarding houses.
 - B. Five boarding houses.
 - C. They don't live in campus.
 - D. They live in their guardian's house.
13. What is the heart of life at Tonbridge?
- A. The school system.
 - B. The house system.
 - C. Individuality of each student.
 - D. The religious system.
14. How old must a suitable guardian be for a Sevenoaks School international student?
- A. It doesn't matter. B. 20. C. 25. D. 30.
15. What shows the popularity of boarding at Brighton College?
- A. The number of boarders doubling in twenty years.
 - B. The number of boarders trebling in twenty years.
 - C. The number of boarders doubling in ten years.
 - D. The number of boarders trebling in ten years.
16. What school was ranked the highest-performing boys' school in the UK?
- A. Westminster School.
 - B. St. Paul's School.
 - C. Sevenoaks School.
 - D. Tonbridge School.

17. How many Tonbridge School boys volunteer in primary and special schools each week?

A. Less than 90.

C. Around 110.

B. 100.

D. More than 120.

18. Do students of all genders have the same entrance age in Westminster School?

A. Yes, they do.

B. No, girls go earlier.

C. No, boys go earlier.

D. No, it's a boys-only school.

19. What is included in Tonbridge School house and inter-house activities?

A. Dance lessons, sports, mindfulness, film club and movie nights, and board games.

B. General knowledge competitions, music, art, debating, sport, plays, and concerts.

C. A regular Sunday brunch, pizza-and-film nights, karaoke, salsa dancing, group sports and frequent outings to locations around the city.

D. Cooking classes, meals out and tours in the city, and activities such as go-karting, indoor skydiving and paintballing.

20. What does Brighton College do to ensure that facilities are a real home from home?

A. A team of leading interior designers are always updating the facilities.

B. Pupils bring their furniture from home.

C. Teachers cook for students.

D. They allow parents to live with students.

Medical education in the United Kingdom

Key words

Undergraduate training — post-secondary education previous to the postgraduate education. It includes all the academic programs up to the level of a bachelor's degree.

Post-graduate training — a school that awards advanced academic degrees (i. e. master's and doctoral degrees) with the general requirement that students must have earned a previous undergraduate (bachelor's) degree.

Teaching hospital — a hospital that provides clinical education and training to future and current physicians, nurses, and other health professionals, in addition to delivering medical care to patients. They are generally affiliated with medical schools or universities.

Intercalated degree — an extra degree awarded in addition to medical degrees, giving the student the opportunity to gain an extra qualification, and aids students' research and individual study skills.

Master's degree — an academic degree granted to individuals who have undergone study demonstrating a mastery or high-order overview of a specific field of study or area of professional practice.

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery — the two first professional undergraduate degrees awarded upon graduation from medical school in medicine and surgery by universities in various countries that follow the tradition of the United Kingdom.

Vocational training — education that prepares people for a professional position in engineering, accountancy, nursing, medicine, architecture, pharmacy, law etc.

Junior doctors are those in postgraduate training, starting at graduation with a Bachelor of Medicine (or Surgery).

General Practitioner (GP) — a medical practitioner who treats acute and chronic illnesses and provides preventive care and health education to patients.

SHO — senior house officer — a junior doctor undergoing training within a certain specialty.

Specialty Registrar (StR) — doctor who is working as part of a specialty training program in the UK.

Consultant — the title of a senior hospital-based physician or surgeon who has completed all of his or her specialist training and been placed on the specialist register in their chosen specialty.

Undergraduate training

In the United Kingdom, medical school generally refers to a department within a university which is involved in the education of future medical practitioners. All leading British medical schools are state-funded. Courses generally last five or six years: two years of pre-clinical training in an academic environment and three-year clinical training at a teaching hospital and in community settings. Medical schools and teaching hospitals are closely integrated. The course of study is extended to six years if an intercalated degree is taken in a related subject.

Due to the UK code for higher education, first degrees in medicine comprise an integrated program of study and professional practice spanning several levels. The final outcomes of the qualifications typically meet the expectations of a higher education qualification at level 7 (the UK Masters degree). These degrees retain, for historical reasons, “Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery” and are abbreviated to MBChB or MBBS.

Specialty training and postgraduate studies

Following completion of medical school, junior doctors then enter a vocational training phase. In the UK a doctor's training normally follows this path:

Newly qualified doctors enter a two year Foundation Programme, where they undertake terms in a variety of different specialties. These must include training in General Medicine and General Surgery but can also include other fields such as Pediatrics, Anesthetics or General Practice.

Following completion of the Foundation Programme a doctor can choose to specialize in one field. All routes involve further assessment and examinations.

To train as a general practitioner (GP), after completing the Foundation Programme, a doctor must complete eighteen months of posts in a variety of hospital specialties — often including Pediatrics, psychiatry, Geriatrics and Obstetrics & Gynecology. The trainee also has to spend eighteen months as a General Practice Specialty Registrar — a trainee based in a GP practice. After completing this training and the relevant exams, the doctor can become a GP and can practise independently.

Hospital doctors are promoted after sitting relevant post-graduate exams within their chosen specialty (e. g. Member of the Royal College of Physicians MRCP, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons MRCS) and a competitive interview selection process from SHO to Specialty Registrar (StR) and eventually Consultant on completion of the CCT(Certificate of Completion of Training), which is the highest level in a specialty (with the exception of university-linked professors).

The competition is significant for those who wish to attain consultant level and many now complete higher degrees in research

such as a Doctorate of Medicine (MD), which is a thesis-based award based on at least two-year full-time research; or PhD, which involves at least three years of full-time research. The time taken to get from medical school graduation to becoming a consultant varies from specialty to specialty but can be anything from 7 to more than 10 years.

Test

1. Medical schools in the UK are:
 - a) vocational;
 - b) independent;
 - c) private;
 - d) state-funded.
2. When junior doctors complete the Foundation Programme they have to:
 - a) sit exams;
 - b) train students;
 - c) write a thesis;
 - d) qualify for MBBS.
3. Studying at a medical school students have a chance to be trained at the:
 - a) clinic;
 - b) dentist's;
 - c) teaching hospital;
 - d) pharmacy.
4. The abbreviation MBBS means:
 - a) Bachelor Bachelor Medicine Surgery;
 - b) Bachelor of Surgery, Bachelor of Medicine;
 - c) Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery;
 - d) Medicine Bachelor, Bachelor of Surgery.
5. The course of study is extended to six years in medical schools and teaching hospitals if an intercalated degree is taken in a related subject:
 - a) 6;
 - b) 3;
 - c) 2;
 - d) 7.

13. He was involved ... two-year full-time research before being awarded with the highest degree in Medicine — MD.

- a) in; b) of; c) on; d) at.

14. The quantity of disciplines ... from year to year at the medical school.

- a) retains; c) varies;
b) meets; d) undertakes.

15. Biology and Anatomy don't refer ... clinical subjects.

- a) to; b) on; c) at; d) in.

16. ... an academic degree granted to individuals who have undergone study demonstrating a mastery or high-order overview of a specific field of study or area of professional practice.

- A. Intercalated degree;
B. Minor's degree;
C. Master's degree;
D. Doctor's degree.

17. MD is a thesis-based award based on at least ... year full-time research.

- a) 1; b) 2; c) 3; d) 4.

18. PhD involves at least ... years of full-time research.

- a) 1; b) 2; c) 3; d) 4.

19. Newly qualified doctors enter a ... year Foundation Programme.

- a) 1; b) 2; c) 3; d) 4.

20. After completing the Foundation Programme, a doctor must complete ... months of posts in a variety of hospital specialties.

- a) 9; b) 12; c) 15; d) 18.

British private education



During the late 14th and early 15th centuries the first schools private of the church were founded. Winchester (1382) and Oswestry (1407) were the first of their kind, and such early “free grammar schools” founded by wealthy benefactors paved the way for the establishment of the modern “public school”. These were typically established for male students from poor or disadvantaged backgrounds.

Seven percent of British schoolchildren go to private schools called independent schools. There are 2,400 independent schools and they have been growing in number and popularity since the mid-1980's.

Parents pay for these schools, and fees vary from about 250 pounds a term for a private nursery to 3,000 pounds a term or more for a secondary boarding school. Most independent schools are called prep (preparatory) schools because they prepare the children for the Common Entrance Exam which they take at the age of 11. This exam is for entry into the best schools.

The most famous schools are called “public schools” and they have a long history and traditions. It is often necessary to put your child’s name on a waiting list at birth to be sure he or she gets a place, Children of wealthy or aristocratic families often go to the same public school as their parents and their grandparents. Eton is the best known of these schools.

The majority of independent secondary schools, including public schools, are single-sex, although in recent years girls have been allowed to join the sixth forms of boys’ schools. Independent schools also include religious schools (Jewish, Catholic, Muslim etc.) and schools for ethnic minorities.

Test

1. How many percent of British schoolchildren go to independent schools?
A. 17. B. 35. C. 7.
2. Who sponsors private schools?
A. State. B. Parents. C. It’s free.
3. When did the popularity of private schools start to grow?
A. The mid-1950s. B. 1970. C. The mid-1980s.
4. How many independent schools are there?
A. 1300. B. 70. C. 2400.
5. What is the cost of studying in a private nursery?
A. £3000 B. £250. C. £2400.
6. What is the cost of studying in a secondary boarding school?
A. £4500. B. £150. C. £3000.
7. What are most independent schools called?
A. Nursery. B. Preparatory. C. Boarding.

8. What exam do prep schools prepare for?
 - A. The Common Entrance Exam.
 - B. TOEFL.
 - C. HSK.
9. What is the best age to put a child on the waiting list?
 - A. 11.
 - B. From birth.
 - C. 5.
10. Are independent schools separate for boys and girls?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No.
11. From what grade are girls allowed to join boys' classes?
 - A. 3.
 - B. 9.
 - C. 6.
12. At what age do children take the Common Entrance Exam?
 - A. 10.
 - B. 11.
 - C. 12.
13. Why is the Common Entrance Exam necessary?
 - A. For crediting knowledge.
 - B. For entry into the best schools.
14. What is the most famous example of a school with a rich heritage history?
 - A. Eton.
 - B. Winsor.
 - C. Trinity.
15. When were private schools founded?
 - A. 18th century.
 - B. 16th century.
 - C. 14th-15th centuries.
16. What were the first private schools called?
 - A. Winchester.
 - B. George Heriot's School.
 - C. High School of Dundee.
17. Who founded the first independent schools?
 - A. Wealthy benefactors.
 - B. Government.
18. Who were the first independent schools intended for?
 - A. For girls.
 - B. For both.
 - C. For boys.

19. What was the status of the first students of independent schools?

- A. Children of wealthy or aristocratic families.
- B. Children from poor or disadvantaged backgrounds.

20 What was another name for the first independent schools?

- A. Free grammar school.
- B. College.
- C. Prep school.

Education in the United Kingdom

The education system in the UK is divided into four main parts, primary education, secondary education, further education and higher education.

The education system in the UK is also split into “key stages” which breaks down as follows:

- Key Stage 1: 5 to 7 years old.
- Key Stage 2: 7 to 11 years old.
- Key Stage 3: 11 to 14 years old.
- Key Stage 4: 14 to 16 years old.

Primary school

Primary school education begins in the UK at age 5 and continues until age 11, comprising key stages one and two under the UK educational system.

Primary education in England (Primary School) is the first (not counting kindergartens — Nursery School for children from 3 years old) step of education, created for students aged 5 to 11 years. In fact, most children enter primary school as early as 4 years old, in the so-called preparatory class (Reception Class) in the educational institution chosen for further education. This is done mostly since at

the age of 5 a child may no longer get a place in the right school. Formally, since education is compulsory for children from 5 years old, up to this age a child can skip classes, even if he is already enrolled in the Reception Class.

English primary school includes 2 levels of education — Key Stage 1 for children from 5 to 7 years old and Key Stage 2 for children from 7 to 11 years old. However, some private schools within the Primary School offer an expanded curriculum for students up to 13 years.

There are both public and private primary schools in England. State ones can be non-religious and religious.

Secondary school

The second stage is secondary school, which children start at 11. Secondary schools are called comprehensive, they are free and take children of all abilities, without entrance exams. There are also grammar schools which take children who pass the 11 plus exams. At 16 pupils take a national exam called GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education or “O” level (Ordinary)) and they can leave school if they wish and start working. This is the end of compulsory education. Some 16-year-olds continue their studies in the 6th form (at school or at a sixth-form college). The 6th form prepares pupils for a national exam called “A” level (advanced) at the age of 18. You need “A” level to enter a university. If you don’t enter a university you can go to college of further education to study more practical things such as hairdressing, typing, cooking etc.

Comprehensive, Grammar and Specialist Schools

The curriculum for any secondary school includes all subjects taught in primary education. Students also have to learn at least one foreign language, take citizenship classes, and attend personal, social and health education.

Moreover, lots of state schools are “specialist schools”. They focus on one or two areas of the curriculum. So, if your children are gifted in math and science, or if they have a special talent for music, it makes sense to choose their secondary school accordingly.

Specialist schools are not to be confused with “special schools”. The latter provide special needs education for children with learning difficulties and other disabilities. If you think that your child requires special needs education, please contact the Independent Parent Special Education Advice Center to make the necessary arrangements.

Basic qualifications: GCSES and diplomas

After three years in secondary school, children are officially assessed by their teachers. Students then need to choose their subjects for the nationwide GCSE exams. GCSEs are mandatory examinations at the end of Year 11, i. e. the students’ fifth year in secondary school.

Students usually have to take tests in English, math, and science and they have to choose classes from the fields of arts, humanities, modern languages, technology, and vocational studies as well.

The new National Diploma focuses on practical training, work experience, and a vocational approach rather than academic studies. It can be taken in around 20 different subjects, such as engineering, IT, or creative and media.

A-level Exams

Most British students usually opt for A-levels rather than a diploma. A-level exams are the main admission requirement for an undergraduate degree at universities in the UK.

Students prepare for their A-levels during Years 12 and 13 in school, the upper secondary stage. For historical reasons and when 16-year-olds have the option to stay at their secondary school for

their A-levels, these two years of education are called “sixth form”, or “lower sixth” and “upper sixth”, in many places.

In Year 12, most students study four subjects of their choice. One of them is completed at the end of that year as an AS level and dropped afterward. The other three subjects lead up to three full A-levels after Year 13. However, some students may choose to complete four A-levels, despite the extra workload.

Assessment for grading a student’s A-levels is based on coursework, written exams, and — in some cases, e. g. art — their practical skills. The selection and number of A-level courses may already influence a student’s success in applying for university. But no matter how impressed the admission office is with a candidate’s academic skills, he or she will only get a “conditional offer” for a place in a degree course, before they receive their final exam results.

Further education

Further education in the United Kingdom is education in addition to that received at secondary school, that is distinct from the higher education offered in universities and other academic institutions. It may be at any level in compulsory secondary education, from entry to higher level qualifications such as awards, certificates, diplomas and other vocational, competency-based qualifications (including those previously known as NVQ/SVQs) through awarding organisations including City and Guilds, Edexcel (BTEC) and OCR. FE colleges may also offer HE qualifications such as HNC, HND, foundation degree or PGCE. The colleges are also a large service provider for apprenticeships where most of the training takes place at the apprentices’ workplace, supplemented with day release into college.

FE in the United Kingdom is usually a means to attain an intermediate, advanced or follow-up qualification necessary to

progress into HE, or to begin a specific career path outside of university education. Further Education is offered to students aged over 16 at colleges of Further Education, through work-based learning, or adult and community learning institutions.

Higher education

After finishing secondary school or college you can apply to a university, polytechnic, college of education or you can continue to study in a college of further education.

The academic year in Britain's universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of education is divided into 3 terms, which usually run from the beginning of October to the middle of December, the middle of January to the end of March, from the middle of April to the end of June or the beginning of July.

There are 46 universities in Britain. The oldest and best-known universities are located in Oxford, Cambridge, London, Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Southampton, Cardiff, Bristol and Birmingham.

Good A-level results in at least 2 subjects are necessary to get a place at a university. However, good exam passes alone are not enough. Universities choose their students after interviews. For all British citizens a place at a university brings with it a grant from their local education authority.

English universities greatly differ from each other. They differ in date of foundation, size, history, tradition, general organization, methods of instruction and way of student life.

After three years of study a university graduate will leave with the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, Science, Engineering, Medicine, etc. Some courses, such as languages and medicine, may be one or two years longer. The degrees are awarded at public degree ceremonies. Later he/she may continue to take Master's Degree and then a Doctor's Degree.

Questions

1. How many parts has the education system in the UK?
2. At what age does primary school education begin?
3. How many years does primary school last?
4. How many levels does primary education have?
5. What types of schools are there in the UK?
6. Can public schools be non-religious and religious?
7. Are there private schools in the UK?
8. When does "Key Stage 1" begin?
9. What levels can have the primary schools?
10. When does "Key Stage 1" end?
11. At what age can children begin secondary school education?
12. What are secondary schools called?
13. What are the conditions for admission?
14. What exam do kids take at 16?
15. Is it compulsory education?
16. What can children do after secondary school?
17. How many examination sessions do students in the secondary school have?
18. When can the student make the transition to college?
19. What should children do to enter the university?
20. What can children study in college?
21. How many foreign languages do students have to learn?
22. What are specialist schools?
23. According to what conditions can children enter to "specialist schools"?
24. When does it make sense to choose the secondary school?
25. On what can "specialist schools" focus?
26. With what could "specialist schools" be confused?

27. Does the Independent Parent Special Education Advice Center exist in the UK?

28. What should children and their parents ask in the Independent Parent Special Education Advice Center?

29. What is the difference between “special schools” and “specialist schools”?

30. What kind of school can provide proper education for children with learning difficulties and other disabilities?

31. How many years do students study in secondary school?

32. What stands for the abbreviation GCSE?

33. In which year of education is the GCSE exams passed?

34. In which grade do students take the exam?

35. What subjects can students take for exams?

36. What kind of tests do students have to take?

37. Do students have optional classes?

38. What kind of additional classes can students choose?

39. What is the focus of the new National Diploma?

40. How many subjects can students have according to the new National Diploma?

41. What is A-level?

42. In which grade do students start preparing for the exam?

43. What is “sixth form” and “upper sixth”?

44. How many subjects can students choose in 12th grade?

45. What happens when students end the 12th grade?

46. Does the student have the right to choose disciplines?

47. What is the exam grade based on?

48. What influences a student’s success in admission?

49. What kind of assessments do students have?

50. What does “conditional offer” mean?

51. What does FE mean?

52. What is further education?
53. What level of education is required for this?
54. What is a college?
55. Why is it important to get further education?
56. At what age can you get further education?
57. What does BTEC stand for?
58. What types of FE are offered?
59. Which qualifications can students receive after FE?
60. Is FE the same as higher education?
61. Where can students go after college?
62. How many trimesters are there in an academic year?
63. How long does each trimester last?
64. How many universities are there in UK?
65. In which cities are the oldest and the most famous universities?
66. What do you need to get into university?
67. Are exam results the most important thing for admission?
68. Why is there an interview?
69. Which degree does a student get after university?
70. Can a graduate obtain a Master's Degree after becoming a Bachelor?

System of education in the UK

Twelve million children attend about 40,000 schools in Britain. Education in Great Britain is compulsory and free for all children between the ages of 5 and 16. There are many children who attend a nursery school from the age of 3, but it is not compulsory. In nursery schools they learn some elementary things such as numbers, colours, and letters. Apart from that, babies play, have lunch and sleep there. Whatever they do, there is always someone keeping an eye on them.

Compulsory education begins at the age of 5 when children go to primary school. Primary education lasts for 6 years. It is divided into two periods: infant schools (pupils from 5 to 7 years old) and junior schools (pupils from 7 to 11 years old). In infant schools children don't have real classes. They mostly play and learn through playing. It is the time when children just get acquainted with the classroom, the blackboard, desks and the teacher. But when pupils are 7, real studying begins. They don't already play so much as they did it in infant school. Now they have real classes, when they sit at desks, read, write and answer the teacher's questions.

Compulsory secondary education begins when children are 11 or 12 and lasts for 5 years. Secondary school is traditionally divided into 5 forms: a form to each year. Children study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Art, Geography, Music, a Foreign language and have lessons of Physical training. Religious education is also provided. English, Mathematics and Science are called "core" subjects. At the age of 7, 11 and 14 pupils take examinations in the core subjects.

There are 3 types of state secondary schools in Great Britain. They are:

- comprehensive schools, which take pupils of all abilities without exams. In such schools pupils are often put into certain sets or groups, which are formed according to their abilities for technical or humanitarian subjects. Almost all senior pupils (around 90 per cent) go there;

- grammar schools, which give secondary education of a very high standard. Entrance is based on the test of ability, usually at 11. Grammar schools are single sexed schools;

- modern schools, which don't prepare pupils for universities. Education in such schools gives good prospects for practical jobs.

After five years of secondary education, at the age of 16, pupils take the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examination. When they are in the third or in the fourth form, they begin to choose their exam subjects and prepare for them.

After finishing the fifth form pupils can make their choice: they may either leave school and go to a Further Education College or continue their education in the sixth form. Those who stay at school after GCSE, study for 2 more years for "A" (Advanced) Level Exams in two or three subjects which is necessary to get a place at one of British universities.

There are also about 500 private schools in Great Britain. Most of these schools are boarding ones, where children live as well as study. Education in such schools is very expensive, that's why only 5 per cent of schoolchildren attend them. Private schools are also called preparatory (for children up to 13 years old) and public schools (for pupils from 13 to 18 years old). Any pupil can enter the best university of the country after leaving this school. The most famous British public schools are Eton, Harrow and Winchester.

After leaving secondary school young people can apply to a university, a polytechnic or a college of further education.

There are 126 universities in Britain. They are divided into 5 types:

- The Old ones, which were founded before the 19th century, such as Oxford and Cambridge;
- The Red Brick, which were founded in the 19th or 20th century;
- The Plate Glass, which were founded in 1960s;
- The Open University It is the only university offering extramural education. Students learn subjects at home and then post ready exercises off to their tutors for marking;

- The New ones. They are former polytechnic academies and colleges.

The best universities, in view of “The Times” and “The Guardian”, are The University of Oxford, The University of Cambridge, London School of Economics, London Imperial College, London University College.

Universities usually select students basing on their A-level results and an interview.

After three years of study a university graduate get the Degree of a Bachelor of Arts, Science or Engineering. Many students then continue their studies for a Master’s Degree and then a Doctor’s Degree (PhD).

Tasks

I. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What subjects do they study at school?
2. When do British boys and girls begin to go to school?
3. What subjects are called “core” subjects?
4. How long does secondary education last?
5. At what age do children have their exams?
6. What are private schools?

II. ASSOCIATE THE NAME OF THE SCHOOLS WITH THE MEANINGS.

Comprehensive schools	Which give secondary education of a very high standard. Entrance is based on the test of ability, usually at 11 Grammar schools are single sexed schools
Grammar schools	Which don’t prepare pupils for universities. Education in such schools gives good prospects for practical jobs

Modern schools	Which take pupils of all abilities without exams. In such schools pupils are often put into certain sets or groups, which are formed according to their abilities for technical or humanitarian subjects. Almost all senior pupils (around 90 %) go there
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III. MARK STATEMENTS AS TRUE OR FALSE.

1. There are 126 universities in Britain.
2. After leaving secondary school young people can apply to a university, a polytechnic or a college of further education.
3. There are 5 types of state secondary schools in Great Britain.
4. Compulsory secondary education begins when children are 13 or 14 and lasts for 7 years.
5. The best universities, in view of "The Times" and "The Guardian", are The University of Oxford, The University of Cambridge, London School of Economics, London Imperial College, London University College.
6. After three years of study a university graduate don't get the Degree of a Bachelor of Arts, Science or Engineering.

IV. FINISH THE SENTENCES.

1. There are also about 500 private schools in Great Britain. Most of these schools are boarding ones...
2. After finishing the fifth form pupils can make their choice...
3. At the age of 7, 11 and 14 pupils take...
4. Education in Great Britain is compulsory and free...
5. In nursery schools they learn some elementary things such as numbers...
6. It is the time when children just get acquainted...

Eton college

Founded in 1440, the boys' school has produced a galaxy of outstanding scientists, politicians and writers. 20 British prime ministers, writers George Orwell, Ian Fleming, scientists such as Robert Boyle and John Smith studied here.

The college is located near the Queen's summer residence, near Windsor, which houses the oldest and largest currently inhabited castle in the world. Members of the royal family live here: it is not surprising that many of her offspring have been studying at Eton for many years. For example, Prince Harry and William are graduates of King's College.

Children study at full board, that is, they spend all their time in school except for vacations. The residence includes 25 houses, each housing up to 50 boys aged 13 - 18 years. The children live in their own rooms, the chef takes care of the varied nutrition of schoolchildren. I must say that the teachers of the college are the best of the best who work and live on the school grounds, and there are only 8 students per teacher.

The college's curriculum is based on the British educational model and includes GCSE courses, A-Level + there is an extracurricular program that includes elite sports and clubs of interest. The sports infrastructure of the college, professional coaches and strict discipline in every way contribute to the comprehensive development of children. A summer program has been developed for schoolchildren who want to spend the summer usefully in one of the most prestigious schools in the world.

The school residence is a real architectural masterpiece: many buildings of Eton date back to the 15th century. They were built on an impressive scale. The construction of the current chapel was completed by the end of the 15th century, and Eton itself became the

home of religious relics. The historical monuments of the school include the library and the oldest classrooms with desks with a 500-year history. A new generation can literally sit at the same table with outstanding ancestors.

The Eton school uniform is known all over the world: it still includes a black tailcoat or a slightly pretentious, old-fashioned jacket, vest, striped trousers and, of course, a tie. Despite the love of traditions, the form is updated from time to time, but the style remains the same. A special item of clothing — a black top hat — is worn by schoolchildren on special occasions.

How much does it cost to study at Eton? The school was founded by King Henry VI in 1440. Initially, Eton was opened with the aim of giving a quality education to 70 poor boys. But today Eton is one of the most expensive schools in the world: the tuition fee will be about 42,000 pounds per year. By the way, there are more expensive institutions in Britain: Eton ranks only 6th in the ranking of the most expensive educational institutions in the country. But the tradition of helping children from low-income families has remained, and today about 70 pupils of the school study at Eton with a big discount or for free.

Despite the fact that funding is of paramount importance for college applicants, the school conducts strict selection and enrolls only children with high results in studies, creativity and sports. However, this criterion is not decisive for the college either.

Test

1. When was the Eton College founded?
A. In 1550. B. In 1660. C. In 1440.

2. What famous people studied there?
 - A. George Orwell, Ian Fleming.
 - B. Chekhov, Pushkin.
 - C. Stephen King, John Fowles.
3. Where is it located?
 - A. Near castle in Scotland.
 - B. Near Cardiff Castle in Wales.
 - C. Near Windsor.
4. How many houses does the residence include?
 - A. 35.
 - B. 25.
 - C. 15.
5. How does Eton's uniform look?
 - A. Red skirts and pants with blue jackets.
 - B. Grey suits.
 - C. A black tailcoat or old-fashioned jacket, vest, striped trousers and a tie.
6. What do the children wear on special occasions?
 - A. A black top hat.
 - B. A red tie.
 - C. Sunglasses.
7. How much does it cost to study at Eton?
 - A. 42,000 pounds per year.
 - B. 66,000 pounds per year.
 - C. 31,000 pound per year.
8. What kind of children does the Eton enroll?
 - A. All children who want to study there.
 - B. Children with high results in studies, creativity and sports.
 - C. Only children of rich people.
9. In what age do the children study there?
 - A. 11-18.
 - B. 11-21.
 - C. 13-18.

10. Where do the teachers live?
 - A. On the school grounds.
 - B. In the village near the college.
 - C. In the nearest city.
11. What gender are the students there?
 - A. Only boys.
 - B. Boys and girls.
 - C. Only girls.
12. Many buildings of Eton date back to the:
 - a) 15th century.
 - b) 11th century.
 - c) 12th century.
13. What money tradition does the Eton have?
 - A. To give money to students who study good.
 - B. To pay you back 10,000 pounds after graduation.
 - C. To help children from low-income families.
14. Who founded this college?
 - A. Queen Elizabeth I.
 - B. King Henry VI.
 - C. Queen Elizabeth II.
15. How many students live in each house?
 - A. 30.
 - B. 40.
 - C. 50.
16. What place does Eton have in the ranking of the most expensive educational institutions in the country?
 - A. 1st.
 - B. 2nd.
 - C. 6th.
17. What was the aim of opening Eton?
 - A. To give a quality education to 70 poor boys.
 - B. To teach royal family.
 - C. To teach children from another country.
18. What members of royal family studied there?
 - A. Karl III.
 - B. George V.
 - C. Prince Harry and William.

19. How many months do the children study there?
A. 3. B. 5. C. All year except vacations.
20. What does the extracurricular program include?
A. Elite sports and clubs of interest.
B. Financial literacy.
C. Programming.

Higher education in Great Britain

History

Higher education in Great Britain began to develop actively in the 12th century. It was then that the universities of Cambridge and Oxford were founded, which continued to be the only ones in England until the beginning of the 19th century. In the Scottish St. Andrews, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Edinburgh, starting from the 15th century, universities also began to be founded.

In the 19th century, the industrial revolution swept the kingdom. It was at this time that the people experienced an urgent need for the training of experienced managers and administrators. Demand creates supply, and now new universities have begun to appear everywhere: in London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester, Bristol, Reading.

After the Second World War, modern universities began to appear in Great Britain, which were supposed to satisfy scientific and technological progress. This is how the “glass” (due to their modernity) universities of Sussex, Nottingham, Exeter, Kiel, Warwick, Essex and Kent arose.

The third great wave of “universitization” came at the end of the 20th century. Then the authorities began to actively convert polytechnic schools into universities.

Higher education is a program of study, after which the student is awarded a degree:

- Bachelor Degree;
- Master Degree;
- Doctoral or PhD Degree.

This is the first stage of higher education, which is assigned to a student of a higher educational institution, subject to the successful completion of three courses. But there are universities, the term of study of which increases this bar to 4 years due to the passage of Sandwich courses — a mandatory industrial practice.

There are 7 types of bachelor's degrees depending on the specialization:

- BA — Bachelor of Arts;
- BEd — Bachelor of Education Sciences;
- EEng — Bachelor of Engineering;
- BSc — Bachelor of Science;
- LLB — Bachelor of Laws;
- BMus — Bachelor of Music;
- VM — Bachelor of Medicine.

Master degree

The second stage is distinguished by a wealth of specializations and directions and is considered postgraduate education.

Depending on the chosen program, students can take a course to improve their knowledge, take a master's program in science and technology, etc.

Here you will have to unlearn after a bachelor's degree for another 1-2 years, attending lectures and practical classes. At the end, each student is required to submit a graduation project, completed in accordance with all the rules, as well as to pass the

GOS. Only in case of successful completion of these tests, the student is awarded a diploma and a master's degree.

In the case of studying under a research program, students work on a diploma throughout their studies. And at the end they are awarded the degree of Master of Philosophy.

PhD degree

The doctoral program will be entirely devoted to research work. Its duration is 2-3 years. At the end, the student needs to publish the results of his work in specialized publications. In addition, he will have to write a dissertation.

If it was possible to successfully cope with all these tasks, student is awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. Degree).

Tuition fees for higher education

Higher education in Great Britain is paid for everyone: both for the British and for foreigners. But for visiting students, education costs more.

British citizens have a unique right to receive higher education on credit. You can give it not immediately, but after receiving a diploma and a successful job. Even a minimum wage of £21,000 a year will help cover the debt.

Every year, numerous services and publications conduct their own research, as a result of which you can find out the rating of both a particular educational institution of interest and the education system of a particular country.

Great Britain traditionally occupies the highest places in these university rankings (1, 2 or 3 positions).

Features of higher education in Great Britain

British universities differ from others in their isolation and independence. In fact, these are separate towns that have everything: cafes, museums, laundries, ATMs, post office, parks, sports clubs and other institutions necessary for a comfortable life. The university does not require the infrastructure of the city in which it is located. Some universities are located far from cities and are literally separate settlements, which are called rural campuses.

In British universities, the system of student unions and societies is very developed. The vast majority of students are members of some club of interest. Some clubs operate not only within one university, but also at the regional or national levels. Large clubs receive funding from the university, and their members are provided with discounts on food, travel or use of libraries.

Teachers in British universities communicate with students simply, on an equal footing. They do not make comments, do not educate, do not force students to learn. They recognize the right of students not to attend classes and to decide for themselves how and when to study. Students make their own schedule. There are no strictness and checks at the seminars: students just talk with the teacher on various topics, perform small tasks, but do not receive grades.

High requirements for final papers

But teachers have strict requirements for major papers during the semester and exams. British students do not have the opportunity to retake the exam several times. Teachers are especially tough on plagiarism. Any abstract or report should be an independent, creative work. No retellings, let alone works downloaded from the Internet — only my own reflections and

conclusions. Technical equipment and excellent libraries at universities provide all the conditions for such education.

Questions

1. In what century did higher education in Britain begin to develop?

2. What were the first universities in the UK?

3. Why did new universities start to appear in the country?

4. How many waves of “universitization” were there in the Great Britain?

5. What awaits a student after completing higher education? How can it be confirmed?

6. What is a bachelor’s degree?

7. Define the term “Sandwich courses”

8. How many types of bachelor’s degrees are there?

9. What is the difference between bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees?

10. Can the British get an education on credit? Explain how it goes.

11. What place do British universities take in the world rankings every year?

12. How are British universities different from others?

13. What bonuses do students in student unions receive?

14. Are students allowed to choose which classes to attend and do they receive grades for seminars?

15. What is special about teaching in British universities?

16. Can students retake the exam if they fail?

17. How many years after a bachelor’s degree do students need to study to get a master’s degree?

18. When did modern universities first appear in the UK?

19. What is the duration of the doctoral program?
20. Name the most popular universities of Great Britain.

Queen Elizabeth's School (Grammar school)

Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet is a boys' grammar school in Barnet, northern Greater London, which was founded in 1573 by Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester, and others, in the name of Queen Elizabeth I. In 1573 Queen Elizabeth I granted a charter which led to the founding of the school. 450 years later, The Sunday Times has officially ranked it as the nation's top-performing state school by exam results. Almost 86 % of pupils achieved grades 8 or 9 at GCSE. In 2022, the school sent 35 boys to Oxford and Cambridge universities on completion of their A-LEVELS. The school also holds the best Progress 8 result in the country, at 1.08. This means that pupils achieve a whole grade higher at GCSE than predicted based on their primary school attainment.

While QE Boys, Barnet is an incredibly selective grammar school, it is not a fee-paying school. It is free for your son to attend this school.

Admission to the school is based only on the results of entrance exams. Two entrance exams — one in mathematics and one in English — are held on the same day. The school has a fairly high competition for admission — in 2017, about 1,900 boys were registered to take exams at the school. Only about 180 of them received seats.

Students of the school take the following subjects: English, mathematics, exact sciences, French and German, history, geography, religion and society, Latin, economics, music, fine arts, technology and design, theater studies, physical education.

There are many clubs in the school. Young musicians of the school can go to ensembles that attract fans of different musical genres. Concerts are held at the school on a regular basis. There are also many opportunities for aspiring actors to perform on stage and develop their skills in a drama club or in wonderful school productions. At lunchtime there are clubs in addition to the school curriculum, as well as a chess club, a cadet corps and oratory. The school also organizes many trips.

The school is also actively involved in sports. Years 7 and 8 have three hours of games and physical education each week, and Years 9-11 students have 2.5 hours in total. The QE school has many sports clubs and sections. Boys of any age can take part in rugby, cricket, athletic competitions, swimming and water polo. In most cases, the sections work more than once a week. In addition, the school has tennis, rowing and running sections.

The school has its own traditions that have remained until now. The name of every head boy of the school is written on two boards in the school's main hall.

Each house has its own colour, represented by coloured stripes for the corresponding house on ties. The colours used to be on the boys' caps, but these are no longer worn.

Different "colours" ties are used to denote achievement or position, e. g. school prefects can be identified with their ties which are patterned with thick light-blue stripes, with the addition of a School logo for senior prefects.

Queen Elizabeth's School is divided into six houses, named after famous old boys, patrons and former teachers. In years 7 to 10, there are six tutor groups per year, one per house. They are named by the academic year and the first letter of the house, for example year 10 students in Underne belong to the tutor group 10 U. Students

stay in the same tutor groups as they progress during these four years. In year 11, each tutor group is split into two, and the number 1 or 2 is added to the tutor group name. For example, 10 U is split into 11 U1 and 11 U2. In years 12 and 13, the tutor groups are much smaller and run alphabetically instead. One year takes letters A-J and the other K-T, and the letter stays the same for both years e. g. 12 I becomes 13 I the next year.

The Founder's Day, and the preceding service of celebration at St John the Baptist's Church, Barnet, is the largest cultural event in the school calendar. It is held every year, regardless of weather, on the third Saturday in June, and celebrates the founding of the school in 1573. All Year 7 students must attend the service in full uniform. The governors also attend, as do most teachers, in academic dress with gowns.

Queen Elizabeth's School is a great place to get the best education in England. This school provides an opportunity for admission to the University of dreams

Test

1. In what year was the school founded?
A. 1573. B. 1682. C. 1575.
2. Who founded the school?
A. Queen Elizabeth.
B. Robert Dudley.
C. George VI.
3. What exam do pupils need to take to get into school?
A. The Eleven-Plus.
B. The Ten-Plus.
C. The Eleven-Plus.

4. How much should parents pay per year at Queen Elizabeth's School?
- A. 38,581 pounds.
 - B. 9,875 ponds.
 - C. It is not a fee-paying school.
5. How is admission to the school carried out?
- A. It depends only on the achievements in the last school.
 - B. Only on the results of entrance exams.
 - C. From the final score in the last school.
6. What entrance exams do pupils need to take?
- A. History and Mathematics.
 - B. Exact Sciences and English.
 - C. Mathematics and English.
7. How many boys got places in school after the entrance exams?
- A. About 180.
 - B. About 135.
 - C. About 170.
8. What subjects are studied at school?
- A. Only scientific subjects.
 - B. Only humanities subjects.
 - C. Subjects are very diverse from science to design and theater studies.
9. How often are concerts and performances held at the school?
- A. Sometimes.
 - B. Never.
 - C. On a regular basis.
10. What time do the clubs work in addition to the school curriculum?
- A. In the morning.
 - B. At lunchtime.
 - C. In the evening.

11. How much time is allocated for sports games in grades 7 and 8?
- A. 4 hours a week.
 - B. 3 hours a week.
 - C. 6 hours a week.
12. How much time is allocated for sports games in grades 9 and 11?
- A. 3.5 hours a week.
 - B. 2.5 hours a week.
 - C. 1.5 hours a week.
13. How often do school sections work?
- A. More than one time a week.
 - B. Once a week.
 - C. Twice a week.
14. Where are the names of all school principals recorded?
- A. In the principal's office.
 - B. On the school building.
 - C. On two boards of fame in the main hall of the school.
15. What are the colors of each of the houses depicted on?
- A. On ties.
 - B. On shirts.
 - C. On caps.
16. What are colored ties used for?
- A. Year of study.
 - B. To indicate achievements or positions.
 - C. Sports clubs.
17. What is the color of school prefects' ties?
- A. In a thick light blue stripe.
 - B. In a thick light green stripe.
 - C. In a thick light red stripe.

18. How many groups of tutors is a group divided into in the 11th grade?
A. 3 groups. B. 4 groups. C. 2 groups.
19. How are groups of tutors designated in grades 12 - 13?
A. Using capital letters of the English alphabet.
B. Using capital letters of the Greek alphabet.
C. Using Roman numerals.
20. What is the name of the biggest cultural event in the school calendar?
A. Graduation ball.
B. The Founder's Day.
C. Thanksgiving day.

Primary education in Great Britain

Primary education in Great Britain is compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 and 11. This period is crucial for the development of children's knowledge, skills, and attitudes. The education system in Great Britain is divided into four stages, with primary education being the first stage.

The curriculum is broad and balanced, covering subjects such as English, mathematics, science, history, geography, art, music, physical education, and computing. The aim is to provide children with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills that they can build upon as they progress through their education.

Primary education in Great Britain is free for all children and is provided by both state schools and private schools. State schools are funded by the government and follow the National Curriculum. The National Curriculum is a set of subjects and standards that all state schools in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland must follow.

Private schools, on the other hand, charge fees and are not required to follow the National Curriculum.

Primary schools in Great Britain are often divided into key stages, with Key Stage 1 covering the first two years of primary education (ages 5–7) and Key Stage 2 covering the next four years (ages 7–11). At the end of Key Stage 2, children take national tests in English and mathematics, known as the Key Stage 2 SATs, to assess their attainment and progress.

In addition to the core subjects, primary education also places a strong emphasis on the development of social and emotional skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. Children are encouraged to work together, share their ideas, and respect each other's differences. Schools may offer a range of extra-curricular activities, such as sports clubs and music lessons, to support children's personal development and interests.

Overall, primary education in Great Britain is designed to provide children with a strong foundation of knowledge and skills, while also nurturing their personal and social development. With its focus on both academic and social development, primary education in Great Britain prepares children to become confident, well-rounded individuals who are ready to take on the challenges of the future.

Test

1. At what age does primary education begin in Great Britain?
A. 3. B. 4. C. 5. D. 6.
2. How long is primary education compulsory for in Great Britain?
A. 2 years. B. 4 years. C. 6 years. D. 8 years.

3. What subjects are covered in primary education in Great Britain?

A. English, mathematics, science, history, geography, art, music, physical education, and computing.

B. English, mathematics, science, history, geography, and art.

C. English, mathematics, science, and history.

D. English and mathematics only.

4. At what age do children take national tests in English and mathematics in Great Britain?

A. 5.

B. 7.

C. 9.

D. 11.

5. What are the national tests in English and mathematics called in Great Britain?

A. Key Stage 1 SATs.

B. Key Stage 2 SATs.

C. Key Stage 3 SATs.

D. Key Stage 4 SATs.

6. What is the aim of primary education in Great Britain?

A. To provide children with a strong foundation of knowledge and skills.

B. To prepare children for university.

C. To help children find a job.

D. To teach children how to socialize.

7. What is Key Stage 1 in primary education in Great Britain?

A. The first four years of primary education.

B. The first two years of primary education.

C. The last four years of primary education.

D. The last two years of primary education.

8. What is Key Stage 2 in primary education in Great Britain?

A. The first four years of primary education.

B. The first two years of primary education.

C. The last four years of primary education.

D. The last two years of primary education.

9. What extra-curricular activities might primary schools offer in Great Britain?

- A. Sports clubs and music lessons.
- B. Cooking classes and art workshops.
- C. Drama productions and dance classes.
- D. All of the above.

10. What is the purpose of extra-curricular activities in primary education in Great Britain?

- A. To support children's personal development and interests.
- B. To improve children's grades.
- C. To teach children a new skill.
- D. To give children something to do after school.

11. What are some social and emotional skills that primary education in Great Britain aims to develop?

- A. Teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.
- B. Reading, writing, and arithmetic.
- C. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- D. History, geography, and art.

12. What age range does Key Stage 2 cover in primary education in Great Britain?

- A. Ages 3-7.
- B. Ages 5-7.
- C. Ages 7-11.
- D. Ages 11-14.

13. Are primary schools in Great Britain free or do parents have to pay for them?

- A. They are free.
- B. Parents have to pay for them.
- C. It depends on the school.
- D. Only some subjects are free.

14. What is the purpose of national tests in primary education in Great Britain?

A. To assess children's attainment and progress.

B. To determine which children can progress to secondary education.

C. To evaluate the effectiveness of the primary education system.

D. To provide children with a sense of accomplishment.

15. What is the name of the computing subject in primary education in Great Britain?

A. Computer science.

B. Information technology.

C. Computer skills.

D. Digital literacy.

16. What is the main focus of primary education in Great Britain?

A. To provide children with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills.

B. To prepare children for the workplace.

C. To teach children how to be independent.

D. To develop children's artistic abilities.

17. What age range do Key Stage 1 cover in primary education in Great Britain?

A. Ages 3-7.

B. Ages 5-7.

C. Ages 7-11.

D. Ages 11-14.

18. What subjects are included in the Key Stage 2 SATs in Great Britain?

A. English and mathematics.

B. English, mathematics, and science.

C. English, mathematics, science, and history.

D. English, mathematics, science, history, and geography.

19. What is the role of extra-curricular activities in primary education in Great Britain?

- A. To support children's personal and social development.
- B. To improve children's academic performance.
- C. To provide children with a break from academic studies.
- D. To give children something to do after school.

20. What is the aim of the Key Stage 2 SATs in primary education in Great Britain?

- A. To assess children's attainment and progress in English and Mathematics.
- B. To determine which children can progress to secondary education.
- C. To evaluate the effectiveness of the primary education system.
- D. To provide children with a sense of accomplishment.

Private Boarding Schools in the UK

Independent schools in the United Kingdom are a relatively small group of institutions that offer children paid secondary education. It does not depend on the state system for funding and management. In the 18th century, the reputation of the best educational institutions spread beyond the surrounding counties: they began to accept students whose



education. It does not depend on the state system for funding and management. In the 18th century, the reputation of the best educational institutions spread beyond the surrounding counties: they began to accept students whose

parents could afford the living expenses that became almost an integral part of prestigious education.

The typical large private schools — Eton, Harrow, Winchester, Westminster, Rugby, Shrewsbury or Charterhouse — developed from benevolent institutions during the late Middle Ages or the Renaissance. Such charitable foundations were intended to educate local boys from relatively modest families. From about the 17th century, members of the aristocracy and wealthy families began to take advantage of the education provided by private schools.

They were converted into boarding schools, although some, such as St. Paul's or Merchant Taylors' remained daytime, and most took both day students and boarders. Private schools have become the main platform for preparing students to enter the leading English universities — Oxford, Cambridge — for public service. The curriculum from the moment of its foundation emphasized the Greek and Roman classics, attention to sports disciplines began to be paid from the 1830s.

From the end of the 19th century, a number of public schools for girls were founded, as well as religious and other specialized schools.

The influence of British private boarding schools has historically been enormous, given the decisive role of the class code of behavior, speech, appearance. Private school graduates set the standard for behavior in official Britain from the early 19th century to the mid-20th century.



After the end of the Second World War, the style and content of teaching in private schools changed as they consciously sought to become part of the wider world, to establish various connections with public schools.

Test

1. What kind of education do UK Independent Schools offer?
 - A. Free higher education.
 - B. Paid secondary education.
 - C. Free secondary education.
2. In what ways are these schools independent of the state system?
 - A. Financing and management.
 - B. Education.
 - C. Upbringing.
3. In what century did the reputation of the best educational institutions spread beyond the borders of the nearest counties?
 - A. 15.
 - B. 18.
 - C. 19.
4. Which of the following schools is not a typical large private school?
 - A. Eton.
 - B. Charterhouse.
 - C. Oxford.
5. How did the institutions develop in the period of the late Middle Ages or the Renaissance?
 - A. Public funding.
 - B. Charity.
 - C. Church donations.
6. Who could study in such schools?
 - A. Only boys.
 - B. Only girls.
 - C. Girls and boys.

7. Since when did the aristocracy and wealthy families begin to take advantage of the education provided by private schools?
A. 15. B. 16. C. 17.
8. Which of the following schools remained day schools?
A. Harrow.
B. Winchester.
C. Merchant Taylors'.
9. In which universities have private schools become the main platform for preparing students for admission?
A. America.
B. Great Britain.
C. European countries.
10. What has the curriculum focused on since its inception?
A. Greek classics.
B. Roman classics.
C. Greek and Roman classics.
11. In what year did the private schools start paying attention to sports disciplines?
A. Since the 1830s.
B. Since the 1840s.
C. Since the 1860s.
12. In which university could graduates of private schools enter the public service?
A. Cambridge University.
B. University of London.
C. Westminster University.
13. Since the end of what century were a number of public schools for girls established?
A. 17. B. 18. C. 19.

14. What was the impact of British private boarding schools?
A. Slight. B. Huge. C. Small.
15. Which of the following was not included in the class code?
A. Behavior and speech.
B. Appearance.
C. Academic progress.
16. Since when did private school graduates set the standard of behavior for official Britain?
A. From the beginning of the 19th century to the middle of the 20th century.
B. From the beginning of the 20th century to the middle of the 21st century.
C. From the beginning of the 18th century to the middle of the 19th century.
17. What caused the change in the style and content of education in private schools?
A. End of World War II.
B. Reforms.
C. Desire to be part of the wider world.
18. When did the changes in private schools take place?
A. After the end of World War II.
B. After the end of World War I.
C. After the end of the civil war.
19. With which schools have private schools begun to establish various connections?
A. Church schools.
B. Public schools.
C. Foreign schools.
20. Where did private schools first appear?
A. UK. B. America. C. France.

Interesting and odd rules at the University of Oxford

Organisations across the world adopt unique and interesting historical practices that define their image and brand in wider society. Arcane procedures and sometimes strange rules have endowed in particular institutions with a rich culture; and, in the case of learning institutions, with a long history of eccentricity. These are usually associated with exciting and odd rules. The University of Oxford is one of the high learning institutions that is very much characterized by exciting, yet unfamiliar, historical associations. So if you are being enrolled at the University of Oxford, here are a few fascinating examples of these rules and practices which most likely are unknown to you.

Hall attire

Among the interesting facts associated with the University of Oxford are the rigid hall rules unknown to most universities around the world, whereby students must wear formal attire on certain days and occasions when attending dining halls. While the norm is casual wear in other universities, Oxford has a rule obliging students to appear in formal attire for three meals in every week (mainly on a Thursday). The rule impresses by the fresh atmosphere it brings to the dining hall compared to the chaotic environment usually experienced in most universities' dining halls across the world. This tradition has, in fact, been instrumental in instilling positive discipline among Oxford students.

Class times

The class time arrangement at Oxford is another interesting historical phenomenon. While in most universities classes are expected to start at 9:00 am, and students are expected to be in class seated and prepared for the lecture by 9:00 am, class times at the

University of Oxford have been adjusted by an additional five minutes and start at 9:05 am. The rule derives from Oxford's tradition of adjusting its time backward by five minutes and two seconds against the Greenwich Mean Time. The special class attendance time rule applied at Oxford has exposed students from elsewhere to new habits in managing their learning schedules. So, if you run five minutes late, don't worry, you will be right on time for when class starts!

Swearing rules

The University of Oxford also has an interesting tradition of requiring new students to swear an oath against lighting fires or bringing fire inside the world-famous Bodleian Library. This requirement is symptomatic of the value the University places on its cherished Bodleian Library. This ineluctable rule, applying only to the Bodleian, gives both international and home students an interest and a particular respect and admiration in learning the role that the Bodleian Library has played in shaping the modern University of Oxford.

Walking on the grass

Oxford has another hallowed rule prohibiting students from stepping on the grass in quadrangles. The green and lush lawns of the colleges you observe are due to the policy Oxford has maintained for centuries of allowing only professors to step on the grass. Everyone else is obliged to keep walking along the concrete path, even when talking to a professor who may be walking through the grass. The rule is indeed an odd one since it creates a certain one-upmanship between the professors and other teaching and supporting staff, as well as students. The free rein that Oxford professors enjoy wandering on the grass truly puts them "in a class of their own"!

Debates

Additionally, Oxford supports the unusual practice of confrontational or hostile debates between students seeking school office. Such debates, which can readily extend into personal calumnies and insults, are not for the faint-hearted, but their objective is to increase the resilience of the candidates for their future lives and careers. It is rather unusual for political debate in most institutions around the world to allow comments that are personal and sometimes quite offensive between candidates as it can be damaging or demeaning for sensitive candidates to undergo such aggression. But, for Oxford, there are no substitutes in the identification of robust and confident candidates and only those should seek school office.

All Souls

The enrolment requirement at All Souls College, which is one of the most prestigious colleges at Oxford, is probably the oddest rule applied at Oxford. All Souls College enrolls a dozen students at a time using one of the strangest and most difficult entrance exams. Applicants are given a one-word essay topic which has one vague word. The enigmatic word is expected to generate a lengthy and well-written essay. Equally, All Souls College has a separate odd rule requiring the performance of the Mallard Song once in a century. The performance of Mallard songs is a bizarre occasion in which an individual dressed as Lord Mallard is carried sitting on a chair. It is unclear when the next Mallard performance is due but, if you happen to experience one, then do know that this is once in a century occasion!

Pennying

Invented by Oxford students sometime in the 14th century, “pennying” is a game of drinking and slipping a penny to someone

else's drink without them noticing. If you succeed in doing so, the person that has been "pennied" must drink down to the bottom the drink they are holding, with or without swallowing the coin...

Town vs gown

Among the 39 colleges of the University of Oxford, there are many rivalries. A very famous one is that between Brasenose College and Lincoln College which dates back to the 13th century. During the known Town vs Gown riots that took place then, two Oxford students (one from Brasenose College and one from Lincoln College) were chased by angry town residents until they came to the door of Lincoln College, which only allowed in its own student, leaving the other one to be beaten by the town residents. In a sign of remorse, on Ascension Day each year, the students of Lincoln College open an inter-connecting door between the two colleges and serve beer to Brasenose College students.

Final-year conventions and the colour-coded carnations

The culture of wearing white ties during exams is another interesting habit at Oxford. The final-year students have a tendency of wearing white ties during their final-year exam as well as an optional carnation. For your first exam at Oxford, you can pin on your academic wear a white carnation and move onto a pink carnation during your interim exams; and finally pin on a red carnation during your final exam to also signify the freedom that is to come! On a similar theme, trashing of final exam papers is sometimes adopted as an act of defiance and another expression of liberation.

Despite their eccentricity, all these rules and traditions no doubt make the University of Oxford an even more special place to enjoy as a student or a visitor.

Tasks

I. GIVE SYNONYMS TO THE FOLLOWING WORDS.

1. Arcane -
2. Eccentricity -
3. Attire -
4. To instill -
5. Ineluctable -
6. Hallowed -
7. Hostile -
8. Calumny -
9. Objective (n) -
10. Robust -

II. READ THE STATEMENTS AND SAY WHETHER THEY ARE TRUE OR FALSE.

1. Oxford students must wear formal attire every day.
2. The rule of wearing a uniform made Oxford students more disciplined.
3. Oxford students need to be ready for class 5 minutes later compared to other universities.
4. Oxford used to adjust its time backward by exactly 5 minutes against the Greenwich Mean Time.
5. New Oxford students must swear that they won't light fire within the walls of the university.
6. Bodleian library has played a crucial role in the history of Oxford.
7. No one is allowed to step on grass at Oxford.
8. All Oxford students hate professors who walk on grass.
9. According to the text, only resilient and confident students are allowed to go to school office.

10. Insults and offensive personal comments are an everyday norm of communication at Oxford.

11. Once in 100 years a performance of the Mallard Songs takes place at Oxford.

12. When entering the University of Oxfords, students must write an essay given one word as a prompt.

13. If a student becomes the victim of “pennyng”, he or she must finish the drink.

14. Pennyng is the oldest tradition of Oxford.

15. The fight between Brasenose College and Lincoln College continues to this day.

16. All students are required to wear a white tie and a carnation during the final-year exam.

III. CONNECT THE BEGINNING AND THE ENDING OF THE SENTENCES.

1. The culture of wearing white ties during exams	a) of confrontational or hostile debates between students seeking school office.
2. On Ascension Day each year	b) brings the fresh atmosphere to the dining hall.
3. All Souls College	c) has played an important role in shaping the modern University of Oxford.
4. Oxford supports the unusual practice	d) among the 39 colleges of the University of Oxford.
5. Unlike the professors, students of the colleges	e) the students of Lincoln College serve beer to Brasenose College students.
6. There are rivalries	f) is another interesting historical phenomenon at Oxford, allowing the students to come 5 minutes later.
7. The famous Bodleian Library	g) is another interesting habit at Oxford.
8. The class time arrangement	h) is one of the most prestigious colleges at Oxford.
9. Wearing formal attire	i) are obliged to walk along the concrete path.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IV. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.

1. What is "one-upmanship"?

A. It is a practice of outdoing or keeping one jump ahead of someone else.

B. It is a situation when someone does something to prove they are lower than someone else.

C. It is a practice of walking on the lawn in order to show that you are a professor.

2. What is "a school office"?

A. It is the main classroom of the school.

B. It is the administrative functional unit of the school, where the principal resides.

C. It is the principal's cabinet.

3. What is "the Greenwich Mean Time"?

A. It is the old time that was historically used as the standard time throughout the world.

B. It is the time standard only used by the British people.

C. It is the time associated with the prime meridian of Greenwich, England.

4. What is "the Mallard Song"?

A. It is an ancient tradition of each Oxford college, during which a person playing Lord Mallard is carried in a chair.

B. It is a song which is sung during the peculiar ceremony at All Souls College once in a century.

C. It is an old traditional song which is sung every year at All Souls College.

V. INSERT THE RIGHT PREPOSITIONS.

1. The rule impresses ___ the fresh atmosphere it brings to the dining hall.

2. The enrolment requirement ___ All Souls College is the oddest rule applied ___ Oxford.

3. Class times at the University of Oxford have been adjusted ___ an additional five minutes ___ the Greenwich Mean Time.

4. "Pennying" is a game of drinking and slipping a penny ___ someone else's drink.

5. This tradition has been instrumental ___ instilling positive discipline among the students.

6. This requirement is symptomatic ___ the value the University places ___ its cherished Bodleian Library.

7. There are no substitutes ___ the identification of robust and confident candidates ___ Oxford.

8. ___ a sign of remorse, the students of Lincoln College serve beer ___ Brasenose College students ___ Ascension Day

9. The University of Oxford is characterized ___ exciting, yet unfamiliar, historical associations.

VI. DISCUSS IN PAIRS.

Which rule of the Oxford University do you find the most fascinating and why?

Which rule or tradition is, in your opinion, the strangest / the most dangerous / the most unacceptable / the most outdated / the most meaningful and why?

University of Aberdeen

The University of Aberdeen is a public research university located in Aberdeen, Scotland. It was founded in 1495, making it the

third oldest university in Scotland and the fifth oldest in the UK. The University of Aberdeen has a reputation for academic excellence and is consistently ranked in the top 200 universities in the world.

It was established by William Elphinstone, the Bishop of Aberdeen, with the purpose of training clergy and providing education to the wider community. Over the centuries, the university has played a significant role in Scottish and British intellectual history, producing many notable alumni and scholars.

The University of Aberdeen offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs across its three colleges: Arts and Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Medicine, and Physical Sciences. The university has a strong focus on research and has been designated as a “Research-Intensive” institution by the Scottish Funding Council.

The university’s academic departments are highly regarded in their respective fields, with notable strengths in areas such as Archaeology, Business, Law, and Medicine. The university is also home to several research centers, including the Institute of Medical Sciences, the Institute of Applied Health Sciences, and the Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health.

The University of Aberdeen has a vibrant student community, with over 14,000 students from more than 120 countries studying at the university. The university offers a wide range of clubs and societies, including sports clubs, cultural societies, and academic societies. The university’s student union, known as AUSA, is very active and organizes a variety of events throughout the academic year.

The University of Aberdeen has a main campus located in Old Aberdeen, which is situated to the north of the city center. The campus is spread across several buildings, some of which date back

to the university's early history. One of the most striking buildings on campus is King's College, which was built in the 15th century and is a fine example of Gothic architecture. The campus also includes modern buildings, such as the Sir Duncan Rice Library, which opened in 2012 and is one of the largest academic libraries in the UK.

The university has a number of facilities for students, including several libraries, a sports center, and a student hub. The student hub is a central space for students to study, socialize, and access support services. The university also provides on-campus accommodation for students, with a range of options available to suit different budgets and preferences.

The University of Aberdeen has a strong commitment to internationalization and attracts students and staff from all over the world. The university has partnerships with institutions in many countries, and offers a range of study abroad and exchange programs. In addition, the university has a number of initiatives to support international students, such as a pre-sessional English course and a dedicated international student support team.

The University of Aberdeen is committed to sustainability and has implemented a range of measures to reduce its environmental impact. For example, the university has a target to reduce its carbon emissions by 50 % by 2030 and has invested in renewable energy sources, such as wind turbines and solar panels. The university also has a number of initiatives to encourage sustainable behavior among staff and students, such as promoting cycling and reducing waste.

The University of Aberdeen is highly regarded both nationally and internationally. It is consistently ranked in the top 200 universities in the world by several ranking organizations, including the QS World University Rankings and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. In addition, the university has received

several accolades for its research, including being ranked 5th in the UK for research impact in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework.

The University of Aberdeen is a prestigious institution with a strong academic reputation and a vibrant student community. With its focus on research, excellent facilities, and wide range of degree programs, the university offers an excellent educational experience for students from around the world.

Test

1. When was the University of Aberdeen founded?
A. 1395. B. 1495. C. 1595. D. 1695.
2. What was the purpose of establishing the University of Aberdeen?
A. Providing education to the wider community.
B. Training lawyers.
C. Training soldiers.
D. Training doctors.
3. In which three colleges does the University of Aberdeen offer undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs?
A. Science, Engineering, and Technology.
B. Arts and Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Medicine, and Physical Sciences.
C. Law, Business, and Economics.
D. Humanities, Education, and Psychology.
4. What designation has the University of Aberdeen been given by the Scottish Funding Council?
A. Research-Extensive. B. Research-Intensive.
C. Teaching-Extensive. D. Teaching-Intensive.

12. What is the University of Aberdeen's commitment to internationalization?

- A. It doesn't accept international students.
- B. It has partnerships with institutions in many countries.
- C. It offers no study abroad or exchange programs.
- D. It offers no support services for international students.

13. What is the student hub?

A. Is a central space for students to study, socialize, and access support services.

- B. Is a central space for students to relax.
- C. It's a canteen.
- D. It's a bar.

14. What study abroad and exchange programs does the University of Aberdeen offer?

- A. None.
- B. Only exchange programs.
- C. Only study abroad programs.
- D. Both exchange and study abroad programs.

15. Does the University of Aberdeen offer a pre-sessional English course for international students?

- A. Yes.
- B. No.

16. How does the University of Aberdeen support international students?

- A. It offers no support services for international students.
- B. It offers a pre-sessional English course and a dedicated international student support team.
- C. It offers only a pre-sessional English course.
- D. It offers only a dedicated international student support team.

17. What are some of the ranking organizations that consistently rank the University of Aberdeen among the top 200 universities in the world?

- A. QS World University Rankings.
- B. Times Higher Education World University Rankings.
- C. Both A and B.
- D. Neither A nor B.

18. In which year was the Research Excellence Framework conducted?

- A. 2012.
- B. 2013.
- C. 2014.
- D. 2015.

19. What accolade did the University of Aberdeen receive for its research in the Research Excellence Framework?

- A. 1st in the UK for research impact.
- B. 2nd in the UK for research impact.
- C. 3rd in the UK for research impact.
- D. 5th in the UK for research impact.

20. What is one of the initiatives implemented by the University of Aberdeen to encourage sustainable behavior among staff and students?

- A. Encouraging the use of cars to reduce travel time.
- B. Promoting cycling.
- C. Encouraging the use of single-use plastics.
- D. Discouraging recycling.

Education in the United Kingdom

To date, education in the UK is usually divided into 4 main stages:

1. Primary school = 5-11 years old.
2. Secondary school = 11-16 years old.

3. Further education (Further / Tertiary education) = 16-18 years old.

4. Higher education = 18 years and older.

State educational institutions are divided into the following types:

- General education (designed in particular for children whose families live in close proximity to the campus).

- Partially selective (proximity of family residence is also taken into account, but some students get in as a result of successful testing).

- Gymnasiums (all students are recruited based on test results: exams are offered in mathematics, verbal and non-verbal logic, all applicants write essays).

- Church (intended for believing parishioners, for several years before applying and enrolling regularly attending masses).

- Boarding schools (take into account the place of residence of the child and its proximity to the campus, as well as the personal characteristics of the student; parents pay for accommodation, but the educational program is funded by the state).

According to statistics, gymnasiums are considered the best secondary schools among state schools, which causes quite strong competition among applicants (an average of 10 people per place).

Twelve million children attend about 40.000 schools in Britain. Education in Great Britain is compulsory and free for all children between the ages of 5 and 16. There are many children who attend a nursery school from the age of 3, but it is not compulsory. In nursery schools they learn some elementary things such as numbers, colours, and letters. Apart from that, babies play, have lunch and sleep there. Whatever they do, there is always someone keeping an eye on them.

Compulsory education begins at the age of 5 when children go to primary school. Primary education lasts for 6 years. It is divided into two periods: infant schools (pupils from 5 to 7 years old) and junior schools (pupils from 7 to 11 years old). In infant schools children don't have real classes. They mostly play and learn through playing. It is the time when children just get acquainted with the classroom, the blackboard, desks and the teacher. But when pupils are 7, real studying begins. They don't already play so much as they did it in infant school. Now they have real classes, when they sit at desks, read, write and answer the teacher's questions.

Compulsory secondary education begins when children are 11 or 12 and lasts for 5 years. Secondary school is traditionally divided into 5 forms: a form to each year. Children study English, Mathematics, Science, History, Art, Geography, Music, a Foreign language and have lessons of Physical training. Religious education is also provided. English, Mathematics and Science are called "core" subjects. At the age of 7, 11 and 14 pupils take examinations in the core subjects.

There are 3 types of state secondary schools in Great Britain. They are:

1) comprehensive schools, which take pupils of all abilities without exams. In such schools pupils are often put into certain sets or groups, which are formed according to their abilities for technical or humanitarian subjects. Almost all senior pupils (around 90 %) go there;

2) grammar schools, which give secondary education of a very high standard. Entrance is based on the test of ability, usually at 11. Grammar schools are single sexed schools;

3) modern schools, which don't prepare pupils for universities. Education in such schools gives good prospects for practical jobs.

After five years of secondary education, at the age of 16, pupils take the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examination. When they are in the third or in the fourth form, they begin to choose their exam subjects and prepare for them.

After finishing the fifth form pupils can make their choice: they may either leave school and go to a Further Education College or continue their education in the sixth form. Those who stay at school after GCSE, study for 2 more years for "A" (Advanced) Level Exams in two or three subjects which is necessary to get a place at one of British universities.

There are also about 500 private schools in Great Britain. Most of these schools are boarding ones, where children live as well as study. Education in such schools is very expensive, that's why only 5 per cent of schoolchildren attend them. Private schools are also called preparatory (for children up to 13 years old) and public schools (for pupils from 13 to 18 years old). Any pupil can enter the best university of the country after leaving this school. The most famous British public schools are Eton, Harrow and Winchester.

After leaving secondary school young people can apply to a university, a polytechnic or a college of further education.

There are 126 universities in Britain. They are divided into 5 types:

- The Old ones, which were founded before the 19th century, such as Oxford and Cambridge.
- The Red Brick, which were founded in the 19th or 20th century.
- The Plate Glass, which were founded in 1960s.
- The Open University It is the only university offering extramural education. Students learn subjects at home and then post ready exercises off to their tutors for marking.

- The New ones. They are former polytechnic academies and colleges.

The best universities, in view of “The Times” and “The Guardian”, are The University of Oxford, The University of Cambridge, London School of Economics, London Imperial College, London University College.

Universities usually select students basing on their A-level results and an interview.

After three years of study a university graduate get the Degree of a Bachelor of Arts, Science or Engineering. Many students then continue their studies for a Master’s Degree and then a Doctor’s Degree (PhD).

Grades in elementary school

When receiving reports on the progress of elementary school students, parents often experience difficulties — it is not clear whether the child is studying well enough? There is a lot of information, but the wording is vague, there is no clear understanding of how things actually are. As a result of the 2016 educational reform, each school in the UK has the right to establish its own assessment systems for Year 1 — Year 6 students. In most schools, the so-called “age expectations” are the basis, i. a successful student must correspond to one or another level of achievement. For example, scores might look like this:

- “Works as expected for its age”;
- “Performs above the expected standard for its age”;
- “Performs below the expected standard for its age”.

Therefore, a student who excels in a particular discipline will be rated “Performing above the expected standard for his age”, and a child who is struggling in the program will be rated “Performing below the expected standard for his age”.

In the UK, the academic year, as in our country, begins in September, but ends only in mid-July. The difference is that the year is not divided into 4 quarters, but into 3 semesters: Autumn (September – December); Winter (January – end of March);

The academic year in England is divided into three terms, so parents receive reports on the progress of their children at least 6 times — intermediate reports in the middle of each trimester (half-term), reports at the end of the trimester and the final annual report. It is possible to request additional comments from the teacher in the middle of the trimester, but this is not widely practiced.

In age groups KS1 (5–7 years old) and KS2 (7–11 years old), students take standardized SAT tests. For children studying at KS1 (Year 2), there are exams in English and mathematics. In the sixth year of study (Year 6), tests are taken in mathematics, reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling in English. Some schools also include a science exam. The expected score on the SAT is a score of 100. A child can get a grade even higher — a maximum of 115 points. The minimum “passing” score is 85.

High school. GCSE

Basic school education in the UK ends with the passing of the unified GCSE exam and obtaining a certificate of secondary education. Prior to 2018, students were graded using a letter system from A* to G, where A* is the highest score awarded for excellence. The interpretation of letter grades is as follows:

A* — Excellent result. The student demonstrates excellent knowledge of the material and a developed imagination.

A — Grade “Excellent”. The student fully mastered the material, attentive to details.

B — “Good”. Understanding of the material at a good level, minor errors.

C — “Satisfactory”. The student falls short of the required standard. There are errors and inaccuracies. Engaged in mediocre.

D — “Unsatisfactory”. The material is not well understood.

For those who did not cope with the tasks at all, there is a mark U — Unclassified. A student who receives a U grade cannot be assessed, as knowledge of the subject is completely lacking.

As a result of the GCSE reform, most of the English schools have switched to a digital system, and now the knowledge of the children is assessed on a scale from 1 to 9, where 9 is the highest score. However, some regions of Great Britain (Wales and Northern Ireland) preferred to keep the letter system.

Interestingly, intermediate grades include not only the school of academic marks, but also such a criterion as Effort — the efforts that the student makes. Unlike the five-point system adopted in Russian schools, where in addition there is only an assessment for behavior, the British model allows you to mark the level of diligence and diligence, i. e. to additionally encourage the child or, conversely, to pay attention to the fact that the student has lost interest in the subject and is not working hard enough.

Graduation classes. A-Levels

In the upper grades of the British school, the guys study 3–4 elective subjects, obtaining the A-Levels qualification (General Certificate of Education GCE Advanced Level). The last two years of school are regarded as preparation for entering the university. Exams are taken at the end of the second year of study. An intermediate grade for the subject is given for each trimester and half-term. The A-Levels level is necessary only for those guys who are going to continue their studies at universities, and grades for final exams are at the same time a kind of “entrance” to higher educational institutions.

The grading scale for A-Levels is the letter system. A student can get scores from A* to E, and as with the GCSE, there is a U — Unclassified grade.

It is important to understand that the requirements of most universities for undergraduate admission are a combination of grades, where each of the 3 subjects is graded at least B, and this is not only about Cambridge University. Students with lower scores should consider whether it makes sense for them to continue their studies in the Sixth Form, or it is more reasonable to switch to professional colleges. After all, according to statistics, higher education (Higher Education) in England receive no more than 50 % of citizens.

Tasks

I. MARK STATEMENTS AS TRUE OR FALSE.

1. Compulsory education begins at the age of 7 when children go to primary school.
2. In infant schools children don't mostly play, they are learning hard.
3. At 7 years' pupils have real classes, when they sit at desks, read, write and answer the teacher's questions.
4. Primary school is traditionally divided into 5 forms: a form to each year.
5. There are 3 types of state secondary schools in Great Britain: comprehensive schools, grammar schools, modern schools.
6. After five years of secondary education, at the age of 16, pupils take the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examination.
7. Even from the first form, they begin to choose their exam subjects and prepare for them.

8. Most of private schools are boarding ones, where children live as well as study.

9. After leaving primary school young people can apply to a university, a polytechnic or a college of further education.

10. In elementary school students were graded using a letter system from A* to G.

II. CHOOSE THE RIGHT VARIANT

1. ... intended for believing parishioners, for several years before applying and enrolling regularly attending masses.

A. Church... B. Gymnasiums... C. General education...

2. ... take into account the place of residence of the child and its proximity to the campus, as well as the personal characteristics of the student. parents pay for accommodation, but the educational program is funded by the state.

A. Boarding schools... B. Church... C. Partially selective...

3. After ... years of secondary education, at the age of 16, pupils take the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) examination.

a) 4; b) 5; c) 6.

4. Those who stay at school after GCSE, study for 2 more years for "A" (Advanced) Level Exams in two or three ... which is necessary to get a place at one of British universities.

a) Schools. b) Subjects. c) Universities.

5. When receiving reports on the progress of elementary school students, ... often experience difficulties.

a) schools. b) teachers. c) parents.

Scottish Universities

More than 50,000 international students from over 180 different countries study at Scottish universities every year. Scotland's education system is recognised for its high quality and has a reputation for producing creative thinkers. Scotland has more world-class higher education institutions per head of population than anywhere else in the world and graduates from Scottish universities are fully prepared for the working world.

Reasons to study in Scotland:

1. The quality of education in Scotland is underpinned by world-class research.

2. Scottish Higher Education institutions are subject to rigorous quality assurance processes, and the Scottish Quality Enhancement Framework requires universities to demonstrate improvements in the quality of teaching and education on a yearly basis.

3. The Scottish model of quality enhancement, which includes student input and feedback on student satisfaction, is being mirrored by universities across Europe.

4. Scottish universities offer learning focused on employability, and students have plenty of part-time and graduate job opportunities in major cities such as Edinburgh and Glasgow.

5. Scottish cities are student friendly and a center for cultural activities. Edinburgh plays host to some of the world's biggest parties and was ranked the 2nd best in the world for quality of life.

St. Andrews University

St. Andrews is famous for its rich history and tradition. The university was founded in the early 14th century and is one of the most prestigious universities in the UK and the oldest in Scotland. The campus of the university is part of the ancient city

of St. Andrews, with a population of just over 17,000 people, of which 7,500 are students, faculty and staff of the University of St. Andrews. Not far from the campus — breathtaking scenery of the North Sea coast and rolling forest. At the University of St. Andrews 4 faculties: sciences, arts, theology and medicine — which, in turn, are divided into schools. According to The Guardian, the School of Antiquity, the School of Economics and Finance, the School of Geography and Sustainable Development, the School of History and International Relations, the School of Art History and the School of Physics and Astronomy are the best in the UK. The university itself has won the Sunday Times “University of the Year” title twice, in 2002 and 2020, and in 2022 the Good University Guide ranked it first among British universities — it is the first university to beat Oxford and Cambridge in the annual rankings. The University of St. Andrews boasts numerous distinguished alumni, from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Kate Middleton, to writer Rudyard Kipling and mathematician John Napier, the inventor of logarithms.

The University of Edinburgh

The University of Edinburgh is a public research university located in the capital of Scotland. It was founded in 1583 at the initiative of King James VI, which is remarkable, since in those days universities were established only at the initiative of the Pope. Several buildings of the University of Edinburgh are part of the Old City, therefore they are of great historical value, which is why they were included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The University of Edinburgh is part of the elite group of interaction between research universities in the UK — “Russell”. The University of Edinburgh is well known in the academic community as the strongest center for teaching the humanities. Programs related to

language and literature take the unconditional first place: the Faculty of Linguistics at the University of Edinburgh is one of the world's top three leaders, and its indicators are extremely high not only in terms of the curriculum, but also in terms of reputation with employers. In addition, there are excellent programs for the study of English literature, philology and philosophy. It is also worth paying attention to the University of Edinburgh for applicants who see themselves in the field of healthcare: the general medicine and nursing programs, as well as the faculty of veterinary medicine, have excellent academic performance. In addition to the above, it is worth mentioning the direction of sociology of development, where the program of geography, sociology and sustainable development are especially strong. The University of Edinburgh is an important engine of modern science and is often noted by analysts as one of the strongest research centers in Europe. According to citation indexes, the most productive areas of research are the study of information systems, linguistics and biological sciences. The latter, by the way, are also among the most expensive (on average, one research project costs about 120,000 pounds).

The University of Glasgow

The University of Glasgow is one of the four oldest universities in the UK. It is located in the largest city in Scotland — Glasgow. The university was founded in 1451 by Bishop William Turnbull. The University of Glasgow is one of the most active research centers in the world. He is a member of international associations: Universitas 21 and the Russell group, along with Cambridge and Oxford universities. The University of Glasgow trains specialists in technical, humanitarian and natural sciences. Included in the top 100 universities in the world according to the QS ranking (in 2016 it took 62nd place). The strongest direction of study at the University of

Glasgow is life sciences and medicine (included in the world top 50 in the QS ranking). The strongest faculties are considered to be medical, veterinary and the faculty of geosciences. The University of Glasgow is famous for its research programs. The university conducts some of the most significant research in the world in the fields of veterinary medicine, pharmacology, medicine, nursing, geography and linguistics. Promising research is also underway in the fields of biology, computer science, pedagogy, and communications. Today, the University of Glasgow employs about two hundred of the best researchers from around the world. 7 Nobel Prize winners are associated with the activities of the university.

Test

1. What is the Scottish education system recognized for?
 - A. Availability.
 - B. High quality and reputation.
 - C. Because of famous personalities who graduated from Scottish universities.
2. Does the education system allow students to work?
 - A. Yes, but only part-time.
 - B. Only in Edinburgh.
 - C. Only in Glasgow.
3. Can students attend parties while studying?
 - A. No, and attempts to visit are threatened with expulsion.
 - B. Yes, as Edinburgh hosts some of the biggest parties in the world.
 - C. Students can attend but not organize.
4. When was St. Andrews university founded?
 - A. 12th century.
 - B. 15th century.
 - C. 14th century.

5. What is the oldest university in Scotland?
- A. The University of Edinburgh.
 - B. St. Andrews university.
 - C. The University of Glasgow.
6. What faculties in St. Andrews university are divided into schools?
- A. Sciences, arts, theology and medicine.
 - B. The general medicine and nursing programs.
 - C. Geography, sociology and sustainable development.
7. When did St. Andrews university win the title “University of the Year”?
- A. 2000.
 - B. 2002 and 2010.
 - C. 2002 and 2020.
8. Who was John Napier?
- A. Mathematician.
 - B. Musician.
 - C. Artist.
9. When was founded the University of Edinburgh?
- A. 1580.
 - B. 1683.
 - C. 1583.
10. Through teaching what sciences is the University of Edinburgh well known in the academic community?
- A. Physics and chemistry.
 - B. Humanities.
 - C. Art.
11. Where is the University of Glasgow located?
- A. The Scottish capital.
 - B. Wales.
 - C. Glasgow.
12. Who founded the University of Glasgow?
- A. William Turnbull.
 - B. Winston Churchill.
 - C. Queen Elizabeth.

13. What is the university of Glasgow famous for ?
- A. Grants.
 - B. Research programs.
 - C. Vacation programs.
14. Where does the University of Glasgow rank in the list of the best universities in the world?
- A. 62. B. 50. C. 31.
15. Who is connected with the activities of the University of Glasgow?
- A. UK writers.
 - B. Nobel Prize winners.
 - C. Famous actors and musicians.

Grammar schools in Great Britain

A grammar school is one of several different types of schools in the history of education in Great Britain. Originally, it was a school teaching Latin, but more recently an academically oriented secondary school, differentiated in recent years from less academic secondary modern schools. The main difference is that a grammar school may select pupils based on academic achievements whereas a secondary modern may not.

The original purpose of medieval grammar schools was the teaching of Latin. Over time, the curriculum was broadened, first to include Ancient Greek, and later English and other European languages, natural sciences, mathematics, history, geography, art and other subjects. In the late Victorian era grammar schools were reorganised to provide secondary education throughout England and Wales; Scotland had developed a different system. Grammar schools of these types were also established in British territories overseas, where they have evolved in different ways.

Grammar schools became one of the three tiers of the Tripartite System of state-funded secondary education operating in England and Wales from the mid-1945s to the late 1970s. After most Local Education Authorities moved to non-selective comprehensive schools in the 1970s, some grammar schools became fully independent schools and charged fees, while most others were abolished or became comprehensive. In both cases, some of these schools kept “grammar school” in their names. More recently, a number of state grammar schools still retaining their selective intake gained academy status, meaning that they are independent of the Local Education Authority.

There remain 163 grammar schools in England. Only a few areas have kept a formal grammar school system along the lines of the Tripartite System. In these areas, the eleven plus exam is used solely to identify a subset of children considered suitable for grammar education. Results of the test determined a student’s placement in a three-track secondary system. The highest scoring students were admitted to grammar schools and were likely to go on to university studies. The other students attended either modern schools, where they completed a course of higher level elementary studies and did not go on to university, or technical schools. When a grammar school has too many qualified applicants, other criteria are used to allocate places, such as siblings, distance or faith. Such systems still exist in Buckinghamshire, Rugby and Stratford districts of Warwickshire.

In other areas, grammar schools survive mainly as very highly selective schools, for example in several of the outer boroughs of London. These very highly selective schools also tend to dominate the top positions in performance tables.

Test

1. What is a grammar school?
 - A. It is one of several different types of schools in Great Britain.
 - B. It is an additional grammar courses.
 - C. It is a girls-only gymnasium.
2. What is the main difference between grammar schools and secondary schools?
 - A. Grammar schools are funded by the government.
 - B. Grammar schools may select pupils based on academic achievements.
 - C. Secondary schools charge fees.
3. What was the first language included in the curriculum of grammar schools after the broadening?
 - A. English.
 - B. French.
 - C. Ancient Greek.
4. What was the original purpose of grammar schools?
 - A. Teach English.
 - B. Teach Latin.
 - C. Teach grammar.
5. How was grammar schools reorganized during the Victorian Era?
 - A. All grammar schools were closed.
 - B. Only royal children could study there.
 - C. They started to provide secondary education.
6. What countries had the same secondary education system in grammar schools?
 - A. Scotland and England.
 - B. England and Wales.
 - C. Wales and Scotland.

7. What state-funded secondary education system did grammar schools become part of?
- A. The Tripartite System.
 - B. Vocational Education system.
 - C. Formal education system.
8. When did most Local Education Authorities move to non-selective comprehensive schools?
- A. 1945.
 - B. 1970.
 - C. 1960.
9. How long did the “three types of schools” system work?
- A. 25 years.
 - B. 10 years.
 - C. 20 years.
10. When did grammar schools become fully independent?
- A. 1945.
 - B. 1960.
 - C. 1970.
11. When grammar schools became comprehensive, what did they keep?
- A. Pupils selection system.
 - B. “Grammar school” in their names.
 - C. Fees from parents.
12. What made grammar schools independent of the Local Education Authority?
- A. “Grammar school” in their names.
 - B. Private system of education.
 - C. Selective intake gaining academy status.
13. How many grammar schools are left in England?
- A. 163.
 - B. None.
 - C. 50.
14. What exam is used to identify a subset of children considered suitable for grammar schools?
- A. Eleven Plus exam.
 - B. Exam GCSE.
 - C. Exam HSCE.

15. In what system did the results of the exam determine a student's placement?
- A. A two-track secondary system.
 - B. A three-track secondary system.
 - C. A four-track secondary system.
16. Where were the highest scoring students admitted?
- A. Modern secondary schools.
 - B. Technical schools.
 - C. Grammar schools.
17. Which school graduates were likely to go on to university studies?
- A. Grammar schools.
 - B. Modern secondary schools.
 - C. Technical schools.
18. What criteria can be used to allocate places in grammar schools?
- A. Gender.
 - B. Siblings.
 - C. Parents work.
19. What schools tend to dominate the top positions in performance tables?
- A. Very highly selective grammar schools in several of the outer boroughs of London.
 - B. Secondary modern schools.
 - C. Schools with modern technologies.

Primary education in the UK

Primary school learning

Pupils coming to the UK from ethnic minority origins is on the rise with 33 % of primary school students belonging to these ethnicities. Only 5 % of primary school pupils experience classes

of over 30. Typically, classes in state-funded schools range from 25–30 pupils.

Parents looking for local schools for their children can find them at the following governmental websites, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Children entering the UK's education system for the first time are welcomed at any stage although they will usually be expected to start school at the beginning of a school year or term for a smoother transition stage. Parents should be aware that in areas with fewer schools, waiting lists may be more extensive. It is possible to inquire at the local council for recommendations on what to do.

Primary school is the first stage of education where children in the UK are required to attend. During primary school, children will begin to learn basic skills such as learning to read and write and simple numeracy. In the first few years, children are still allowed a fair part of the day to play, draw and do arts and crafts. Classes can typically be between 25 to 30 students per class and each class will be assigned one teacher who they will spend all their schooling time with. Some classes, namely the larger sized ones, may have teaching assistants who assist children with learning difficulties or who may learn at a slower pace.

Primary school

A school year group is calculated on the age of the child depending on what part of the year their birthday falls on.

England: It is compulsory to begin school at the age of 4 in England. Those who have turned 4 before the 1st September of any given year will be eligible to start school during the first September after their 4th birthday.

Scotland: Children in Scotland begin schooling in mid-August. Children born between March of one year and by the end of

February the following year will comprise of one school year. This means children who begin school will be between the ages of 4 and 5 years old.

Wales: The Welsh system in place for starting school is identical to that actioned in England.

Northern Ireland: Children are also to start education from the age of 4 in Northern Ireland however the age cohort is based around the dates of the 2nd July round to the 1st July of the next year for one year group.

Typically, parents of children who were born close to or on the deadline of the academic year can choose whether their child joins the elder or younger school year. For example, if born on 31st August, you may be offered to defer your child's entry to school so that they will be the eldest in the year group as opposed to the youngest.

Primary and secondary schools categorise age groups by key stages. The purpose of key stages is to separate educational stages of the curriculum and also to adapt learning materials such as books or activities to the appropriate age. These are as follows:

- Key stage 1 — children aged 4 to 7.
- Key stage 2 — children aged 7 to 11.
- Key stage 3 — children aged 11 to 14.
- Key stage 4 — children aged 14 to 16.

In some cases, primary schools may be divided by key stage where key stage 1 and 2 will be taught in separate buildings or even separate schools (named infant and junior). This is so that there is not such a drastic age difference between the older and younger children. School years across all four countries can be located [here](#).

Once children have become accustomed to being in an educational environment and have acquired the skills to read and

write, they will be following a more advanced curriculum. Although this differs between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the curriculum will all be of a similar variation. The subjects introduced will include; language, literacy, numeracy, physical education, religious education, arts such as music, painting and drawing and history. Please note that although religious education forms part of the national curriculum, parents can withdraw their child's participation from such classes if deemed appropriate to do so.

In key stage 2, children will be subjected to learning a greater range of subjects in addition to the above including; foreign language (typically French), IT (Information Technology) and sciences.

Tests and exams

England: Tests are not commonplace in primary schools due to the young age of children. SATs however (Standard Assessment Tests) are carried out at the end of each key stage to gauge the progress of a child's learning. SATs at the end of key stage 2 (sometimes referred to as the 11 Plus) have in the past been known to determine a child's placement at secondary school. Children with good 11 Plus results have also been accepted into "grammar schools". Such schools do still exist, although they are becoming less and less common and are mostly only found in English home counties and in Northern Ireland. Such schools are believed to teach the more academic part of a years cohort whilst the rest go to the nearest state-funded secondary school. This system is not very popular amongst many parents and is consequently a system that is slowly disappearing from British culture.

Scotland: Though not named SATs, children in Scottish primary schools also take tests gaging their ability. These are carried out in primary 1, 4 and 7 as well as in secondary 3. Such tests are still standardised nationally. In the earlier years, tests are more oriented

towards literacy and numeracy yet older children in primary schools will be tested on problem solving. Such tests will typically be multiple choice and carried out on computer software downloaded. The tests can be marked immediately depending on the answer chosen by the student. These are also known as InCAS tests (Interactive Computerised Assessment System). This system is also in place in Northern Ireland.

Wales: Welsh schools have similar tests set up to Scotland where they are also based on numeracy and literacy, though they too are only to track pupils learning outcomes. Tests have, as of the year 2019, been sat online. For primary school children, these tests are usually taken in Year 2 where children will be around 7 years old.

Northern Ireland: InCAS tests are also the standard procedure for children studying in Northern Ireland, see Scotland above.

Test

1. What percentage of primary school students in the UK belong to ethnic minority origins?

- A. 34 %. B. 5 %. C. 25–30 %. D. 50 %.

2. What is the typical range of pupils per class in state-funded schools?

- A. 34 %. B. 5 %. C. 25–30 %. D. 50 %.

3. Where can parents find local schools for their children in the UK?

- A. At the local council.
B. At private schools.
C. At the following governmental websites: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
D. At the local library.

4. When are children expected to start school in the UK?
- A. Anytime during the year.
 - B. At the beginning of a school year or term.
 - C. At the end of a school year or term.
 - D. At the age of 5.
5. What should parents be aware of in areas with fewer schools?
- A. Waiting lists may be more extensive.
 - B. There are no schools available.
 - C. Schools are overcrowded.
 - D. Schools are too far away.
6. What is the first stage of education where children in the UK are required to attend?
- A. Secondary school.
 - B. College.
 - C. University.
 - D. Primary school.
7. What basic skills do children learn during primary school in the UK?
- A. Learning to read and write and simple numeracy.
 - B. Advanced mathematics and science.
 - C. Foreign languages.
 - D. Social studies.
8. How many students are typically in a primary school class in the UK?
- A. 10-15.
 - B. 20-25.
 - C. 25-30.
 - D. 30-35.
9. What is a teaching assistant?
- A. A teacher who assists other teachers.
 - B. A student who assists the teacher.
 - C. A person who assists children with learning difficulties or who may learn at a slower pace.
 - D. A parent who assists with school activities.

10. What is the age cohort for one school year in Northern Ireland?

A. Children born between March of one year and by the end of February the following year.

B. Children born between September of one year and by the end of August the following year.

C. Children born between January of one year and by the end of December the same year.

D. Children born between July of one year and by the end of June the following year.

11. What is the purpose of key stages in primary and secondary schools?

A. To separate educational stages of the curriculum.

B. To group children by age only.

C. To teach different subjects in different stages.

D. To divide schools into infant and junior buildings.

12. At what age do children typically start school in England?

A. 4.

B. 5.

C. 6.

D. 7.

13. What is the purpose of SATs in England?

A. To determine a child's placement at secondary school.

B. To track pupils' learning outcomes.

C. To teach foreign languages.

D. To separate educational stages of the curriculum.

14. What are grammar schools in England?

A. Schools that teach the more academic part of a year's cohort.

B. Schools that teach only foreign languages.

C. Schools that teach only sciences.

D. Schools that teach only physical education.

15. What is the age range for children in key stage 3?

A. 4 to 7.

B. 7 to 11.

C. 11 to 14.

D. 14 to 16.

16. What subjects are introduced in primary school?
- A. Language, literacy, numeracy, physical education, religious education, arts such as music, painting and drawing, and history.
 - B. Foreign language, IT, and sciences.
 - C. Physical education, religious education, and arts such as music, painting and drawing.
 - D. Language, literacy, and numeracy only.
17. What is the purpose of InCAS tests?
- A. To determine a child's placement at secondary school.
 - B. To track pupils' learning outcomes.
 - C. To teach foreign languages.
 - D. To separate educational stages of the curriculum.
18. What is the age range for children in key stage 2?
- A. 4 to 7. B. 7 to 11. C. 11 to 14. D. 14 to 16.
19. What is the purpose of Welsh tests?
- A. To determine a child's placement at secondary school.
 - B. To track pupils' learning outcomes.
 - C. To teach foreign languages.
 - D. To separate educational stages of the curriculum.
20. What is the age range for children in key stage 4?
- A. 4 to 7. B. 7 to 11. C. 11 to 14. D. 14 to 16.

Higher education in the UK

Higher education in the UK is of the highest quality and prestige: among the top 100 best universities in the world according to QS Ranking, 17 are British universities. British universities have high graduate employment rates and good funding. Due to the high salaries and living standards, the best teachers from all over the world are employed at universities. Thanks to this, the country has the second highest number of international students after the USA.

University studies

In the UK, as in most other countries, higher education is divided into three levels. However, the length of study is different:

- Bachelor's degree – 3 years (instead of 4 years).
- Master's degree – 1 year (instead of 2 years).
- Doctorate degree – 4 years.

Due to the fact that secondary education in Britain lasts 13 years, and during the last two years students are engaged in a university program, the time of study at a university is reduced. At the same time, there will be no problems with the recognition of an English diploma abroad. It is equivalent to a bachelor's degree in any other country.

Types of programs

The Sandwich Course is a bachelor's degree combined with work experience. Between the second and third years of studies, students go on a one-year internship in their specialty, in the end receiving both a diploma and experience.

Undergraduate Master's degrees are programs that combine bachelor's and master's programs. The program lasts four years, and in the end graduates are awarded a master's degree. Such programs are particularly common in STEM fields. The training is focused more on practice rather than the continuation of an academic career.

PhD 1 + 3 programs combine two stages of education: master's and doctorate studies, the duration of which is four years. Moreover, graduates receive two degrees at once: a master's and PhD.

At universities, students make their own timetable. Usually, there are several compulsory disciplines in bachelor's programs, without which it will not be possible to complete the degree. That being said, students are free to choose their own additional subjects.

The main thing is to obtain the required number of study hours, which are measured in credits.

Knowledge, especially in the humanities, is assessed mainly through essays, research papers, and projects. There are also exams, but they are less common than at universities in other countries. British education in any specialty is aimed at developing practical skills, one of them being critical thinking. Professors encourage students to ask questions, express their opinions, and lead the discussion. Disagreeing with a teacher is completely normal.

Admission to bachelor's programs occurs through a special platform called UCAS, while the admission process for master's and doctorate programs takes place directly through the university's website. The admissions committee evaluates the candidate based on his GPA, motivation letter, references, and resume. You will also need an English proficiency certificate (for example, IELTS). Some programs require you to pass an interview.

Education in the UK is quite expensive: from 18,651 USD to 49,736 USD per year. An additional 14,921 USD can be expected for accommodation. In America or Australia, prices are comparable, but prices in Europe are several times lower. In order for talented, but not very rich students to come to the country, British universities and the government offer large scholarships. Some of them fully cover the cost of education, but they are often available only to undergraduate students. For bachelor's programs, the usual size of a scholarship is 10-30 % of the tuition cost.

Tasks

I. GIVE RUSSIAN EQUIVALENTS.

1. Bachelor's degree —
2. Master's degree —

3. Doctorate degree —
4. PhD —
5. GPA —

II. COMPLETE THE PHRASES.

1. A one-year —
2. Recognition of —
3. Is focused more on —
4. Measured in —

III. ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:.

1. What are the levels of higher education in the UK?
2. What are special types of programs at British universities?
3. How do students make their own timetable at universities in the UK?
4. Is it expensive to study in the UK?
5. How is knowledge assessed in humanities subjects in the UK?
6. What practical skill is emphasized in British education?

IV. DISCUSS.

1. Would you like to study in the UK?
2. What do you think are the benefits of pursuing higher education in the UK?
3. Can you name some of the top universities in the UK and what they are known for?
4. Do professors in your university encourage you to ask questions, express their opinions, and lead the discussion?
5. Are there any challenges international students may face when studying in the UK?

SELF-CHECK TESTS

Test 1

1. From the European continent the British Isles are separated by:
 - a) the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean;
 - b) the Irish Sea and the English Channel;
 - c) the English Channel and the North Sea.
2. Grasmere, Windemere, and Dove Cottage are the names associated with:
 - a) the Lake District;
 - b) the city of Manchester;
 - c) the Yorkshire Dales.
3. Which of the following is NOT a national park in Wales?
A. Brecon Beacons; B. Dartmoor; C. Snowdonia.
4. The Royal Pavillion is an architectural wonder in:
 - a) Bath; b) Brighton; c) Bristol.
5. ... mark the boundary between England and Scotland.
A. The Cheviot Hills...
B. The Pennines...
C. The Southern Uplands...
6. Hadrian's Wall can be found in:
 - a) the North of England;
 - b) the South of England;
 - c) the Heart of England.
7. How many islands do the British Isles include?
A. 2000. B. 4000. C. 5000.

8. The most important coal deposits are to be found in such industrial regions as Yorkshire, Lancashire, North-East England, the Midlands, Central Scotland and:

- a) North-West England;
- b) Northern Ireland;
- c) South Wales.

9. Canterbury is a town in England which is:

- a) located to the north of London;
- b) located in Kent in the very south-east of England;
- c) famous for its Sunday markets.

10. The three crosses of the Union Jack:

- a) reflect the three main religions in the country;
- b) are the crosses of England, Scotland, Ireland;
- c) symbolize the union of Wales, England, Scotland.

11. St. Andrews is famous all over the world as:

- a) the home of rugby;
- b) the home of golf;
- c) the home of football.

12. Whose epitaph says: "Si monumentum requiras, circumspice" (If you're looking for my monument – look around you)?

- A. Sir Christopher Wren's.
- B. Sir William Shakespeare's.
- C. Sir Charles Darwin's.

13. Which of the following is NOT the patron saint of a UK country?

- A. St. Andrew.
- B. St. Charles.
- C. St. George.

14. What is the official name of the main country of the English language?

- A. Great Britain.
- B. UK.
- C. British Isles.

15. The Boat Race is between:

- a) Oxford & Cambridge University;
- b) Oxford & London University;
- c) Cambridge & York University.

16. Stonehenge:

a) is a collection of large ancient stones which are of no significant interest;

b) is an important geographical marker located in southern Britain;

c) is the most famous prehistoric monument in Britain.

17. The game that is especially connected with England is:

- a) cricket;
- b) basketball;
- c) ice-hockey.

18. Basically the British like to live:

a) in separate houses of three types;

b) in flats with all modern conveniences;

c) near the sea where the air is so clean and fresh.

19. There is a great number of French words in English:

a) because they were borrowed by the English when Christianity spread in England;

b) due to the influence of the Celts;

c) because French became the official language in Britain after the Norman invasion.

20. "Loch" is the Scottish word for:

- a) awful;
- b) monster;
- c) lake.

21. What is the name of a famous wax museum?

a) Madam Tussaud's;

b) Museum of London;

c) Natural History Museum.

22. The Tower of London was built by:
- a) Edward the Confessor;
 - b) Henry III;
 - c) William the Conqueror.
23. What is the genuine name of Westminster Abbey?
- A. Westminster Church.
 - B. The Abbey of St. Peter.
 - C. The University Church of St. Peter in Westminster.
24. This monument to the Egypt Pharaoh was brought from Egypt in 1878 and erected on the Victoria Embankment:
- a) sphinx;
 - b) Cleopatra's needle;
 - c) one of the Pyramids.
25. Covent Garden is the biggest:
- a) theatre;
 - b) market-place;
 - c) museum.
26. It was in a ... tavern that the British press was born.
- a) Fleet Street;
 - b) Downing Street;
 - c) Baker Street.
27. What can you find in the City?
- A. Saint Paul's Cathedral.
 - B. Westminster Abbey.
 - C. The National Theatre.
28. What is the other name for the Norsemen or Danes that invaded Britain in the end of the 8th century?
- A. Jutes.
 - B. Vikings.
 - C. Bretons.
29. The Roman occupation of Britain:
- a) began when Caesar crushed the opposition of the Celts;
 - b) started in 43 AD and ended at the beginning of the 5th century;
 - c) brought much disorder in the country.

30. The Saxon kingdoms fought one against the other, but at the beginning of the ninth century:

- a) Wessex became the leading kingdom which united all the country in the struggle against the Danes;
- b) the Danes occupied all England under their rule;
- c) peace was established as a result of the adoption of Christianity.

31. The Teutonic tribes of Saxons, Angels and Jutes that were making raids against the British were:

- a) French;
- b) Roman;
- c) Germanic.

32. The influence of the Celts was greatest:

- a) in the south-east of the country near London;
- b) in Wales, Scotland, Ireland;
- c) during the invasion of the Romans.

33. Normans invaded Britain in:

- a) the 12th century;
- b) the 11th century;
- c) the 8th century.

34. Who was at the head of the Great Peasants' Revolt of 1381?

- A. Wat Tyler.
- B. John Wycliff.
- C. John Bale.

35. When did the battle at Trafalgar take place?

- A. 1804.
- B. 1805.
- C. 1806.

36. Numerous castles, especially the strongholds in the north, were built:

- a) under the Celts about 43 AD;
- b) right after the Norman Invasion in 1066;
- c) under King Henry VII.

37. What is the title of the document designed for fiscal purposes to increase and protect the King's revenue? The document was a survey of England's lands and people, the first census:

a) the Chronicle; b) the Domesday Book; c) the Cadastre.

38. What is the official residence of the Queen?

A. Westminster Abbey.

B. Buckingham Palace.

C. Tower of London.

39. As the Anglo-Saxons were pagans they worshipped different gods:

a) and their names are reflected in the names of the months of the year;

b) and their statues are seen in different parts of the country;

c) which are reflected in the names of the days of the week.

40. In England's long history there was a period when Britain was no longer the Monarchy, when was it?

A. 1543–1548.

B. 1653–1658.

C. 1765–1770.

41. A Bill becomes an Act of Parliament when:

a) the Lords agree to a Bill;

b) after it has passed the third reading;

c) when the Queen signs it.

42. Who is the Prime Minister of the UK now?

A. Rishi Sunak.

B. Boris Johnson.

C. Lis Truss.

43. The Government resigns if:

a) the Queen wishes so;

b) the Prime Minister is not satisfied with the Ministers;

c) the Opposition succeeds in defeating the Government on any important Bill.

44. The House of Commons is made up of ... members.
a) 650; b) 235; c) 760.
45. The House of Lords doesn't have the right to:
a) debate government policy;
b) to amend or reject money bills;
c) to sit as a law-court.
46. How often do the British people elect members of the House of Commons?
A. Every 3 years. B. Every 4 years. C. Every 5 years.
47. The system of education is determined by:
a) local authorities' resolutions;
b) national educational acts;
c) governmental pacts.
48. Compulsory schooling lasts from:
a) 6-17; b) 5-16; c) 4-14.
49. Oxford became a leading educational centre:
a) only in the 20th century;
b) with its earliest colleges already by the end of the 13th century;
c) of technical sciences in the Middle Ages.
50. Robert Bruce is a national hero in Scotland because:
a) he commanded the Scottish forces and defeated the English at Bannockburn in 1314;
b) he was the first king of the Scots;
c) he was a great poet and wrote many beautiful poems about the Scots.

51. Parents who wish to send their children to a public school often send them first to:

- a) a primary school;
- b) a middle school;
- c) a preparatory school.

52. When was the union of England and Scotland?

- A. 1707. B. 1607. C. 1553.

53. Scotland, due to its physical features is divided into:

- a) 2 parts; b) 3 parts; c) 4 parts.

54. Welsh is one of the Celtic languages:

- a) which is spoken by about 20% of the population of Wales;
- b) which developed in Britain quite recently;
- c) which has many words in common with English.

55. Who was the 1st Prince of Wales?

- A. King Alfred. B. King Arthur. C. King Edward.

56. Eisteddfod is:

- a) a placename in Scotland;
- b) Welsh festival of music and poetry;
- c) an Irish national dance.

57. There is a conclusive evidence that Welshman wore ... on St. David's day in Shakespeare's time.

- a) rose; b) leek; c) thistle.

58. The population of Northern Ireland is about:

- a) 1,8 million; b) 3 million; c) 3,5 million.

59. The province of Northern Ireland consists of:

- a) six counties, and is part of the UK;
- b) several counties which are part of the Republic of Ireland (Eire);
- c) small district and states which form an independent country.

60. Shamrock is the symbol of:

- A. Scotland; B. Wales; C. Ireland.

Test 2

1. What is the official name of the country whose language you study?

- A. Great Britain.
B. England.
C. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

2. How many countries does the United Kingdom consist of?

- A. 4. B. 3. C. 2.

3. What is the capital of Scotland?

- A. Manchester. B. Edinburgh. C. Cardiff.

4. What is the capital of Wales?

- A. Edinburgh. B. Cardiff. C. Liverpool.

5. What is the capital of Northern Ireland?

- A. Cardiff. B. Dublin. C. Belfast.

6. What is the state system of the United Kingdom?

- A. A constitutional monarchy.
B. A parliamentary republic.

7. What is the symbol of the United Kingdom?

- A. A bald eagle. B. Britannia. C. A rose.

8. What is the name of the British national flag?

- A. The Union Jack.
B. The Saint Andrew's Cross.
C. The Saint David's Cross.

9. What is the emblem of England?

- A. A shamrock. B. A red rose. C. A leek.

10. What is the emblem of Scotland?
A. A daffodil. B. A dragon. C. A thistle.
11. What are the emblems of Wales?
A. A shamrock, a clover and hand.
B. A rose and the Saint George's cross.
C. A dragon, a daffodil, a leek, a dove.
12. What is the emblem of Northern Ireland?
A. A shamrock. B. A red rose. C. A thistle.
13. What chambers does the lent consist of?
A. The Senate and the House of Representatives.
B. The House of Lords and the House of Commons.
C. The Cabinet of Ministers and the Shadow Cabinet.
14. Who presides in the House of Lords?
A. The Lord Chancellor.
B. The Speaker.
C. The Prime-Minister.
15. Who presides in the House of Commons?
A. The Lord Chancellor.
B. The Speaker.
C. The Chancellor of the Exchequer.
16. Where does the British Premier live and work?
A. At 10 Downing Street.
B. In the Houses of Parliament.
C. In Buckingham Palace.
17. What natural resources bring the most profits to the British economy?
A. Coal reserves. B. Oil reserves. C. Water.

18. In what sector of the economy does the majority of the population work?

- A. In primary industries;
- B. In secondary industries.
- C. In tertiary industries.

19. What is the fastest way to cross the English Channel?

- A. Through the Channel Tunnel (the Chunnel).
- B. By boat.
- C. By ferry.

20. What is the most important airport in Great Britain?

- A. Heathrow Airport.
- B. Gatwick Airport.
- C. Stansted Airport.

21. What is the most famous place of pagans' sun worship in England?

- A. Temple to the goddess Minerva in Bath.
- B. Stonehenge on Salisbury Plain.
- C. Dartmoor National Park.

22. What is the main cathedral of the Anglican Church?

- A. St. Paul's Cathedral.
- B. Canterbury Cathedral.
- C. Salisbury Cathedral.

23. What is the official religion in the United Kingdom?

- A. Catholicism.
- B. Orthodoxy.
- C. Protestantism.

24. What is the school-leaving age in the United Kingdom?

- A. 16;
- B. 13;
- C. 18.

25. Which of the following stages of British education is not obligatory?

- A. Nursery school.
- B. Primary school.
- C. Secondary school.

26. What is the top secondary school in Great Britain?

- A. Chiswick Community School.
- B. Eton.
- C. Harrow.

27. What is the highest mark in British schools?

- A. A.
- B. C.
- C. G.

28. What universities have the highest academic reputation in the United Kingdom?

- A. Oxford University and Cambridge University.
- B. London University and Bristol University.
- C. Red-brick universities.

29. What is the first degree awarded by universities?

- A. A bachelor's degree.
- B. A master's degree.

30. At a British university or college a tutor is:

- a) a person who examines students and gives them marks;
- b) a person who has the highest rank of the teachers in a department and delivers lectures;
- c) a member of a staff who teaches small groups of students and gives them help and advice.

31. What are the best English resorts?

- A. Bristol and Southampton.
- B. Brighton and Bath.
- C. Leeds and Bradford.

32. What is the tallest building in England?
- A. The Tower of London.
 - B. The Canary Wharf Tower.
 - C. Hampton Court Palace.
33. What place in England is called a kind of Disneyland?
- A. Hampstead Heath.
 - B. Alton Towers.
 - C. Windsor Safari Park.
34. What is the London residence of Queen Elizabeth II?
- A. The Tower of London.
 - B. Windsor Castle.
 - C. Buckingham Palace.
35. Where is Nelson's Column situated?
- A. In Parliament Square.
 - B. In Trafalgar;
 - C. In Piccadilly Circus.
36. Where are British kings crowned?
- A. In St Paul's Cathedral.
 - B. In Westminster Abbey.
 - C. In Canterbury Cathedral.
37. Who was the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral in London?
- A. Sir Christopher Wren.
 - B. Edward Bailey.
 - C. Henry Tare.
38. The ravens are a famous sight, of:
- a) the Tower of London;
 - b) London zoo;
 - c) Covent Garden.

39. What is the Scottish national costume for men?
A. The tuxedo. B. The bearskin. C. The kilt.
40. What lake does tin- famous Scottish monster live in?
A. Lough Erne.;
B. Lixli Lomond.
C. Loch Ness.

Test 3

1. Where does Eisteddfod take place?
A. In London. B. In Wales.
C. In Scotland. D. In Liverpool.
2. What is Eisteddfod dedicated to?
A. Music, literature and performing arts.
B. Fairies, sorcerers and gnomes.
C. The wines.
D. The spirits of the dead.
3. When is it held?
A. In September.
B. Annually in late November.
C. Every year during the first week of August.
D. Over three days during February each year.
4. Who organized the bard meeting?
A. Lord Tennyson. B. Some musicians.
C. Lord Marcus. D. Lord Rhys.
5. What is the name of an assembly of bards?
A. Gorsedd y Beirdd. B. Gŵyl y Cyhoeddi.
C. Cadwalader. D. Dysgwr y Flwyddyn.

6. *Gŵyl y Cyhoeddi* is held within a circle of:
- a) Flowers;
 - b) Stones;
 - c) People;
 - d) friends and family.
7. What is awarded for the best poem written in free verse?
- A. Medal.
 - B. Nobel Prize.
 - C. Crown.
 - D. Chocolates.
8. What is *cynganedd*?
- A. A name of the poem.
 - B. Status.
 - C. Ceremony.
 - D. A traditional form of Welsh verse.

Test 4

1. What is the official name of the country?
- A. England.
 - B. Great Britain.
 - C. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
2. Is the UK:
- a) a constitutional monarchy;
 - b) a republic;
 - c) a federation.
3. Who is the head of state in the UK?
- A. The Prime Minister.
 - B. The President.
 - C. The Queen.
4. Who is the head of the government in the UK?
- A. The Prime Minister.
 - B. The President.
 - C. The Queen.

5. What is the building where the British Parliament sits called?
- A. Buckingham Palace.
 - B. Westminster Abbey.
 - C. The Palace of Westminster.
6. How many Houses does it consist of?
- A. 1.
 - B. 2.
 - C. 3.
7. How many parts does it consist of?
- A. 1.
 - B. 2.
 - C. 3.
8. What are the members of the House of Commons called?
- A. Deputies.
 - B. MPs.
 - C. Peers and life peers.
9. How many MPs are there?
- A. 569.
 - B. 650.
 - C. 65.
10. What are their duties?
- A. They talk about bills before they become laws.
 - B. They work on bills, which later become new laws.
 - C. They approve the decision of the House of Commons.
11. What are the members of the House of Lords called?
- A. Deputies.
 - B. MPs.
 - C. Peers and life peers.
12. What are their duties?
- A. They talk about bills before they become laws.
 - B. They work on bills, which later become new laws.
 - C. They choose the Prime Minister.
13. How often do British people vote for MPs?
- A. Every five years.
 - B. Every four years.
 - C. Every three years.

14. Who opens the Parliament?
- A. The Queen.
 - B. The Speaker.
 - C. The Lord Chancellor.
15. Who presides over the House of Commons?
- A. The Queen.
 - B. The Speaker.
 - C. The Lord Chancellor.
16. Who presides over the House of Lords?
- A. The Queen.
 - B. The Speaker.
 - C. The Lord Chancellor.
17. What do these Queen's words "La Reine le veut" mean?
- A. "The Queen suggests it".
 - B. "The Queen wishes it".
 - C. "The Queen does it".
18. What are the main colours of the Houses of Parliament?
- A. Gold, red and blue.
 - B. Gold, green and red.
 - C. Red and green.
19. Who writes the Queen's speech?
- A. The Queen.
 - B. The Government.
 - C. The Lord Chancellor.
20. Which are Britain's two main political parties?
- A. The Democratic, the Republican and the Conservative.
 - B. The Conservative, the Democratic.
 - C. The Labour and the Conservative.

21. Who is the second important person in the Kingdom after the Prime Minister?

- A. Queen.
- B. Prince Charles.
- C. Speaker.
- D. The elder son of Prince Charles.

22. When was a woman appointed Speaker for the first time?

- A. In 1990.
- B. In 1992.
- C. In 1997.
- D. In 2000.

23. How are the first two rows of seats in the House of Commons called?

- A. Front chairs.
- B. Front seats.
- C. Front-benches.
- D. Front sofas.

24. What are the duties of the Queen?

A. Takes part in many traditional ceremonies, in the work of many charities, appoints important state offices.

- B. Rules the country in fact.
- C. Makes laws.
- D. Appoints important state offices.

25. What are the duties of the Cabinet?

A. Examines and revises bills.

B. Determines government policies and coordinates government departments.

- C. Makes laws.
- D. Discusses political problems.

26. Where does the monarch of Great Britain live?

- A. In Buckingham Palace.
- B. In Westminster Abbey.
- C. In the White House.
- D. In the Tower of London.

27. Match the words on the left and on the right.

A. Ceremonial	1. One another
B. Differ from	2. Days
C. To follow	3. Visits
D. Medieval	4. The traditions

28. Under the British Constitution the Monarch ... the head of the state but the power ... by the British Parliament.

- a) remains, is limited; b) is remained, limits;
c) remains, limits; d) is remained, is limited.

29. The Government of the UK represents the ... branch of power.

- a) legislative; b) representative; c) executive.

30. ... makes laws in the UK.

A. The House of Commons...

B. The Parliament...

C. The Cabinet.

31. The British Prime Minister is the leader of the party with the majority seats in:

- a) the House of Lords;
b) the House of Commons;
c) the Parliament.

32. The official residence of the Prime Minister is at ... Downing Street in central London.

- a) 7; a) 10; c) 55.

33. The members of the House of Lords are:

- a) elected; b) non-elected; c) appointed.

34. The Queen ... the bills.

- a) signs; b) votes on; c) passes.

35. How many countries does the United Kingdom consist of?
A. 4. B. 3. C. 2.
36. What is the capital of Scotland?
A. Manchester. B. Edinburgh;. C. Cardiff.
37. What is the capital of Wales?
A. Edinburgh. B. Cardiff. C. Liverpool.
38. What is the capital of Northern Ireland?
A. Cardiff. B. Dublin. C. Belfast.
39. What is the name of the British national flag?
A. The Union Jack.
B. The Saint Andrew's Cross.
C. The Saint David Cross.
40. What is the emblem of England?
A. A shamrock. B. A red rose. C. A leek

Test 5

1. Which empire was London (Britain) founded by?
A. Spaniards. B. Romans.
C. Ottoman. D. Austro Hungarian.
2. What would be the age of London?
A. 1,500.
B. Around 2,000 years old.
C. 1,000.
3. In which century did the Tudor family rule?
A. 18th. B. 19th. C. 17th. D. 16th. E. 15th.
4. Whereabouts in London did the Great fire of London start?
A. A bakery shop in Pudding Lane.
B. A house near the city.

- C. In the Tower.
- D. A criminal started it at whereabouts not exactly known.
5. When did the Great Fire start?
- A. September 1st 1666. B. September 2nd 1666.
 C. September 3rd 1666. D. September 4th 1666.
 E. September 5th 1666.
6. How long did the Great fire last for?
- A. 9 hours. B. 2 days. C. 23 hours.
 D. 3 days. E. 7 days.
7. How much percent of the city was destroyed?
- A. 50 percent. B. 60 percent.
 C. 70 percent. D. 80 percent.
 E. 90 percent.
8. The Romans brought _____ to Britain.
- a) Christianity;
 b) Catholics;
 c) Protestantism.
9. What kind of war was there in the 15th century?
- A. Eighty Years' War.
 B. Wars of the Roses.
 C. Anglo-Spanish War.
10. What was the city called before London?
- A. Londinium. B. Union Jack. C. Lindgren.
11. What the Romans did to protect London?
- A. Nothing.
 B. Strengthened the army.
 C. Built a wall.

12. The first Palace of Westminster was built by:
- a) William the Conqueror;
 - b) Edward the Confessor;
 - c) Richard the Lion Heart;
 - d) Elizabeth I.
13. The Romans saw their mission:
- a) in destroying the country;
 - b) in civilizing the country;
 - c) in protecting Britain.
14. When was the Great Plague?
- A. 1665. B. 1666. C. 1667.
15. What is the oldest church in London?
- A. Salisbury Cathedral.
B. Southwark Cathedral.
C. St. Paul's Cathedral.
16. Westminster Abbey was built in:
- A. 1045–1050. B. 912–960.
C. 1245–1250. D. 1357–1379.
17. Westminster Abbey has a form of:
- a) a cross; b) a square;
 - c) a circle; d) a rectangle
18. The Tower was built by:
- a) Edward the Confessor; b) Richard the Lion Heart;
 - c) William the Conqueror; d) Boadicea.
19. What is that one of the more popular aristocratic forms of suicide in London?
- A. Hanging.
B. Poisoning by pesticides.
C. Try to shoot the rapids at high tide.

20. What is Royal Exchange?
- A. A museum.
 - B. A place where businessmen go to strike deals.
 - C. BAR.
21. Who built the Royal Exchange?
- A. Sir Thomas Gresham.
 - B. Sir Christopher Wren.
 - C. Sir Edmund Howard.
22. Where is the Guildhall located?
- A. Westminster.
 - B. City.
 - C. Southwark.
23. What is the chief source of the city's wealth?
- A. Shops.
 - B. Bank.
 - C. The docks.
24. Eastward from the docks would form that district to be known as:
- a) The East End;
 - b) City;
 - c) Addington.
25. What was the Tower of London built for?
- A. To protect the king.
 - B. To protect the jewel.
 - C. To protect people.
26. How is it used now?
- A. As a prison.
 - B. As a royal palace.
 - C. As a museum.
27. In which century did the British global empire expand massively?
- A. 19th.
 - B. 18th.
 - C. 17th.
 - D. 16th.
 - E. 15th.

28. Why couldn't the fire be stopped sooner?

A. It was a Sunday and none of the Fire Brigades were working at the time it started, so when they eventually started it was too late.

B. There weren't any Fire Brigades.

C. The Fire Brigades weren't as developed as they are today.

D. The Fire Brigades thought that the fire was too big to stop.

29. Where did the law courts meet in 1603?

A. In Westminster Hall.

B. In Royal Courts of Justice.

C. In Medway County Court.

30. You can actually go and stand ... which purport to stand for where these defendants would have stood in their trial.

a) on the ledge;

b) on the chairs;

c) on little brass markers.

31. The planned ceremony is:

a) that traditionally at coronation banquets, the guests stole everything that moved: spoons, forks, serving dishes, tureens — you name it;

b) that a member of the Dymock family will ride in on a horse, throw down a gauntlet, and challenge anyone in the hall to challenge the king's title to the throne.

32. The unplanned ceremony is:

a) that traditionally at coronation banquets, the guests stole everything that moved: spoons, forks, serving dishes, tureens — you name it;

b) that a member of the Dymock family will ride in on a horse, throw down a gauntlet, and challenge anyone in the hall to challenge the king's title to the throne.

33. The original Westminster Palace:
- a) had been a royal residence since the Middle Ages;
 - b) was far less impressive;
 - c) was partially destroyed by fire in 1514.
34. What is Whitehall?
- A. Synonymous with government in England today.
 - B. A street.
 - C. A building.
35. Who did The Lord Mayor and aldermen order to be killed during the plague?
- A. People.
 - B. Cats and dogs.
 - C. Horses.
36. Until what century did Londoners fear the plague?
- A. 18.
 - B. 19.
 - C. 20.
37. What did he say during the fire?
- A. "Pish! Why a woman could piss it out".
 - B. "Oars! Oars!".
 - C. "Fire! Fire!".
38. The fire started in what kind of shop?
- A. Supermarket.
 - B. Bakers.
 - C. Grocers.
39. People saved whatever possessions they could?
- A. Fit in their cars.
 - B. Carry.
 - C. Fit in their pockets.
40. Who was the last Saxon king in England?
- A. Richard I.
 - B. Harold II.
 - C. William the Conqueror.
 - D. Harold of Wessex.

SEMINAR PLANS

Seminar 1. England and Englishmen

1. General information.
2. Symbols of England.
3. Historic places and sights.
4. Royal residences and castles.
5. Customs, traditions, holidays and festivals.
6. Everyday life.
7. English character.
8. English sports and games.
9. Famous scientists and inventors.

Seminar 2. Scotland and Scots

1. General information.
2. Symbols of Scotland.
3. Clans.
4. Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland.
5. Edinburgh national festival.
6. Universities of Scotland.
7. Traditions and festivals.
8. Castles of Scotland.
9. Glasgow.
10. Famous people of Scotland.

Seminar 3. Wales and Welsh

1. General information.
2. National symbols.
3. Cardiff, the capital of Wales
4. Snowdonia.
5. The Welsh language.
6. Customs and traditions.
7. Eisteddfod.
8. Famous people of Wales.

Seminar 4. Northern Ireland and the Irish

1. General information.
2. National symbols.
3. Belfast, the capital of Northern Ireland
4. Customs and traditions.
5. Irish dances.
6. Famous Irishmen.

Seminar 5. British system of education

1. History of the system of education.
2. Primary education.
3. Secondary education. Types of secondary schools and their characteristics.
4. Public schools in Great Britain.
5. Higher education. Oldest universities.
6. Open university of Great Britain.

TOPICS FOR ABSTRACTS AND REPORTS

1. Importance of the Roman conquest for the further development of the country.
2. Renaissance in England.
3. Golden age of Elizabeth I.
4. Formation of the United Kingdom.
5. Industrial Revolution in the United Kingdom.
6. Albion and its inhabitants.
7. Celtic languages of the British Isles.
8. Sports in the United Kingdom.
9. The monarchy in the United Kingdom.
10. The electoral and party systems.
11. British political parties.
12. Higher education in the UK.
13. Great Britain in ancient times.
14. The Houses of Parliament and the procedure of passing a new law.
15. The Tudor Dynasty.
16. The educational system in the UK.
17. Private and state education.
18. National parks.
19. Royal residences and castles.
20. Great British personalities.
21. The British contribution to the development of world science.
22. Great geographical discoveries.
23. World famous festivals of art, music, poetry and drama.
24. English holidays, traditions and customs.
25. Historic places in the United Kingdom.

26. Edinburgh International Festival.
27. Ancient universities in England and Scotland.
28. The Highland Games.
29. Castles of Wales.
30. The Welsh language.
31. Scotland – a country of legends.
32. Religious problems in Northern Ireland.
33. Parliamentary traditions.
34. English Royal dynasties.
35. Victorian Era.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS, NAMES AND CONCEPTS

Act of Parliament	Парламентские акты
Commonwealth of Nations	Содружество наций
constituency	Избирательный округ
Constitutional Monarchy	Конституционная монархия
Electoral districts	Избирательный округ
Executive	Исполнительный
Foreign affairs	Внешняя политика
General elections	Всеобщие выборы
Head of State	Глава государства
Judiciary	Судебное ведомство
Legislature, legislation	Законодательный, законодательство
Magna Carta	Магна Карта
Member of Parliament (MP)	Член парламента
Monarchy	Монархия
Parliament	Парламент
Prime Minister	Премьер-министр
Queen	Королева
Sovereign	Монарх, правитель
The Conservative Party	Консервативная партия
The Great Charter of Rights	Великая Хартия вольностей
The House of Commons	Палат представителей
The House of Lords	Палата лордов
The Labour Party	Лейбористская партия
Archbishop	Архиепископ

Cabinet	Кабинет министров
Government	Правительство
Lord Chancellor	Лорд-канцлер
Opposition	Оппозиция
Royal Assent	Королевская санкция
Secret ballot	Секретное голосование
Secretary of State	Госсекретарь
Speaker	Спикер
The Anglican Church	Англиканская церковь
Woolsack	Пост лорд-канцлера
To appoint	Назначать
To conclude treaties	Заключать мирные договоры
To declare war	Объявлять войну
To dissolve	Распускать (парламент)
To elect	Избирать
To give approval	Давать одобрение
To give audiences	Давать аудиенции
To introduce a Bill	Внести законопроект
To pass a Bill	Принять законопроект
To summon	Вызвать по повестке
To vote	Голосовать
Admiral Nelson	Адмирал Нельсон
Charles Darwin	Чарльз Дарвин
Charles Dickens	Чарльз Диккенс
Winston Churchill	Уинстон Черчилль

CONCLUSION (ЗАКЛЮЧЕНИЕ)

Данное пособие нацелено на формирование прочных знаний в области истории, географии и культуры Великобритании.

Рабочие листы содержат дополнительную информацию, интересные факты и аутентичные тексты.

Автор надеется, что учебное издание будет способствовать развитию познавательного интереса к представленной области знаний, мотивации студентов к поиску дополнительного материала в области истории, географии и культуры Великобритании, формированию у учащихся объективного взгляда на события прошлого и настоящего.

Тесты для самоконтроля позволят студентам выявить слабые места и оценить уровень своих знаний по предмету, а глоссарий поможет расширить словарный запас и понять аутентичный фактический материал.

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