

- 1 How popular is tea in your country? When and how do people prefer to drink it?
- 2 Read about tea in Britain. What differences are there from your country?

A British cup of tea

The British are famous for their love of tea, and the average person consumes around two kilogrammes per year. Typically, this means drinking two or three 'cuppas' (short for 'cups of tea') every day. That's over 900 cups annually! Around the world, only four or five countries drink more tea.

Although tea was introduced to Britain by the Portuguese in the 17th century, it only became really popular around 200 years later, when India was part of the British Empire. At this time, the British controlled tea production. Ever since, Indian tea has been the most popular in the UK.

People normally drink strong, black tea, served with milk and often sugar. Tea with lemon, green tea, or fruit teas are far less common. During tea breaks at work, or with friends at home, mugs are most often used, and biscuits are often eaten. Traditionally, 'the best china' (plates, cups, and saucers) would be brought out for more formal occasions, such as entertaining guests.

As the popularity of tea spread throughout the UK, tea dances became common. Tea was served with sandwiches and cakes, and people danced to traditional music. Before bars and nightclubs became popular, tea dancing was one of the only ways for young people to meet.

Today, tea rooms can still be found in many areas visited by tourists, but they are more like traditional cafés. They often serve cream teas: a pot of tea with a jug of milk and a bowl of sugar, and scones, cream, and strawberry jam to eat. This remains a popular afternoon treat today.

- 3 Correct these sentences about tea in Britain.

- 1 British people drink around 900 cups of tea every month.
- 2 The British drink more tea than any other country in the world.
- 3 Tea drinking became common in Britain in the 1700s.
- 4 Chinese tea is the most popular kind of tea in Britain.
- 5 Typically, people have green tea with lemon.
- 6 'The best china' means the most expensive Chinese tea.
- 7 Tea is rarely served with food.
- 8 A cream tea is a cup of tea served with cream, not milk.

- 4 Read the text on how British people talk about tea.

Talking about tea



Offering a cup of tea and drinking tea together is an important part of British culture. It's typical for any visitor to a British home to be asked, 'Do you fancy a cuppa?' or, 'Shall I put the kettle on?' upon arrival. Even workers who come to the house are normally offered tea and biscuits. In fact, strong, milky tea with lots of sugar, served in a mug, is often called 'builder's tea'.

The host will ask, 'How do you have it?' This means how long the person prefers their tea to brew before serving, and how much milk and sugar they like. Typical answers might be 'strong and milky, with two sugars,' or 'quite weak, with just a drop of milk, and no sugar'.

Depending on your social class or which part of Britain you come from, 'tea' can mean different things. 'Afternoon tea' is served in hotels and tea rooms between 2.00 and 5.00 p.m., and means sandwiches, cakes, and a cup of tea. But for the working class or many people from the north of Britain, 'tea' means their evening meal. Visitors to the UK need to be sure what their host means if they invite them round for tea!



5 Find words or phrases in the text to match these meanings.

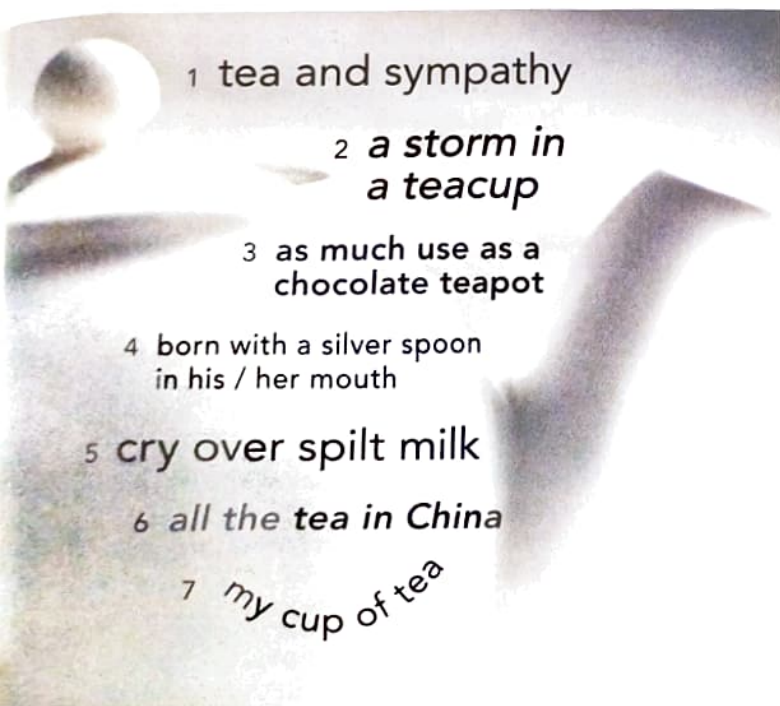
- 1 a machine that boils water (n)
- 2 people who do non-skilled jobs, or don't earn very much money (n)
- 3 dark and with a lot of flavour (adj)
- 4 a very small amount of a liquid (n)
- 5 a person who invites someone to their home (n)
- 6 rest in a pot with hot water, to increase flavour (v)
- 7 light and with only a little flavour (adj)

6 Complete each gap with one word.

- A I've just put the (1) _____ on.
How about a (2) _____?
- B Oh, that would be lovely, thanks.
A (3) _____ do you have it?
- B Quite (4) _____ please. I like it
nearly black. Just a (5) _____ of
milk, and two (6) _____.
- A Here you are.
B Thanks, that's great.



7 Many sayings about tea have become a part of the English language. Match phrases 1–7 with their meanings.



- a having lots of money and advantages, because of your family
- b to worry about past things that you can't change
- c kindness and friendship at a difficult time
- d the kind of thing I like or enjoy
- e large amounts of something (normally money)
- f not at all useful
- g a lot of trouble about a small thing

8 Complete the sentences. Use phrases from exercise 7.

- 1 I'm afraid football isn't _____. I find it really boring.
- 2 Don't _____. You failed your exam, but you can try again. It's not the end of the world!
- 3 When my boyfriend left me, my best friend invited me round for _____.
- 4 Harry gave me a new coat, but it's _____. It's about three sizes too small.
- 5 I wouldn't go skydiving for _____. I'd be much too scared.
- 6 Tom was _____. He'll never have to do a hard day's work in his life.
- 7 Kate's very angry, but it's just _____. She'll be fine in a few minutes.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Have you tried British-style tea, an afternoon tea, or cream tea? What did you think of them?

I've had tea in Britain, and it tastes terrible with milk in it!

Afternoon tea in a nice hotel would be great. I'm hoping to try it when I go to Britain next year.

■ Look at these typical British mealtimes. How is a normal day different for you?

7.30 a.m.	breakfast
11.00 a.m.	break for tea or coffee
1.00 p.m.	lunch
3.30 p.m.	afternoon tea break
7.00 p.m.	dinner
10.00 p.m.	drink before bed

■ Is the preparation of tea, or any other food or drink, particularly important in your culture? Write instructions for how to do it correctly.

First, you boil the water, and use a little to warm the teapot. Then put the tea into the teapot. You should use...

PROJECT

Make a poster about a typical food dish or drink that your country is famous for. Use the internet to find these things:

- pictures of your dish or drink
- information about the history of your dish or drink
- information about where it comes from
- how it's made and served

English in four cities

- 1 Read about the four cities. Which cities have you visited? Which city would you most like to see?

Montreal



The island city of Montreal is in the province of Quebec in north-eastern Canada. Its name comes from Mount Royal, a hill in the heart of the city. With a population of 1.8 million, Montreal is larger than Canada's capital, Ottawa, but smaller than Toronto. For around 150 years, it was the country's most important industrial and cultural centre, before the more recent growth of Toronto. French is the official language of Montreal, and it is the fourth-largest French-speaking city in the world. However, around 25 per cent of the city's residents speak English at home, and nearly everyone in the city has a working knowledge of the language. Montreal's 10 million annual tourists enjoy its beautiful historic buildings, including Canada's largest church. Recently, it has become a centre for the computer gaming industry, and host to many world-class festivals, including comedy, jazz, and film.

Melbourne



Melbourne lies on the south-east coast of Australia, and is the capital of the state of Victoria. With a population of about 5 million, it is Australia's second-largest city, after Sydney. Melbourne is a modern city, founded in 1835 by European immigrants. However, Aboriginal people had a settlement in this area for more than 30,000 years, before the Europeans arrived. Modern Melbourne is a cosmopolitan city, with around 35 per cent of its inhabitants born abroad.

The city grew rapidly and became extremely wealthy when gold was discovered nearby in the 1850s. Until 1927, the Australian government was located here. Today, many people still call the city Australia's cultural capital. The national TV and film industries, Australian Rules Football, and dance and art movements all started here. Melbourne's famous theatres, concert halls, and over 100 art galleries make it an exciting place to visit, and the city welcomes around 27 million visitors a year.



Dublin is the capital of the Republic of Ireland, and its largest city, with a growing population of just over 1 million. Dublin lies on Ireland's east coast, and is an ancient city, at least 1,000 years old. It is a fantastic destination for lovers of history and architecture, with a 12th-century castle, several medieval streets, and elegant buildings from the 17th and 18th centuries. Dublin has around 6 million visitors annually. Much of Dublin's history has been troubled, however, and the city saw centuries of conflict with the British king and parliament. As a result, the Irish language was banned for many years, and most people in Dublin now speak English. The city has experienced a financial boom in recent years, and has become a centre for high-earners, cultural celebration, and designer shopping. Many internet businesses have located their European offices in Dublin. There has also been a lot of immigration from the UK, Asia, and central Europe, and Dublin is now a very international city.

Singapore



Singapore is a city-state in South-east Asia. It is both a country and a capital city. The city is on the south coast of Singapore Island, and is one of the busiest ports in the world. The area has been inhabited for around 2,000 years, but many different empires have ruled it during this time. Most recently, the British ruled Singapore until 1959, when it became independent. British government, society, and education had a big influence on Singaporean society. The country has a reputation for strict laws and policing, and the crime rate is very low.

Today, Singapore is a very international city. Around 40 per cent of its 5.7 million residents are immigrants, and the city has four official languages: English, Chinese, Malay, and Tamil. English is used for business, government, and education, although only around 35 per cent of people speak it at home. Singapore is an important centre for oil, finance, and casino gambling industries. Around 17 million tourists visit annually, and this is a large part of the local economy. Singapore is a very wealthy city, with a high proportion of millionaires (around 3 per cent of the population).

2 Read the texts again. Which city / cities...

- 1 ...are their country's capital?

- 2 ...has the largest population?

- 3 ...are famous for their lovely old buildings?

- 4 ...has the fewest inhabitants?

- 5 ...is a good place to visit if you like plays and paintings?

- 6 ...welcomes the highest number of tourists?

- 7 ...don't have English as the first language spoken by residents at home?

- 8 ...has the smallest number of visitors?

- 9 ...has had people living there for the longest time?

- 10 ...aren't the largest city in their countries?

- 11 ...is also a country?

- 12 ...had a more important position in their country in the past than they do today?

3 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Montreal's name comes from a royal family. _____
- 2 Canada's capital is its largest city. _____
- 3 There are three other cities in the world with more French speakers than Montreal. _____
- 4 The city of Melbourne is less than 200 years old. _____
- 5 Around two thirds of Melbourne's population have moved there from other places in Australia. _____
- 6 Melbourne became rich very quickly in the past. _____
- 7 Dublin is by the sea. _____
- 8 In the past, Dubliners weren't allowed to speak Irish. _____
- 9 The population of Dublin has become smaller in recent years. _____
- 10 Singapore is a very important centre for air travel. _____
- 11 The streets of Singapore are very safe. _____
- 12 A typical family in Singapore is richer than a typical family in any other country in the world. _____

4 Find words in the texts to match these meanings.

- 1 a part of a country with its own laws or government (n) p_____ or s_____
- 2 with many, or especially hard, rules (adj) s_____
- 3 place that people travel to (n) d_____
- 4 started, or created (v) f_____
- 5 something that changes the way you think or do things (n) i_____
- 6 action of getting bigger (n) g_____
- 7 every year (adv) a_____
- 8 general understanding (n) w_____ k_____
- 9 place where people live together (n) s_____
- 10 not far away (prep) n_____
- 11 number of times people break the law (n) c_____ r_____
- 12 very old (adj) a_____

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Are there any facts in the texts that *surprise* you?

I didn't know that Montreal has so many French speakers.

It's a surprise that there are so many millionaires in Singapore.

■ The texts show how history has influenced cities today. In groups, make a list of historical events that have shaped your city or country.

Some people moved away from my country during the Second World War.

There have been many immigrants to my city in the last 20 years.

■ Are there places in your country or city that you can describe with these adjectives?

cosmopolitan	industrialised	cultural
crowded	ancient	elegant
wealthy	busy	successful

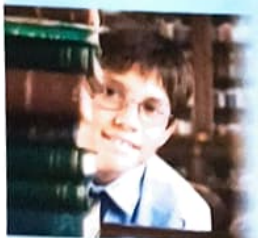
PROJECT

Make a historical poster about your country, or a city in it. Research the period of history that you think is most important or interesting. Include information about:

- what happened
- how this influenced the city / country
- how these events are remembered today (national days, museums, etc.)

- 1 Read about education in England. Underline things which are different from your country.

Education in England



In England, it is compulsory for children aged 5–18 to be in education. The academic year runs from September until July. Most school pupils have to wear a school uniform. Primary schools cover years 1–6, until children are aged 11. A national

curriculum, set by the government, says that all children must have lessons in English, maths, and science. At the end of year 6, national curriculum tests are taken, which show progress before going to secondary school. These schools cover years 7–13, and are generally 'comprehensive' (they take students of all abilities).

After five years of secondary education, students take GCSE exams in around five to ten subjects. They can get a qualification with grades 9 (highest) to 1 (lowest). After two more years, they take A (or Advanced) level exams, normally in two to four subjects. They need good grades in this qualification (A*, A, B, or C) to get into most universities. Around 93 per cent of children go to state schools, which are free. Private schools are often very selective, and many students take extra practice for interviews or exams to get a place. The oldest of these schools, such as Eton and Harrow, are known as 'public schools', and can cost up to £30,000 a year. They are often boarding schools, where the children both live and study. The government doesn't control what they teach, and they are generally more traditional than state schools.

After A levels, many students study for an undergraduate degree at university. They listen to lectures by university professors, and have to write essays or dissertations to complete their course. This normally takes three years, until they graduate with a bachelor's degree. A few choose to do higher, or postgraduate, studies, known as a master's degree or a doctorate. The universities of Oxford and Cambridge (together called 'Oxbridge') are the most selective in the UK. They have world-famous reputations for high academic standards. Around 75 per cent of British prime ministers have studied at Oxbridge!



- 2 Read the text again and complete the sentences.

- 1 It's normal for pupils to wear a _____ to school.
- 2 The national _____ says which lessons children should have.
- 3 _____ secondary schools teach all abilities.
- 4 What _____ did you get at school, GCSEs or A levels?
- 5 A* is the highest _____ you can get in A level exams.
- 6 You don't have to pay if you go to a _____ school.
- 7 Eton is one of England's oldest _____ schools.
- 8 Children at _____ schools live where they study.

- 3 Read about the American education system.

Education in the USA



In America, most children attend school from kindergarten (aged five) until the end

of high school (aged 18). Students rarely have to wear a uniform to school. The academic year runs from August or September to May or June. Elementary school continues until the end of 5th grade (aged 11). Junior high school covers grades 6–8 (ages 11–14), and the last four years are at high school. These cover grades 9–12, and are known as the freshman (first), sophomore (second), junior (third), and senior (fourth and final) years. Students score points for all of their classes, and have a 'grade point average' of 0 (lowest) to 4 (highest) to show their progress. They also take SATs (national college entrance tests) in their senior year, if they want to study further. At the end of high school, students have a graduation ceremony and get the qualification of a high school diploma. They have a special party called a prom or homecoming dance.

After school, many students study for a four-year bachelor's degree at college. This is very expensive, and parents often save money for it in a 'college fund' from the time their child is born. The oldest and most famous colleges, such as Harvard and Yale, are known as 'The Ivy League'. Around 30 per cent of US presidents went to one of these top colleges.

4 Correct the sentences about education in the USA.

- Kindergarten is the first year of high school.
- Students all wear the same clothes to school.
- Students normally move schools at the age of 12.
- Students join high school in the junior year.
- Sophomore high school students are the oldest.
- An excellent student has a grade point average of 0.
- Students take their SATs in the first year of college.
- The high school prom happens at the end of the freshman year.
- A 'college fund' is money from the US government.
- Half of US presidents went to an Ivy League college.

5 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- The school year ends *earlier / later* in England.
- More / Fewer* American students wear a school uniform.
- Most *English / American* children attend two schools by the time they are 18.
- Year 6 / 6th grade* pupils have to take national curriculum tests.
- Most *high / secondary* schools are 'comprehensive'.
- The most selective schools in *England / the USA* are known as 'public schools'.
- English students need good *grades / grade point averages* to get into the best universities.

6 Match the words with the correct education system. Then write a sentence to explain what they mean.

SATs	Year 4 pupil
5th grade student	GCSE
undergraduate	High School Diploma
A* grade	freshman
	homecoming

English	American
	SATs

- SATs are American college entrance tests.
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- How do the education systems in England and the USA compare with your country?

We have a lot more exams than the English system.

You can leave school earlier in my country.

- Do you think it's fair that there are very selective schools and universities in England?

It gives richer people better chances in life, so it's not really fair.

If parents spend more money on their children's education, then they should expect better schools.

- Some people say that your schooldays are the best days of your life. Do you agree?

Yes, I loved school. I made great friends, and I enjoyed my studies.

It wasn't really true for me. I was bored, and I didn't make many good friends.

PROJECT



Write a guide describing education in your country for an international website. Use the internet to research facts and find suitable pictures for your guide.

Include information about these things:

- ages when education is compulsory
- the academic year
- the different types of school
- a typical school curriculum
- the qualifications that students can study for
- higher education

- 1 Have you been to the USA? Tell a partner about the places you have seen, or would like to see.
- 2 Read the text about places which are popular with tourists to the USA. Write the names of places 1–10 on the map.



America's top attractions

With around 75 million visitors a year, the USA is second only to France in international tourist numbers. People come to enjoy America's exciting cities, learn about its history, and marvel at its natural wonders. If you're planning a trip to the USA, here is a list of must-see attractions.

1 Las Vegas, Nevada

Surrounded by desert, the city of Las Vegas is America's entertainment centre. Around its most famous street, 'The Strip', are some of the world's largest casinos and hotels. Visitors come for the bright lights, nightlife, and incredible shopping. The city also has a reputation for quick weddings, with around 40 chapels which marry couples, 24 hours a day.

2 Mount Rushmore, South Dakota

Artist Gutzon Borglum created the world's most famous mountain sculptures here. Mount Rushmore, in South Dakota's Black

Hills, features the heads of America's most admired presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln. The 20-metre-high sculptures weren't easy to carve. They are nearly 200 metres up the mountain, cost around \$1 million, and took 14 years of hard work to create. There are around 3 million visitors annually.

3 The Grand Canyon, Arizona

This amazing rocky landscape is America's largest natural wonder. The canyon was formed by the Colorado River, over a period of around 3 to 6 million years. It is 446 kilometres long and 29 kilometres wide, at its widest. Around 6 million visitors explore the Canyon National Park each year, by car, river, hiking, and even by helicopter.

4 The Statue of Liberty, New York City

Traditionally, the Statue of Liberty was the first thing that immigrants to the USA would see, as they arrived in New York by boat. Many people consider the statue to be the symbol of America, but in fact it was originally made in France, and only later given to the USA, in 1886. Lady Liberty has seven spikes on her crown, to represent the seven oceans and seven continents of the world.

5 National Mall, Washington, District of Columbia

In modern American English, a 'mall' is normally a shopping centre. However, Washington, D.C.'s National Mall is a 3-kilometre-long park, with many of America's largest and oldest museums and national monuments along it. These include several memorials to American presidents, and soldiers who died in major wars.

6 Niagara Falls, New York

These three enormous waterfalls are on the US-Canadian border. The Horseshoe Falls, at around 850 metres, is the second-widest waterfall in the world. Around 28 million people visit this attraction every year. Visitors can learn about the geology that created the falls just 12,000 years ago, or read about the history of daredevils going over the falls – and surviving!

7 Hollywood Studios, Los Angeles, California

Visit the film studios where America's greatest movie stars made their names, and learn about film history in the centre of US movie-making.

8 The rodeo, Texas

The rodeo is known as the 'circus of the west', and takes place all over the western and southern states. Rodeos show off the skills and history of American cowboys and ranchers, in dangerous and exciting displays with horses and cattle.

9 Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, California

This bridge is around 2.7 kilometres long. It took four years to build, costing \$27 million and using 130,000 kilometres of wire. It opened to pedestrians on 27 May 1937, and to motorists one day later.

10 Autumn colours, New England

The north-eastern corner of the USA is famous for its fall (or autumn) colours. Admire the stunning reds, oranges, and yellows of the trees from one of the area's lovely rivers, lakes, or mountains.

3 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 There are lots of lakes and rivers around Las Vegas. _____
- 2 All of the attractions are in different states. _____
- 3 There are four faces carved into Mount Rushmore. _____
- 4 The largest attraction is also the oldest. _____
- 5 The Statue of Liberty wasn't made in the USA. _____
- 6 Washington, D.C. has the USA's largest shopping mall. _____
- 7 One attraction is in both Canada and the USA. _____
- 8 Rodeos show the history of cowboys in the USA. _____
- 9 You could walk across the Golden Gate Bridge before you could drive across it. _____
- 10 People go to New England to see the fall colours. _____

4 Find these numbers in the text and write a sentence for each one.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| a 12,000 | g seven |
| b 3 million | h 2.7 |
| c 130,000 | i 6 million |
| d 446 | j 1937 |
| e 28 million | k 24 |
| f 1886 | l 3 to 6 million |

5 Match the words from the text with meanings 1–10.

surround	couple	carve	immigrant
daredevils	survive	make your name	
show off	pedestrians	stunning	

- 1 a person who comes to another country to live permanently _____
- 2 people who are walking _____
- 3 very beautiful _____
- 4 cut into stone or another hard material _____
- 5 continue to live _____
- 6 be all around something, on every side _____
- 7 people who like doing very dangerous things _____
- 8 make a display so people can see something _____
- 9 become famous _____
- 10 two people who are in a romantic relationship _____

6 Complete the sentences with words from exercise 5.

- 1 _____ to Britain often come by boat.
- 2 Maria likes to _____ her dancing skills.
- 3 The views of the lake from our room are _____.
- 4 He _____ as an actor, but he's a singer now.
- 5 A few _____ have jumped off this bridge.
- 6 Water _____ the island on all sides.
- 7 How long have your parents been a _____?
- 8 It's a terrible illness, but he'll _____.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Which of the American attractions would you most like to see, and why?

I've always wanted to visit the Grand Canyon. It looks stunning.

I don't really fancy Las Vegas. I prefer natural attractions like Niagara Falls.

- What are the top attractions in your country for tourists who...?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • are interested in history | • like nightlife |
| • are daredevils | • want to visit galleries and museums |
| • enjoy the countryside | |

PROJECT

Write a short website guide for tourists to your country.

- Create a map with the top attractions.
- Give a short description of each place and its history.
- Include some information about visitor numbers.

- 1 Read the texts about the three most popular spectator sports in the UK. Do they also have teams and fans in your country?

A nation of sports fans

Sports, particularly team sports, are extremely popular in Britain. Sport is also big business. The British government spent around £10 billion to host the 2012 Olympics in London, and millions of people around the world pay money to watch British football.

Football



Football (also known as soccer) is traditionally a winter sport. Fans call it 'the beautiful game'. The football season now runs from August until May. In England, professional teams play in four divisions: The

Premiership, The Championship, and Leagues 1 and 2. The Premiership is the most successful division.

The rules of the modern game were fixed around 100 years ago. Football has a much longer history, however. A more violent version of the game, 'mob football', was played as early as the 12th century. There was no limit on the number of players, and many people were badly hurt. It was so dangerous that many kings and queens decided to ban it! Later, the game developed as a sport for gentlemen, in Britain's top private schools. Unfortunately, every school had different rules, so matches between schools were difficult. Often they played with one school's rules, and then changed to the other's at half-time!

Football is now Britain's richest sport. In The Premiership, clubs spend tens of millions of pounds to buy top international players. The best goal scorers become celebrities with salaries of over £100,000 a week. Even their wives and girlfriends are famous! A season ticket for a successful club can cost more than £1,000. British fans often come together to watch matches on large TV screens



in pubs and bars. The rights to show the biggest matches are very expensive. TV companies sell them all over the world.

Rugby

Rugby is also a winter sport.

It comes from the same tradition of ball games as football. 'Rugby' is the name of one of England's oldest private schools. Here, the rules for football developed in the 1830s and '40s to include picking up the ball and throwing it to your team-mates. By 1845, the game was a different sport from football, with its own name.

Rugby players are generally bigger and stronger than football players. As well as kicking the ball, they can run with it, and work together as a team to push forward and get possession of the ball (called a 'scrum'). In rugby, players are allowed to pull each other to the ground (called a 'tackle'), and this makes it a more dangerous game. American football in the USA has similar rules, but players wear helmets to protect themselves from injury.



Cricket

Cricket is a summer sport that is around 500 years old.

By the 18th century, people thought of it as England's national sport. Cricket travelled with the British Empire, and now it is mostly played in countries which were British colonies: Australia, The West Indies, India, Pakistan, and South Africa.

In cricket, there are two teams of 11 players. One team bats, and the other fields. The batsman hits a small, hard ball with a bat, and scores by running between two wickets. The wickets are three sticks of wood, with small wooden bails on the top of them. The other team try to knock the bails off the wicket with the ball. Cricket matches are generally much longer than football or rugby – they can take a few hours, or continue for up to five days!

Cricket is traditionally a game for gentlemen. Players wear long white shirts, trousers, and jumpers, and look much more formal than football or rugby players. In 1882, Australia beat England for the first time on an English cricket ground. People said that cricket was dead, and someone burned a cricket ball and put its ashes into a small cup. Today, England and Australia still play to win 'The Ashes'.



2 Answer the questions about British football.

- 1 What two other names does football have?
- 2 Which months of the year have no professional football matches?
- 3 What's the name of the second most successful division of teams?
- 4 Why did some people try to stop early football games?
- 5 Before the game had fixed rules, how did school teams play each other?
- 6 Why is it difficult for many people to go and see their favourite teams play?

3 Which sport are the sentences about?

- 1 It's the oldest game. _____
- 2 The players have the smartest clothes. _____
- 3 In the past, teams were much larger than they are today. _____
- 4 It's the most expensive to watch. _____
- 5 The matches take the longest. _____
- 6 It's similar to a sport in the USA. _____

4 Complete the sentences with the words from the text.

spectators	fan	season	half-time
match	goals	score	pick up
throw	kick	injury	beat

- 1 The cricket _____ is from April until September.
- 2 They won the game by three _____ to one.
- 3 In tennis, you _____ the ball up before serving at the start of play.
- 4 We run races regularly, but I can't _____ Mike. He's much faster than I am.
- 5 I'm not really a tennis _____. I find it boring.
- 6 At _____, the players relaxed and had a drink.
- 7 _____ those dirty football boots off the floor!
- 8 You can _____ points in rugby by running with the ball over a line on the ground.
- 9 Graham couldn't play for months because of a leg _____.
- 10 That was the most exciting football _____ I've ever seen!
- 11 The largest football grounds have spaces for over 100,000 _____.
- 12 In football, the players have to _____ the ball with their feet.



5 Match the sports idioms 1–8 with their meanings a–h.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1 being on the ball | _____ |
| 2 moving the goalposts | _____ |
| 3 just not cricket | _____ |
| 4 the ball is in your court | _____ |
| 5 skating on thin ice | _____ |
| 6 calling the shots | _____ |
| 7 playing your cards right | _____ |
| 8 below the belt | _____ |
-
- a acting cleverly, so that you will be successful
 - b against the rules (in many sports, such as boxing, you must hit the player on the top half of his / her body)
 - c it's your decision what to do next
 - d badly behaved, rude, or unhelpful (and so against the spirit of this gentleman's game)
 - e being in control and making the important decisions (this comes from shooting)
 - f changing the rules, to make things difficult for someone (so it's harder for them to know what they need to do to be successful)
 - g doing something dangerous which could cause an accident
 - h being clever and quick, and knowing what is happening

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Does your country have a national sport? What do you know about its rules, players, or history?

Volleyball is our national sport, but many people prefer football.

Our national sport is hockey. You have to hit a small hard ball into a goal with a long stick.

- Can you think of any national sporting heroes? What are / were they famous for?

Our footballers are our biggest sporting heroes. People love them.

Nadia Comăneci was a real sporting hero when I was young. She was a gymnast who won Olympic gold medals. She was wonderful to watch.

PROJECT

Make a sports poster. Choose one of these topics:

- 1 Your favourite sports hero or team
 - Collect pictures of them.
 - Write about their sporting achievements.
- 2 A sport which is played in your country
 - Collect pictures of the equipment you need to play.
 - Explain the rules of the game.
 - Write a short history of the sport.

1 What's the easiest way to travel around your capital city? Think about these things:

- cost
- convenience
- appearance
- speed
- comfort
- safety

2 Read the texts about different ways of travelling around cities. Can you use these methods in your capital city?

Getting around London



London's black taxi cabs are famous all over the world. Despite the rise in Uber, for many tourists, a visit to the British capital isn't complete without a ride in one.

Their name, the 'Hackney carriage', comes from Hackney, a district in the East End of the city. It was here, in the early 17th century, that vehicles with horses were first used to transport people around London. Initially, they were open carriages, with two wheels. A ride in one was noisy, dirty, and often dangerous. By the 1650s, there was so much public concern about the number and safety of these carriages that the British Parliament passed a law to say that drivers had to get a licence to drive them. These licensed vehicles to hire became known as Hansom Cabs, and continued in use into the early 20th century. For longer journeys, and richer clients, four-wheeled carriages with roofs were introduced. These offered additional safety on the road, and protected the passengers from the weather.

London's 'cabbies' probably know their city better than any other taxi drivers in the world.



Since 1865, they have had to complete a test called 'The Knowledge', in order to get their licence to pick up fares (or passengers). This test involves memorizing around 25,000 streets and places of interest in the central London area. It typically takes a candidate around three years, and 12 attempts, to pass this very difficult exam. 'Knowledge boys' can be seen riding around London on motor scooters, with the names of the places that they are learning that day in front of them. There are also strict checks on the character of taxi-driving applicants, and only those without a criminal record can apply. All these things make London taxis a safe and reliable way to travel around.

Worldwide city transport

New York's yellow cabs are perhaps the only taxis as famous as London's Hackney carriages. A city law in 1960 said that all taxis had to be painted this colour, to make them



easier for passengers to recognize. There are now over 12,000 yellow cabs in the city, but over 40,000 drivers. Because it costs around \$150,000 to license a New York taxi, most of them are owned by businesses, not individuals. These businesses have a lot of competition from Uber and Lyft. Each cab stays on the road all the time, with two drivers normally working 12-hour shifts. Around 90 per cent of New York's taxi drivers are immigrants to the USA. Many of them were lawyers, teachers, or doctors before coming to America, but they drive taxis while they improve their English, or until they get their official papers to work at their original profession.



The rickshaw is a very old-fashioned kind of transport. No-one is certain where it originated. It's smaller, but quite similar in design, to London's

original Hansom Cabs. The power to move it, however, comes from a human rickshaw puller, or a bicycle rider. In recent years, many countries have banned pulled rickshaws, in order to protect the workers who were operating them. This work is terribly hard and poorly paid. Even so, rickshaws can still be seen in many Asian cities.

Using a bicycle is becoming an increasingly popular way to get around the world's cities. Some cities have a large network of bikes for hire. In around 1,000 cities, including London, there is a bike-sharing system. This means the bikes are owned by a business or government, and can be used for free or for a low cost. Cycling is popular because it's easy, cheap, and good for the environment. Riding a bike around town is, of course, harder work than taking a taxi.



3 Tick (✓) the subjects mentioned in the text, then read again to check.

- 1 the history of London taxis _____
- 2 the cost of using the different forms of transport _____
- 3 how taxi drivers in London get a licence _____
- 4 the number of London taxis on the road _____
- 5 how long New York taxi drivers work _____
- 6 when rickshaws were invented _____
- 7 how much rickshaw drivers are paid _____
- 8 using a shared bike _____

4 What, who, or where are the sentences about?

- 1 Most of them weren't born in the USA.
- 2 You often don't have to pay to use one.
- 3 They ride around London on scooters.
- 4 We are unsure where they came from.
- 5 All the cabs there have to be one colour.
- 6 You can't earn a lot of money doing it.
- 7 It takes about three years of hard work to pass it.
- 8 They have a very physically demanding job.
- 9 There are about 25,000 of them.
- 10 They normally belong to a business.

5 Make sentences by matching 1–8 with a–h.

- 1 Many New York taxi drivers have poor English...
 - 2 London taxi drivers learn 'The Knowledge'...
 - 3 New York's cabs are all painted yellow...
 - 4 The British Parliament passed a law in the 1650s...
 - 5 Bicycles don't cause pollution in cities...
 - 6 Two or more drivers operate most New York cabs...
 - 7 Carriages started to have roofs...
 - 8 There are very strict checks on London cabbies...
- ...so...
- a ...the cars can stay on the road all the time.
 - b ...the people inside wouldn't get wet in the rain.
 - c ...the taxis have an excellent reputation for safety.
 - d ...Hackney carriages would need a licence to operate.
 - e ...they can get anywhere in the city without a map.
 - f ...it's easy to recognize one.
 - g ...they can't work at their original profession.
 - h ...many people prefer to use them.

6 Find words in the texts for these meanings.

- 1 a paper that says you are allowed to do something (n)
- 2 pay to use for a short time (v)
- 3 people who ride on a form of transport (n pl)
- 4 know something when you see it (v)
- 5 a period of work (n)
- 6 a person who comes to live in your country (n)
- 7 come from (v)
- 8 say officially that something must stop (v)

7 Put the forms of transport into the correct parts of the table.

lorry	yacht	helicopter	rickshaw
ferry	scooter	tram	glider
truck	jet	taxi	bicycle
coach	hovercraft	subway	submarine
			train

How does it move?

on the road	on rails	through the air	in or on water
lorry			

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Discuss these questions about the forms of transport from exercise 7.

- 1 Which have you used?
- 2 Do you use any regularly?
- 3 Which is the most...?

- (un)comfortable
- (in)convenient
- dangerous
- (in)expensive
- (un)exciting
- unusual

I rode on a helicopter once. It was very noisy, but very exciting too. It was also very expensive.

I travel on a ferry every day, to get to work. It's very convenient, but quite expensive.

■ Which form of transport do you use most often in your daily life? Think of two advantages and two disadvantages of using it.

I most often use the bus to get to school. It's good that it's cheap, and it's better for the environment than driving a car. I don't like the fact that it's often crowded, and it's nearly always late!

William Shakespeare

1 Discuss the questions.

- Which authors from your country are the most famous?
- What kind of literature did they write? Have you read any of their works?
- How much do you know about the life and works of William Shakespeare?

2 Read the text about William Shakespeare. Underline any facts that surprise you.

His life and times

William Shakespeare (1564–1616) is the most famous and celebrated author in the English language. Despite this, because he lived around 500 years ago, many of the basic facts of Shakespeare's life are still a mystery. For example, we're unsure about his exact birthday. Most historians believe he was born on 23 April, three days before a church in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, recorded his baptism. If this date is accurate, it is a strange coincidence, as he died on the same day! He was aged just 52.

There are no records to show Shakespeare going to school after his mid-teens, or to university. Although his education was short, it's clear from his works that Shakespeare had an excellent understanding of classical Latin literature and the Bible. He married Anne Hathaway in 1582, at the age of 18, and together they had a daughter in 1583 and twins in 1585. His son Hamnet tragically died when he was only 11 years old, but his name lives on in one of Shakespeare's most famous plays, *Hamlet*.

By the early 1590s, Shakespeare was living in London, and working as a successful dramatist, actor, and poet. He had a wealthy patron, the Earl of Southampton. Shakespeare also earned money through buying part of a theatre and its acting company. He became famous for his work, and when he returned to Stratford around 1610, he was a rich man who owned several properties.

Shakespeare lived through a time of rapid changes. London was growing very fast, and became a centre for rich and fashionable people. Exploration of the 'New World' (North and South America) and scientific discoveries had an important effect on people's beliefs about religion and the world they lived in. Even so, printing wasn't yet cheap or popular during Shakespeare's lifetime. For this reason,

printed portraits of the author or copies of his works only became available a while after his death. His words were famous when he was alive, but became much more so in the centuries following his death.



3 Find these numbers in the text. Write a sentence about each one.

three Shakespeare had three children.

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| a 1564 | f 18 |
| b 23 | g 1585 |
| c 52 | h 11 |
| d 500 | i 1590s |
| e 1582 | j 1616 |

4 Write questions for these answers about the text. Use all of the question words in the box.

what kind	how	when
why	who	where

- In the late 16th and early 17th century.
- Probably on 23rd April 1564.
- In Stratford-upon-Avon.
- Because we have no school records about him.
- Because he writes about them in his works.
- A woman called Anne Hathaway.
- About ten years after he was married.
- He wrote poems and plays.

5 Find words in the text with these meanings.

- something that we don't know much about (n)
- a church ceremony to give a baby its name and welcome it into the church (n)
- two events that happen surprisingly at the same time or place (n)
- papers that show what happened in the past (n pl)
- very sadly (adv)
- author of plays for the theatre (n)
- a rich person who pays for an artist to create new work (n)
- houses or buildings (n pl)
- a picture of a person (n)
- easy to copy or get (adj)

6 Read about Shakespeare's works.

His works and fame

Shakespeare is one of the world's most translated authors. He is best known for the many plays he wrote. These include comedies, tragedies, and historical plays about the classical world and British kings and queens. From an early age, he was also a successful actor, and played in *The Lord Chamberlain's Men*.

In his time, theatres were often built in a circle shape, with an open roof. Poorer people stood on the ground around the stage, and if they didn't like the play, they threw old fruit at the actors! Shakespeare's works contain every human emotion and experience – from sadness and violence to simple jokes to please these 'groundlings'. His most famous theatre, 'The Globe', was open between 1599 and 1642. A reproduction was rebuilt in central London, just 230 metres from the original site, in 1997. It is now visited by almost 1 million people a year, while his birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon attracts around 3 million visitors.

When the Black Death closed theatres in 1593–1594, Shakespeare wrote poetry. During his lifetime, several longer works and songs were published. His 154 sonnets, or 14-line poems, form one of the world's most well-loved collections of poetry.

Shakespeare worked in an age before reliable dictionaries or printing, and all of his poetry and plays were hand-written. He wrote words with many different spellings – even his own name! While most people know around 20,000 words, he used around 34,000. His works added many words and phrases to the English language which are still in use today.



7 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 You can read Shakespeare's works in many languages. _____
- 2 Some of Shakespeare's plays were about real people. _____
- 3 In Shakespeare's time, theatre was only for the rich. _____
- 4 'Groundlings' worked in the theatre. _____
- 5 You can still see the original Globe Theatre. _____
- 6 More people visit the place where Shakespeare was born than the modern Globe Theatre in London. _____
- 7 Theatres closed in the 1590s because of public health problems. _____
- 8 Shakespeare wrote an English dictionary. _____

8 Shakespeare coined (or invented) hundreds of new English phrases. Try to match the underlined phrases with their meanings.

- 1 Of course I know her. She's my own flesh and blood!
- 2 As luck would have it, I can help with your problem.
- 3 This door is stuck. It won't budge an inch.
- 4 This car has seen better days! Does it still work?
- 5 I don't think this was an accident. I suspect foul play.
- 6 I told a few jokes to break the ice at the party.
- 7 My phone's vanished into thin air! Has anyone seen it?
- 8 I haven't slept one wink and am completely exhausted.

- a fortunately _____
- b completely disappeared _____
- c help people to relax _____
- d rested at all _____
- e part of my family _____
- f think somebody did something wrong _____
- g move at all _____
- h is old and broken _____



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Have you read any of Shakespeare's works? If so, what did you like / dislike about them?

I read *Macbeth* at school. It was okay, but I wouldn't read that kind of literature for pleasure. Shakespeare's plays are good to watch, but I prefer to read them.

- Do you like to read classical literature, or do you prefer to read today's writers?

I prefer to read modern literature. You have to work harder to read writing from another time, but it's worth it.

PROJECT

Make a poster about a classical writer from your country. Include these things:

- a few details of his / her life and times
- his / her most famous works and some quotations from them
- what you like most about him / her

