Vanessa Rowley

BitGeneration

apeiron edizioni

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Vanessa Rowley

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Tel. 081.5456343 – Fax 081.5607783
E-mail: info@apeironedizioni.it

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Introduction

Bit Generation and technology

Nowadays technology is undeniably part of the lives of our children and teenagers and it surely can seem a little overwhelming. It sometimes seems that teenagers' lives revolve around their phone and technology. From the internet and social media, to phones, apps, games, television, it's easy to wonder whether it's all too much.

Young people use the internet and social media to:

- connect with, comment on and discuss things with others, or even manifest or inform an uneasiness or mistreatment or injustice, through social networking, e-mailing and online messaging.
- **find, create or share interesting photos, videos or articles.**
- learn about topics that interest them.
- join and follow interest groups.
- as a study tool for school.

Young people love going on line, for very good reasons. By using the internet, they can:

- maintain and develop supportive relationships.
- easily access information to inform and educate themselves.
- form their identities through self-expression, learning and talking.
- promote a sense of belonging and self-esteem through staying connected with friends and being involved in diverse communities.

Potential risks online are closely related to issues young people can experience at school, at home and in the community. It's important to remember that, just as teenagers need to have **good rules for offline behaviour, and the guidance and morals** to make good decisions, they also need things to protect them when on line. If young people understand what it means to be a good “digital global citizen” we have any reason to trust them with managing their own internet use, just as we trust them to act responsibly when they're at school and out with friends. Who knows, maybe this new “Bit Generation” will be able to make a change. As far as I know, they’ve already started!

Bit Generation

GRETA THUNBERG, a 15 year-old student from Sweden, captured the attention of the world recently when she shamed climate change negotiators at a United Nations climate summit in Poland. The teen has inspired thousands of young people around the world to walk out of their schools on Fridays to demand adults to take more action to protect their futures and those of future generations.

Greta Thunberg's speech to UN secretary general Antònio Guterres:

For 25 years countless of people have stood in front of the United Nations climate conferences, asking our nation's leaders to stop the emissions. But, clearly, this has not worked since the emissions just continue to rise.
So I will not ask them anything.
Instead, I will ask the media to start treating the crisis as a crisis.
Instead, I will ask the people around the world to realize that our political leaders have failed us.
Because we are facing an existential threat and there is no time to continue down this road of madness.

Rich countries like Sweden need to start reducing emissions by at least 15**%** every year to reach the 2 degree warming target. You would think the media and everyone of our leaders would be talking about nothing else – but no one ever even mentions it.

Nor does hardly anyone ever talk about that we are in the midst of the sixth mass extinction, with up to 200 species going extinct every single day.

How can we expect countries like India, Colombia or Nigeria to care about the climate crisis if we, who already have everything, don't care even a second about our actual commitments to the Paris agreement?

So when school started in August this year I sat myself down on the ground outside the Swedish parliament. I school striked for the climate.

Some people say that I should be in school instead. Some people say that I should study to become a climate scientist so that I can ”solve the climate crisis”. But the climate crisis has already been solved. We already have all the facts and solutions.

And why should I be studying for a future that soon may be no more, when no one is doing anything to save that future? And what is the point of learning facts when the most important facts clearly mean nothing to our society?

Today we use 100 million barrels of oil every single day. There are no politics to change that. There are no rules to keep that oil in the ground.

So we can’t save the world by playing by the rules. Because the rules have to be changed.

So we have not come here to beg the world leaders to care for our future. They have ignored us in the past and they will ignore us again.

We have come here to let them know that change is coming whether they like it or not. The people will rise to the challenge. And since our leaders are behaving like children, we will have to take the responsibility they should have taken long ago.

Greta Thunberg

The above text is written by Greta Thunberg. It is published with Greta Thunberg’s approval.

https://www. youtube. com/watch?v=EAmmUlEsN9A

“We are going to be a great generation”

9-year-old **YOLANDA RENEE KING** told thousands of young protesters at the March for our lives in Washington DC. Yolanda, the granddaughter of Martin Luther King takes part in the massive wave of youth activism in the US. They started to protest after the devastating shooting in which 17 lives were taken at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The young survivors of the shooting have set an example for the world to bring about change and awareness.

RENE SILVA set up his first newspaper at the age of 11 in Brazil. He live-tweeted a police raid on his neighbourhood when he was 17 and has just completed his first book at the age of 19. Many areas of Rio de Janeiro were long seen as violent no-go zones run by armed drug gangs, but Silva has used social media to show a more sympathetic, complex and hopeful side.

JACK ANDRAKA, 16, is the most recent grand prize winner of the Intel International science and engineering fair – where he unveiled an inexpensive way to detect pancreatic cancer.

ZEA TONGEMAN, 14 year-old from London has designed an app called Jazzy Recycling that aims to get people recycling by turning the sometimes tiresome task into a game.

BANA ALABED, 8-year old Syrian refugee took to Twitter to broadcast the nightmarish experience of living in Aleppo during the siege, airstrikes, and hunger. Her family was eventually able to escape to Turkey, but her experience stuck to her and led her to write a book, Dear World: A Syrian Girl’s Story of War and Plea for Peace.

SONITA ALIZADEH is fighting against the patriarchal policies of forced marriages in her home country of Aghanistan. Alizadeh was nearly married twice, at the age of 10 and 16, before she rebelled by releasing a rap video titled “Bride for Sale” about the experience of women being sold into marriage by their families. It was a big risk but, it paid off. She continues to perform her powerful brand of rap and inspire a new generation of girls to rebel against the cruel tradition of child brides in her country.

MELATI and **ISABEL WIJSEN** are two sisters who started their own company, **Bye Bye Plastic Bags** in 2013, at the ages of 10 and 12, respectively. They live in Bali, and were inspired after lessons about Nelson Mandela, Lady Diana, and Mahatma Gandhi in school and decided to literally be the change they wanted to see in the world. The girls’ basic mission was to get the people of Bali to simply start saying **NO** to plastic bags. They started with beach cleanups. Today their company has successfully lobbied Bali airport to ban plastic bags, and by this year, the entire island of Bali was declared plastic bag free. The country of Indonesia, one of the most populous in the world, is planning to ban all plastic bags by 2021.

KELVIN DOE was just six when the violent civil war in his country of Sierra leone officially ended, and despite his young age and lack of traditional engineering education, he quickly became one of the leading technological inventors. When he was 11, he looked through garbage for scrap electronics that could help fix local problems. At 13, he started making his own batteries to help power lights in people’s homes. He built a generator and used it to power a community radio. He became the station’s DJ Focus. In 2012, when he was 15, Doe became the youngest ever “visiting practitioner” with the MIT International Development Initiative, where he had the chance to present his inventions to MIT students, took part in research, and even taught engineering students at Harvard.

50 MILES MORE KATIE EDER’S ACTIVISM is encouraging other young people to speak up. Inspired by the Selma to Montgomery marches of the Civil Rights Movement, Eder’s mission is to make sure teens know that their voices are important and influential. She’s also a founding member of Future Coalition, which organized Walkout to Vote, that encouraged young people to march to the polls on election day.

When **SOPHIE CRUZ**, at the age of 6, was able to get through tight security to give Pope Francis a letter that said, in Spanish: “my friend and I love each other no matter our skin colour”. She asked the Pope to speak with “the President and Congress” about immigration: she fears that her parents, who are undocumented immigrants living in America, could be deported at any day. She spoke at the Women’s March on Washington in January 2017, when she again advocated for immigrant’s rights. “**We are here together making a chain of love to protect our families. Let us fight with love, faith and courage so that our families will not be destroyed**”.

UNIT 1

All about the United Kingdom of Britain and Northen Ireland

History

The first Britons were the Picts, who arrived about 10,000 years ago. In the 8th century BC, the Celts arrived from Europe and pushed the Picts north into Scotland. The Romans invaded England in AD 43 and they ruled for about 400 years. They built the first roads and luxurious villas and bathhouses.

By the 6th century AD, German people known as **Angles**, **Jutes**, and **Saxons** moved to Britain. The Angles gave their name to England, and English people became known as the **Anglo-Saxons**. From the 900s to the 1400s, England was ruled by Viking, Danish, and Norman invaders.

In 1485 the Welsh noble Henry Tudor claimed the English crown and became Henry VII, the first of five Tudor monarchs. Many important lines of queens and kings followed.

By the 1800s, Britain was one of the most powerful nations in the world. The country built up an enormous and rich overseas empire. During the period of World War I and II most of the colonies became independent again because Britain was not able to afford its empire any longer.

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

Around 450 AD, the Ancient Romans left Britain and the Anglo-Saxons seized their chance and left their homes in Germany, Denmark and Netherlands and sailed over to Britain on wooden boats.

The Anglo-Saxons were a group of farmer-warriors and were called the Angle, Saxon, and Jute tribes. They were fierce people, who fought many battles during their rule of Britain. Each tribe was ruled by its own strong warrior who settled their people in different parts of the country. They didn't like the stone houses and streets left by the Romans, so they built their own villages. Many towns and villages still carry their Anglo-Saxon names today, including “**England**” which comes from the Saxon word “**Angle-Land**”.

Answer the questions

1. Who were the first Britons? .....

.....

2. When did they arrive in Britain? .....

.....

3. Who invaded England in AD 43? .....

.....

4. How long did the Romans rule? .....

.....

5. What did they build? .....

.....

6. Who ruled England from the 900s to the 1400s? .....

.....

7. Where did the Anglo-Saxons come from? .....

.....

8. What kind of people were the Anglo-Saxons? .....

.....

9. Where does the name 'England' come from? .....

.....

Fact

The Anglo-Saxon period of history shaped many parts of England as we know it today – the words we use for the days of the week for example. Have a go at saying them!

Monandaeg
Tiwesdaeg
Wodnesdaeg
Dunresdaeg
Frigedaeg
Saeternesdaeg
Sunnandaeg

Stonehenge

Stonehenge is one of the most famous monuments in the world. It stands on Salisbury Plain and its giant stones can be seen from far distances around. Stonehenge started to be built in the late **Neolithic Age**, around 3000 BC, but over the next thousand years, people made many changes to the monument. The last changes were made in the early **Bronze Age**, around 1500 BC.

We do not know exactly why Stonehenge was built, but people probably gathered there for **religious ceremonies**.

Some people think that it was used to study the movement of the sun and moon. Other people think it was a place of healing.

The ancient Britons believed that the Sun and Moon had a special power over their lives. Probably they held special ceremonies there on Midsummer's Day (the longest day of the year) and on Midwinter's Day (the shortest day of the year).

Another theory is that Stonehenge was used for funerals. They suggest that people carried the dead along the River Avon, and then walked up to Stonehenge in a grand procession.

Answer the questions

1. What is Stonehenge? ……

……

2. When was it first built? ……

……

3. When were the last changes made?……

……

4. Do we know exactly why it was built? ……

……

5. What do some people think? ……

……

6.What did the ancient Britons believe? ……

……

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The United Kingdom is a sovereign state made up of four countries – England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

Around 65 million people live in the United Kingdom. English is the most widely spoken language but there are other minority languages.

The UK, as it is sometimes called, is a constitutional monarchy and its capital city is London. The UK is north-west off the coast of mainland Europe.

Around the UK are the North Sea, the English Channel and the Atlantic Ocean. It is linked to France and Europe by the **Channel Tunnel**.

Facts:

- **England** is the biggest country of the four. The people are called English. Their native language is English. A few people in the south-west part can speak Cornish (Celtic language).
- **Scotland** is to the north of England. The people are called Scottish or Scots. Some people speak Scottish Gaelic (Celtic language) or Scots (Germanic language).
- **Wales** is to the west of England. The people are called Welsh and they speak Welsh.
- **Northern Ireland** is on the island of Ireland. The people are Irish and speak Irish (Celtic language).

Tick true (T) or false (F)

	T	F
The United Kingdom is made up of four countries.	☐	☐
The capital city is Manchester.	☐	☐
The UK is linked to Europe by a bridge.	☐	☐
Everybody speaks Irish and Scottish in the United Kingdom.	☐	☐

Answer the questions

1. Between which seas does the UK lie? .....

.....

2. Which is the biggest country of the UK? .....

.....

3. Which country is the UK linked to by the Channel Tunnel? .....

.....

4. What languages are spoken in the UK? .....

.....

Remember:

The United Kingdom is the country. It is not to be confused with Great Britain, its largest island which contains three of the four countries: England, Scotland and Wales.

England

England is the largest and most populous country of the United Kingdom. It is the southern part of Great Britain. It borders with Scotland to the north and with Wales to the west.

The capital is London and other major cities are Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Liverpool, and Leeds. England includes many small Islands such as the Isle of Wight and Hayling Island.

Nearly 84% of the population of the UK live in England.

The south of England is mostly a low-lying land, with hills and agriculture and the north is mostly covered in moorland and mountains.

The main rivers are the Thames and the Severn.

Many important and famous people come from England such as Shakespeare, the Beatles and JK Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter books.

Facts:

– 165 million cups of tea per day are consumed in the UK.
– Nowhere in England is more than 75 miles (121 km) from the sea.

Fun Fact

– There are over 30,000 people with the name John Smith in England.

Notes

Capital: .....

Border countries: .....

Main rivers: .....

Main cities: .....

Islands: .....

Environment: .....

Answer the questions

1. Which countries border with England? .....

.....

2. What are the names of the main rivers? .....

.....

3. Which famous people come from England? .....

.....

4. What are the names of some important cities? .....

.....

5. Where do most of the people live in the UK? .....

.....

Remember:

England uses the pound sterling for their money.

Climate and weather

All parts of the UK have a temperate and humid climate. It is influenced by the Atlantic Ocean. In general the summers are warm and the winters are cool. The summers are cooler than those of the continent, but the winters are milder. The temperature does not go much lower than 0 degrees in winter and not higher than 32 degrees in summer.

The weather is very variable. It is difficult to predict the weather in Great Britain. One minute it can be gorgeous sunshine, the next it can be cloudy, cold and raining. Even on sunny days during the summer, if someone goes out they will usually "**take a coat just in case**" as it can change at any moment. This makes England's weather extremely interesting to talk about.

English speakers love to talk about the weather. **It is a way of breaking the ice** (starting a conversation). People talk about the weather on the phone and in person. Friends and family talk about the weather before they discuss what's new. Even strangers discuss the weather.

Some common conversations:

"Beautiful day, huh?"
"We couldn't ask for a better day than this".

"What's it like out?"
"It's miserable out".

"It's snowing here, what's it doing there?'
"It's pouring outside". (raining heavily)

Facts:

– The highest temperature ever recorded in England was 38.5 degrees in Kent in 2003.

Fun Fact

– 80,000 umbrellas are expected to be lost annually in the London tube.

Tick the correct ones

1. How's the weather?
   a) It is snow. ☐
   b) It is snowy. ☐
   c) It is snowing. ☐

2. What's it like out?
   a) It rains. ☐
   b) It is rainy. ☐
   c) It is raining. ☐

3. what's the weather like?
   a) It is sun. ☐
   b) It is sunny. ☐
   c) The sun is shining. ☐

Answer the questions

1. What's the climate like in the UK? .....

.....

2. What influences the climate? .....

.....

3. Are the summers like those of the continent? .....

.....

4. Why is it difficult to predict the weather? .....

.....

Remember:

English idioms: weather

- Raining cats and dogs = raining very heavily
- Face like thunder = being clearly very angry
- Storm in a teacup = exaggerate a problem
- Chase rainbows = try to achieve the impossible
- Head in the clouds = have unrealistic ideas

Wales

Wales, also known as **Cymru** in **Welsh**, is part of Great Britain and the United Kingdom.

Wales is a mountainous country on the western side of Great Britain. It is bordered by England to the east and the Irish Sea to the north. Cardiff is the largest city and also the capital of Wales. Other major cities are Swansea and Newport. Wales has a population of about 3,000,000 and English and Welsh are the two official languages. Welsh is a Celtic based language. It is spoken by over 20% of the population.

Technically, Wales is a **Principality**. This means that it is ruled by a prince. Traditionally the Prince of Wales is the elected son of the English monarch. Until 1999, Wales was ruled directly from London. Nowadays it is not an independent country but does have autonomy from the United Kingdom with respect to internal governance.

Tick true (T) or false (F)

	T	F
Wales is in the south-east of Great Britain.	☐	☐
Wales borders with Scotland.	☐	☐
It's main languages are English and Welsh.	☐	☐
Wales is ruled by a prince?	☐	☐
English is spoken by over 20% of the population.	☐	☐

Answer the questions

1. Where is Wales situated? .....

.....

2. What is the capital city of Wales? .....

.....

3. Which country borders with Wales? .....

.....

4. What are the main languages? .....

.....

5. What does Principality mean? .....

.....

6. Who is traditionally the Prince of Wales? .....

.....

Fact

Mount Everest was named after Welshman and explorer Sir George Everest from Gwernwale.

Cardiff is home to the world's oldest record shop, Spiller, founded in 1894.

Scotland

Scotland is part of the island of Great Britain. Edinburgh is the capital city while the largest city is Glasgow. Other major cities are Aberdeen and Dundee. Scotland is situated north of England on the isle. The highest mountain is Ben Nevis.

The country can be divided into three areas - Lowlands, Highlands and islands. The Lowlands are known for their fertile farmland, the Highlands for their mountains, moorland and deep lochs (the Scottish word for lakes). Scotland includes 700 islands.

Scotland has been populated for 12,000 years, and has a rich and complex history. In 43 AD the Romans successfully invaded Britain and fought frequently with the native Scots, called the Caledonions.

In 1707 **the Act of Union** was signed, meaning Scotland, England and Wales were now a single state with one monarch.

Scotland is famous for its kilts, bagpipes, medieval castles, as well as poetry and songs. The most famous actor is probably Sean Connery (the first 007 agent). The Scots are a nation of innovators. Throughout the centuries Scottish people have brought us a huge range of new concepts, scientific discoveries, inventions and more. Some of these things include the telephone, the television and penicillin.

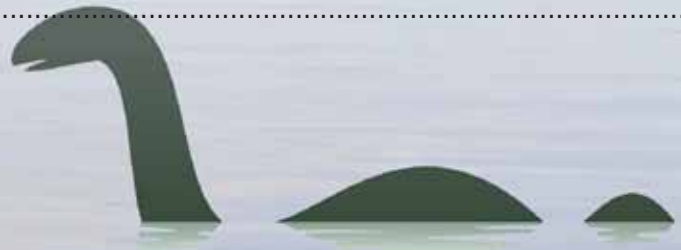
Many important athletes come from Scotland, such as tennis player Andy Murray.

Choose the right answer

1. Scotland is situated in the…… of Great Britain. south ☐ north ☐ middle ☐
2. The capital city is …… Glasgow ☐ Edinburgh ☐ Oxford ☐
3. The largest city is …… Edinburgh ☐ Glasgow ☐ Cardiff ☐
4. Scotland has been populated for…… years. 12,000 ☐ 15,000 ☐ 5,000 ☐
5. Scotland has …….. islands. 200 ☐ 400 ☐ 700 ☐
6. Scotland's highest mountain is …… Ben Nevis ☐ Snowdon ☐ Ben Macdui ☐

Answer the questions

1. Where is Scotland situated?.....
.....
2. Which is the capital?.....
.....
3. What is Scotland part of?.....
.....
4. Which is the largest city? .....
.....
5. Which is the highest peak? .....
.....
6. How many areas can Scotland be divided into?.....
.....
7. What is Scotland famous for?.....
.....
8. What did the Scots invent?.....
.....



Fun fact

It may not be completely surprising, but Scotland has more than 600 square miles of fresh water lakes. That means there may be more than one "Nessie" (monster of Loch Ness) swimming around under the surface.

Scotland has the world's largest hedge (particular bush). It is over 1700 feet in length and 100 feet high.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland or Ulster as it is often called, is the smallest of the four parts of the United Kingdom. It is also the only one which is not situated on the Island of Great Britain. It lies in the north-eastern corner of the island of Ireland. The capital city is Belfast. 1.8 million people live in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland has rolling hills surrounded by low mountains. In the middle of the country there is Lough Neagh, the largest lake in the United Kingdom.

In 1801 the whole of Ireland became part of the UK. In 1921 Ireland was split into two countries, **Northern Ireland** and **Republic of Ireland**.

Two communities have been in conflict for many years : The Republicans and the Unionists. **The Republicans** are Roman Catholic and they want Northern Ireland to be part of Ireland. **The Unionists** are Protestant. They want Northern Ireland to remain part of the United Kingdom.

There are over 2,000 **murals** in Northern Ireland. The objective behind the murals were to mark ones territory, show resistance and commemorate people who had died in the fights.

Sport is very important in the lives of the people. The most popular sports are Gaelic football, hurling, golf and rugby. One of Northern Ireland's most famous football player is Goerge Best.

Answer the questions

1. Is Northern Ireland part of the United Kingdom?.....

.....

2. Where is Northern Ireland situated on the island? .....

.....

3. What is the capital city?.....

.....

4. When did Ireland become part of the United Kingdom?.....

.....

5. When was Ireland split? .....

.....

6. What are the names of the two communities that have had many conflicts?.....

.....

7. What are the two main religions in Northern Ireland? .....

.....

8. What were the objectives behind the morals?.....

.....

Fact

St. Patrick's day has become a global celebration of Irish culture on March 17th. It remembers St. Patrick, one of Ireland's patron saints.

Ireland is often called "the Emerald" because of its beautiful green nature.

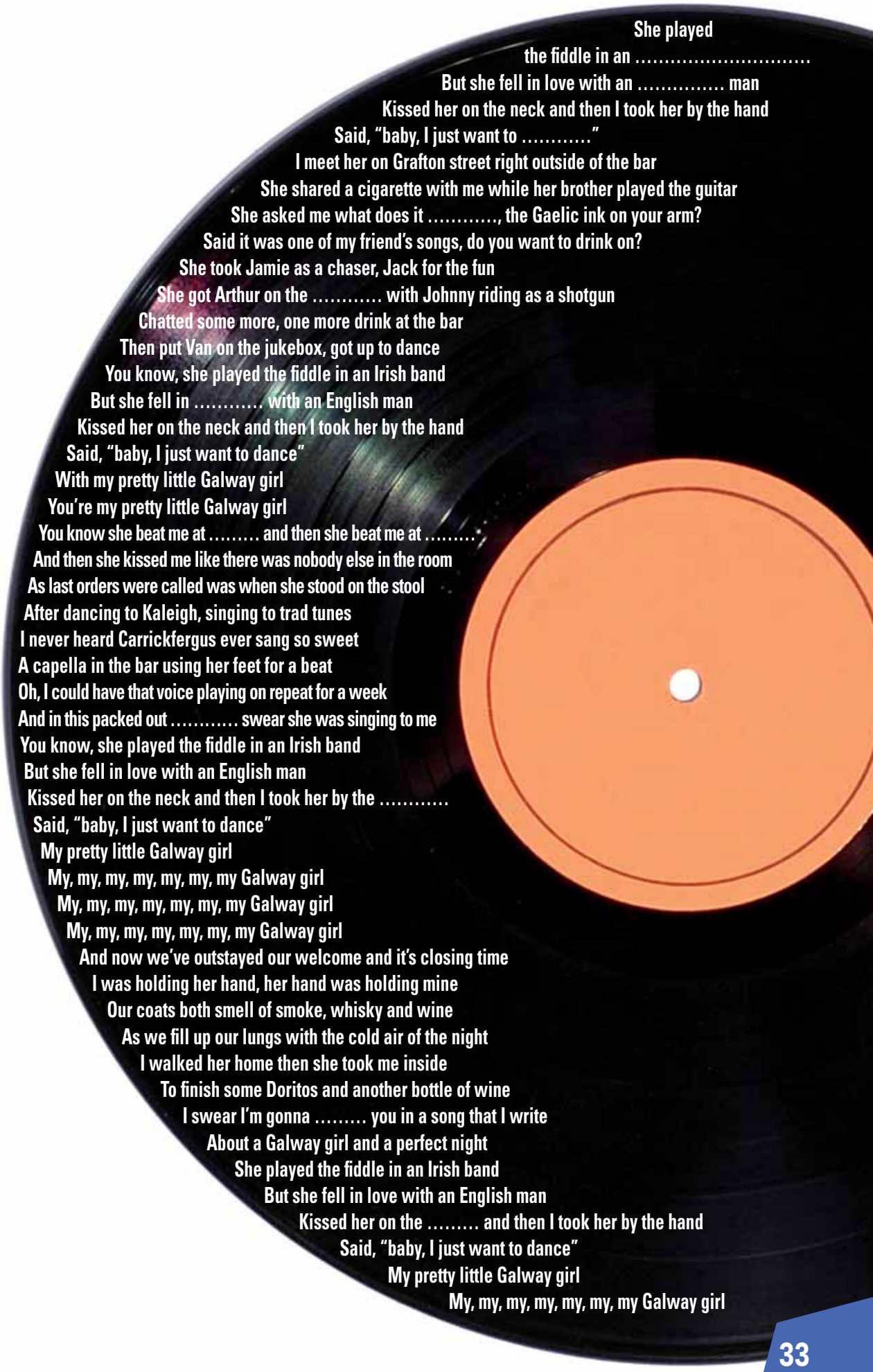
Fun fact

It is said that there are more sheep than people in Ireland.

Joke We're driving around Ireland: Someone leans back, closes their eyes, and says, "Wake me if you see any sheep".

Break

Galway girl



She played
the fiddle in an ……
But she fell in love with an …… man
Kissed her on the neck and then I took her by the hand
Said, "baby, I just want to ……"
I meet her on Grafton street right outside of the bar
She shared a cigarette with me while her brother played the guitar
She asked me what does it ……, the Gaelic ink on your arm?
Said it was one of my friend's songs, do you want to drink on?
She took Jamie as a chaser, Jack for the fun
She got Arthur on the …… with Johnny riding as a shotgun
Chatted some more, one more drink at the bar
Then put Van on the jukebox, got up to dance
You know, she played the fiddle in an Irish band
But she fell in …… with an English man
Kissed her on the neck and then I took her by the hand
Said, "baby, I just want to dance"
With my pretty little Galway girl
You're my pretty little Galway girl
You know she beat me at …… and then she beat me at ……
And then she kissed me like there was nobody else in the room
As last orders were called was when she stood on the stool
After dancing to Kaleigh, singing to trad tunes
I never heard Carrickfergus ever sang so sweet
A capella in the bar using her feet for a beat
Oh, I could have that voice playing on repeat for a week
And in this packed out …… swear she was singing to me
You know, she played the fiddle in an Irish band
But she fell in love with an English man
Kissed her on the neck and then I took her by the ……
Said, "baby, I just want to dance"
My pretty little Galway girl
My, my, my, my, my, my, my Galway girl
My, my, my, my, my, my, my Galway girl
My, my, my, my, my, my, my Galway girl
And now we've outstayed our welcome and it's closing time
I was holding her hand, her hand was holding mine
Our coats both smell of smoke, whisky and wine
As we fill up our lungs with the cold air of the night
I walked her home then she took me inside
To finish some Doritos and another bottle of wine
I swear I'm gonna …… you in a song that I write
About a Galway girl and a perfect night
She played the fiddle in an Irish band
But she fell in love with an English man
Kissed her on the …… and then I took her by the hand
Said, "baby, I just want to dance"
My pretty little Galway girl
My, my, my, my, my, my, my Galway girl

Dear Pen friend,

I'm Jane and I'm 12 years old. I live in London, England. I've got a brother. His name's Peter and he's 15 years old. I've also got a pet. It's a black cat called Mimi. My mum is a nurse and my father is a journalist.
I love drawing and I read quite a lot. I'm a Harry Potter fan! I play the guitar and play tennis twice a week. What are your hobbies? Do you play an instrument? Do you like sports?
I'm medium height and have got long dark hair and green eyes. I've got many friends, but my best friend is Lilly. She's from India, but she's been living here since she was born. We do everything together and love the same things. We like going to the cinema on Saturdays and we love listening to music. Our favourite singer is Ed Sheeran. We ♡ him !!! Do you know him? Who's your favourite singer or group? You won't believe it, but we love football too. Our favourite team is Arsenal. We sometimes even go to the stadium. Have you got a team you like?
I have to stop writing now. My mum's coming back from work soon and my room's still in a mess!

Bye (for now!)

Hope to hear from you soon.

Love Jane

UNIT 2

Around and about London

London

London is the capital city of England and of the United Kingdom. It is located in the south east of England on the River Thames. London was founded by the Romans in 40 AD and called **Londinium**. From 1831 to 1925 it was the world's most populous city. Today it is Europe's largest city and has a population of approximately 8.7 million. It is a very important centre of culture, business and government. London has a diverse range of people and cultures. Its population is very cosmopolitan. There are about 300 different languages spoken.

Millions of tourists visit London every year. London's best known attractions include Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Piccadilly Circus, St. Paul's Cathedral, Tower Bridge and Trafalgar Square. There are also modern sights, such as the London Eye or Madame Tussauds where you can visit wax sculptures of the world's most famous people, past and present. It is home to numerous museums, galleries, libraries, including the British Museum, the National Gallery, the Natural History Museum, the British Library and the West End Theatres.

Fact

"**Cockney**" refers to the accent or the Londoners who were born in London. Adele (famous English singer) has a Cockney accent!

Complete the text

London is the capital city of ..... It was founded by .....and called ..... The population is ..... and it has a diverse range of ..... and ..... There are about 300 ..... Millions of ..... visit London every year. Some important attractions are ....., ..., ... There are also ..... sights, such as ..... and .....

Answer the questions

1. What is the capital city of the United Kingdom? .....

.....

2. How many people live in London? .....

.....

3. How many languages are spoken in London? .....

.....

4. What is the name of its river? .....

.....

5. When was London founded? .....

.....

6. Who founded London? .....

.....

7. What are the names of some of the important attractions? .....

.....

Posh vocabulary

Gosh! – a saying used to express surprise

vestibule – a small room next to the front door where you can leave your coat

divine – extremely good or enjoyable

lavatory – a toilet

London's markets

Markets are a very important part of London's life. Camden Market is an iconic London market. It is not just one central location, but a series of markets in the borough of Camden. You can find covered, outdoor and street markets, full of stalls and little shops. Camden has the reputation for being home of the weird and artistic in London. There is something for everyone. You can admire many talented street artists and musicians or buy peculiar clothes and wonderful antiques. Almost everything is for sale and not very expensive.

The Londoners usually go on Saturday mornings with family or friends. They often stay there for lunch because there are mouth-watering food stalls from all over the world.

Other famous markets are **Portobello Road**, **Petticoat Lane**, and **Covent Garden**. They are very crowded and many people from different countries come to see them.

Fact

Several historic writers lived in Camden, including George Orwell, Mary Shelly, and Charles Dickens.

Famous talents who have shopped at the Market include: Mick Jagger, Boy George, and Paul McCartney. Many fashion designers (Giorgio Armani, Vivienne Westwood etc.) got their inspirations from there.

Complete the passage with adjectives

Markets are a very …… part of London's life. Camden Market is an …… market. Camden has the reputation for being home of the …… and …… in London. You can admire many …… street artists or buy …… clothes and …… antiques. People have lunch there because there are …… food stalls.

Answer the questions

Do you have markets in your country? ……

……

Are they usually indoors or outdoors (or both)? ……

……

What do the markets sell? ……

……

Are there any food stalls? ……

……

When do the markets open and close? ……

……

Are they cheap or expensive? ……

……

Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace is the Queen's official and main royal home. It has been the official London residence of the queens and kings since 1837. Queen Victoria was the first monarch to live there.

Buckingham Palace is not only the home of the Queen and her family but also a place where she receives important people.

When the Queen is at home, you can see her royal flag flying from the flag pole on top of the Palace. Five regiments of Foot Guards guard the Palace. They wear red jackets and tall furry hats called bearskins.

When the first guards come on duty, there is a ceremony called the changing of the guard. This takes place in the forecourt every morning.

Answer the questions

1. Where does the Queen live? .....

.....

2. Who was the first queen to live in Buckingham Palace? .....

.....

3. How do we know when the Queen is at home? .....

.....

4. What do the guards wear? .....

.....

5. When is the changing of the guard? .....

.....

Writing

Write about a famous palace in your country: .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Getting around London

The London **Underground** (also known as the Underground or by its nickname the Tube) is the largest and oldest underground rail network in the entire world. It was first opened in 1863.

The quickest way to get around London is no doubt **the Tube**, that will get you anywhere you want to go in London.

The Tube is made up of 12 lines, each having a traditional name and a colour on the tube map. About 2.5 million passengers use the tube each day. There are currently 275 stations on the 12 lines, and 253 miles of route. 55% of the network is actually above ground. To travel between surface and the underground stations there are 408 escalators and 112 lifts.

London's Double-decker red buses are world famous. The city has nearly 1,000 bus routes. The buses aren't as fast as the Tube, because of the traffic, but it's a unique experience if you sit on the top of the bus at the front.

London's taxis (often called black cabs) have a very long history. These days, black cabs don't have to be black – many cabs have different colours and are often covered in advertising.

Cab drivers in London (known as cabbies) have to pass a test called "the Knowledge" before they can drive a cab. This is an extremely difficult test. They have to memorise 320 routes, 2,500 streets and 20,000 landmarks! The average time to study and pass the exam is 3 years.

What are these numbers referred to?

12 .....

275 .....

408 .....

112 .....

1,000 .....

1863 .....

2,500 .....

3 .....

What is:

The Tube .....

A double-decker .....

A black Cab .....

A cabby .....

Fact

During the second world war, part of the Piccadilly line was used to store British Museum treasure.

London Underground has been known as the Tube due to the shape of the tunnels.

The Underground helped over 200,000 children escape to the countryside during the second world war.

Westminster Abbey

Westminster Abbey is a large, gothic abbey church in the city of Westminster, London. It is located near the House of Parliament and the Thames River.

Westminster Abbey has been part of British history for 1,000 years. Kings and queens have been crowned in the abbey since 1066. Over 3,000 famous people have been buried in Westminster. The tombs of Charles Dickens, David Livingstone, and Charles Darwin can be seen here, as well as those of several British poets.

The abbey is famous for its huge, vaulted ceiling and pointed arches and there are many stone carvings.

Answer the questions

1. Where is Westminster Abbey? .....

.....

2. How old is Westminster Abbey? .....

.....

3. Whose tombs can you see at Westminster Abbey? .....

.....

4. What is the abbey famous for? .....

.....

5. Who got married there? .....

.....

6. What is the Poets' Corner? .....

.....

Fact

The wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton was held in Westminster Abbey.

Poets' corner is a section in Westminster Abbey where many poets, playwrights, and writers are buried and commemorated.

Big Ben

If you have been or seen pictures of London, there is a good chance that you have seen one of the most popular attractions in the world: Big Ben. Big Ben is the name of the giant bell that is inside the huge clock tower (Elizabeth Tower) attached to the palace of Westminster in London. **The Elizabeth Tower** is the largest four-faced **chiming clock** and one of the tallest-standing clock towers. It is 315 feet high. It first started ticking in 1859.

Big Ben chimes every hour, and the tower also has smaller bells that chime every fifteen minutes. You can hear the bell far up to five miles away. People all over the world can hear it on the radio and TV programmes.

Answer the questions

1. What is Big Ben?.....

.....

2. What is the name of the tower? .....

.....

3. Where is the Elizabeth Tower? .....

.....

4. How far can you hear the bell? .....

.....

5. Where can you also hear the bells?.....

.....

6. How often does Big Ben chime? .....

.....

Fact

Amazingly, this clock still chimed after the House of Parliament was bombed during the Second World War. The House of Parliament was completely destroyed, but the clock was unharmed.

Fun fact

In 1945, a flock of birds landed on the minute hand of Big Ben and put the time back by five minutes.

Parks in London

Hyde park is one of the largest and most famous parks in London. It is also one of the Royal Parks in London. Hyde Park was created in 1536 by Henry the VIII for hunting. It was once part of a wild and ancient forest. Later it was opened to the public.

In summer time you can rent a small paddle-boat on the lake Serpentine, have a pick-nick, go fishing or even go swimming.

The famous **Speakers Corner**, where you can speak and shout out to the whole world your opinions about topics that interest you, is part of the park.

Kensington Gardens were created for William III, who lived at Kensington Palace. The palace is still used by the Royal family. Diana, Princess of Wales lived there.

In Kensington Gardens there is a statue of Peter Pan and the Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial Playground.

Facts

There is a tradition in which a few Londoners take a **dip** in the Serpentine every year on Christmas morning.

Hyde Park is home to a pet cemetery.

Hyde Park has been an important venue for rock music concerts and music festivals.

Answer the questions

1. What is the name of one of the biggest parks in London? .....

.....

2. Who created the park? .....

.....

3. What did Henry VIII use it for? .....

.....

4. What can you do in the park? .....

.....

5. What is the Speakers Corner? .....

.....

6. Who lived at Kensington Palace? .....

.....

7. Who still uses the Kensington Gardens? .....

.....

8. What tradition still exists? .....

.....

Break

Maybe It's Because I'm a Londoner

Maybe it's .....
I'm a Londoner
that I love London so

Maybe it's because
I'm a .....
that I think of her
wherever I go

I get a ..... feeling
inside of me
just ..... up and down
maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I love London Town

Maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I love London so

Maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I ..... of her
wherever I go

I get a funny feeling
inside of me
just walking ..... and .....
maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I love London Town

Maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I love London .....

Maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I think of her
wherever I .....

I get a funny feeling
..... of me
just walking up and down
maybe it's because
I'm a Londoner
that I love London Town

Hi Pen friend,
Hope you are fine. I'm ok but the weather here is terrible (as usual) and it has been raining all week. What's the weather like in your country? I'm talking about the weather because I'm going to Camden market on Saturday morning with my mother and I'd prefer a nice and sunny day. Camden market is fantastic and you can buy really cool clothes and shoes there. Two weeks ago I bought a great black leather jacket. I wanted to buy some t-shirts but I didn't like the colours. My mother bought a gorgeous picture with a beautiful frame! She put it in our living-room.
At lunch, we had some Indian food from our favourite stall. While we were eating we listened to a group of musicians from Jamaica. They were really good! I just love my Saturdays at the market! Have you got a famous market in your town? Do you like going to markets?
Sometimes we go to a park called Hyde Park. It's beautiful and full of green. There's a pond and we often feed the ducks. This is all for now. Tell me what you do at the weekends.
Write soon.

Love

Jane

UNIT 3

British lifestyle

Teenagers in Great Britain

Teenagers in Britain do much the same as kids in America or other places in Europe. They enjoy chatting to friends of social networking sites, sending texts, sharing pictures of them or the places where they are on their mobile phones. They like listening to the latest music especially pop and rap, watching romantic and horror films and going shopping in big shopping centres in the centre of the cities or they just like hanging out. Lots of teenagers play computer games or video games on their own phone or on the play-station or x-box. One of the teenagers' favourite books are Harry Potter and Twilight and one of their favourite films are The Princess Diaries or Hunger Games. Teenagers have about 10 pounds a week in pocket money. Many teenagers have a part time job, so some of them work at the weekend. 15 and 16 year-old work on Saturday and during the holidays. They deliver newspapers, work as a waiter, help the milkman to deliver milk or go babysitting.

English teenagers wear similar clothes to other European countries (jeans, sweater, and trainers), but because of the weather, everybody has a pair of wellingtons and a raincoat in their wardrobe.

Answer the questions

1. Are British teenagers like other teenagers? .....

.....

2. What do they enjoy doing? .....

.....

3. What kind of films do they like? .....

.....

4. What kind of music do they like? .....

.....

5. What is one of their favourite books? .....

.....

6. How much pocket money do they usually get? .....

.....

7. What kind of jobs do they do at the weekends or on their holidays? .....

.....

8. What do they usually wear? On rainy days? .....

.....

Project:

Find out

What does an average teenager do in his\her free time in your country?

What kind of films do they watch and which are their favourite?

What kind of books do they read and which are their favourite?

What kind of music do they listen to and which singers or bands are most listened to?

How much pocket money does a teenager get in your country?

Do teenagers do jobs in your country? What kind of jobs do they do?

British meals

Traditional British dishes have had competition from other dishes over the years. Despite this, there are still families, pubs, and restaurants that serve these dishes. The most common and typical food eaten in Britain include fish and chips, pies, and the sandwiches.

People in the UK usually have breakfast, lunch and dinner (sometimes called supper) at home. All meals are less formal than years ago. Most families try to have at least one main meal a day together, but today members of a busy family may all eat at different times and sometimes in front of the television. Most people have a small mid-day meal or just a snack. The evening meal is eaten between 6.30 and not later than 8.00 pm.

The traditional English Breakfast consists of eggs, bacon, sausages, fried bread and baked beans. Not many people eat this for breakfast today, maybe only on Saturdays or Sundays because they have more time to prepare it. However, it is always served in hotels and guest houses around the UK. Nowadays the typical breakfast is a bowl of cereals, a slice of toast with marmalade and butter, orange juice and a cup of tea or coffee. In the winter many people eat porridge.

Typical lunch for children at school and adults at work is a “packed lunch”. This consists of a sandwich, a packet of crisps, a fruit and a drink and kept in a plastic container.

A typical traditional British dinner is “meat and two veg”. They put hot brown gravy (sauce) on the meat. One of the vegetables is always potatoes. The traditional meal is rarely eaten nowadays, apart from Sundays. Nowadays most people eat chicken curry, rice or pasta dishes. Vegetables grown in England, like potatoes, carrots, brussel sprouts, and onions, are still very popular.

On Sundays the main meal of the day is often eaten at midday. This is a ‘Roast Dinner’ consisting of roast meat, Yorkshire pudding and two or three kinds of vegetables.

Table manners

The British generally pay a lot of attention to good table manners. Even young children are expected to eat properly. Most of the food is eaten with cutlery. Fruit, sandwiches and corn on the cob are not eaten with a spoon, knife or fork.

Some golden rules

– If you are a guest, it is polite to wait your host starts eating.
– Always say thank you when served something. It shows appreciation.
– You can eat chicken with your fingers but only if you are at a barbecue.
– Never lick or put your knife in your mouth.
– Soup should always be taken from the side of the spoon.
– Napkins are placed across the lap.

If you have taken too much food and you cannot eat it all
Say:
'I'm sorry. It was delicious but I'm full'.
or
'I'm sorry, but it seems that my eyes are bigger than my stomach'.
The main thing is not to offend your host.

Writing

1. Do you know some other table rules?
2. Are any rules different to your country?
3. What do you usually have for breakfast, lunch and dinner in your country?

It's tea time

Britain is a nation of tea drinkers. Every day more than 160 million cups of tea are drunk and thousands of tons of tea are imported.

Tea breaks are usually at 11.00 a.m. and at 4 p.m. and are common among people who work in offices, home, school etc..

There is still a very popular tradition to have an **afternoon tea** at about 4 p.m.. Mostly in the countryside and in little villages you can find tea-rooms where tea is served with freshly baked scones served with cream and jam (also called cream tea) or afternoon tea sandwiches or pastries. Some families still have an afternoon tea with friends or neighbours on a Sunday.

Common phrases:

'I would like a cuppa' – a person is asking for a cup of tea.

'Fancy a cuppa' – a person would like a cup of tea.

'Let me be mother' – someone is offering to pour out the tea from the teapot.

History

Tea was exported by Asia and arrived in England in the 17th century. Afternoon Tea became popular during the Victorian period in the 19th century. Rich ladies invited their neighbours or friends to their houses for an afternoon cup of tea and then they started to offer some cakes and sandwiches too.

The British working population did not have Afternoon tea. They had a meal about midday, and a meal after work, between five and seven o'clock. This was called High Tea. It consisted of sweet foods such as scones, buns, or tea breads.

How to prepare a traditional tea

Tea is traditionally brewed in a china teapot, adding one spoonful of tea per person and one for the pot. Britons like their tea strong and dark with a lot of milk. Some people add a cube of sugar.
Of course, you can just use a tea bag and pour hot water into the mug!

Writing

1. How do you prepare a traditional drink in your country?
2. Do you know the history of this drink? (find out)
3. When and where do you have this drink?

Tick true (T) or false (F)

	T	F
1. Britain is a coffee-drinking nation.	☐	☐
2. Afternoon Tea is served in the evening.	☐	☐
3. Afternoon Tea is served with sweet cakes.	☐	☐
4. Tea breaks are at lunch time.	☐	☐
5. Britons like tea without milk.	☐	☐
6. Tea comes from America.	☐	☐

British pubs

The United Kingdom is famous for its pubs. The word pub is short for public house. There are over 60,000 pubs in the UK. A pub is not just a place where you can have a beer (pint), wine, cider or a soft drink. British pubs are a part of every day life. Many people go there to play pool, watch a football match or a golf tournament, meet their friends, or just relax.

Pubs often have two or three bars, one usually quieter than the other. Many have a garden where people can sit in the summer and where children can go with their parents. Nearly all pubs sell pub lunches and usually serve traditional British food. Pubs usually open at 11 a.m. and close at 11.30 p.m.. The sound of a bell means that it's last order, you've got twenty minutes to finish up!

Pubs have typical names which date back over 600 years. Some names are The Royal Oak, The Crown or The Red Lion. There is usually a sign outside the pub showing the pub's name with a picture.

One of the great things about the pub culture in the UK is that it is normal to start a conversation with a stranger and even make new friends. It might be a comment about the weather or the football scores or something about politics or family.

Facts

William Shakespeare's dad was a beer inspector.

Ye Olde Mitre in Holborn has a cherry tree inside the front wall that Elizabeth I once danced around, according to the pub's legend.

Ye Olde Chesshire Cheese on Fleet Street was opened in 1538 and many significant literary figures drank there, such as Mark Twain, W. B. Yeats and Charles Dickens.

Answer the questions

1. What do people like doing at the pub? .....

.....

2. Can pubs have more than one bar? .....

.....

3. What do many pubs have outside? .....

.....

4. What are some typical names of pubs? .....

.....

5. What does the sound of a bell mean? .....

.....

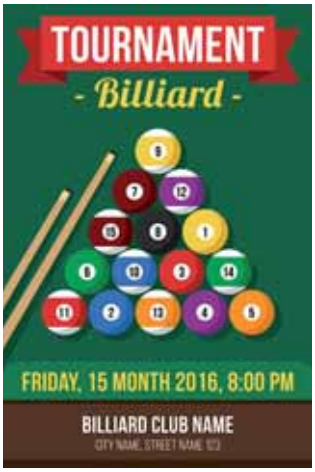
6. What is great about the pub culture? .....

.....

Writing

What about your country?

1. Do you have pubs? What are they like?
2. Are they like in England? Are there any differences?
3. Do you have other places where people meet?
4. What do the people do there?



Multicultural Britain

Britain has a long history of absorbing people from different cultural or ethnic groups.

If you walk along a street in Britain, especially in big cities you will most probably see people with different skin, hair and eye colours. Most of these people are British but they all look different from each other because the people of Britain are a mixed race.

Britain is and has always been a **mixed race society**. In the history Britain was invaded by Romans, Saxons, Vikings and Normans and later Africans were brought to Britain by force in the 17th and 18th centuries as slaves and servants. Over the years, many people have arrived in Britain as refugees from Ireland, Russia, France and Poland escaping from persecution or famine in their countries.

There are British whose families first came to Britain in the 1950s and 1960s from India, Pakistan and the Caribbean and other places. Many of them live in big cities like London, Manchester and Bristol.

Today 8% of the population are from **minority ethnic groups**. People coming to Britain have brought their own cultures. They try to maintain and keep their cultures alive, but also give the British a possibility to have a wider cultural life.

Everything in modern Britain – from music and fashion to food and language – has been shaped by different ethnic communities, cultures and social groups.

– **Ethnic cuisine** has become part of the British diet with a wide variety of different dishes and spices.
– **Britain's urban youngsters set the trend** worldwide for their style in clothes, language and music – mainly based on a unique combination of ethnic styles.
– **Sportsmen and women** from minority ethnic have contributed to Britain's sporting success with many people achieving world class and Olympic status in sports like football, cricket, athletics and boxing.
– **The annual events calender** in the UK is full with cultural, social and religious festivals reflecting multicultural Britain. Notting Hill Carnival which comes from the Caribbean culture is just one example.

Answer the questions

1. Do people in Britain all look the same? Why or why not? .....

   .....
2. From which countries have many people arrived from in Britain?.....

   .....
3. Why did these people leave their own countries?

   .....

   .....
4. What important benefit have they brought with them?.....

   .....
5. Write down some examples of what some ethnic communities have brought to England: .....

   .....

   .....

Break

English Tea

Would you care to …… with me
For a …… of English tea
Very twee, very me
Any …… morning

What a pleasure it would be
…… so delightfully
Nanny bakes, fairy ……
Every Sunday morning
Miles of miles of English ……, stretching past the willow tree
Lines of holly, hocks and roses, listen most attentively

Do you know the …… crochet
Peradventure we might play
Very gay, hip hooray
Any sunny morning

Miles of miles of English garden, stretching past the willow tree
Lines of holly, hocks and roses, listen most attentively

As a rule the church bells ……
When it's almost …… time
Nanny ……, fairy cakes

Hi penfriend,
How are things going? Today, I'd like to speak about food in my country. I know that other countries don't like and don't speak very well about English food, but there are some dishes (not very many :), that are really good. For example, a good fish and chips is delicious. But my favourite dish is on Sundays. It's "the good old roast beef" with gravy and potatoes. There's nothing better than that!!! (Real English!). There are many, many people from all over the world in London. They have brought their culture and traditions, but also their food, Yam! You can eat what ever you want. here. From Indian to Jap, French, Italian, Thai..... We've copied a lot of their dishes. My dad often cooks typical Chinese dishes with rice and chicken. Really good! What about you? What's your favourite dish? What kind of food do you eat in your country? Do you have restaurants from other countries? A good place to have a good English meal is in a pub. They often have homemade pies and an excellent fish and chips. The atmosphere is nice and after lunch you can have a game of darts or billiards. Stay in touch.

Love
Jane

UNIT 4

Institutions and society

The Queen

Queen Elizabeth II is a **constitutional monarch**. This means that although she is officially the head of the state, the country is actually run by the government, led by the Prime Minister.

Quenn Elizabeth II or also called **her Majesty** was born on 21st April 1926 in London and her birthday is officially celebrated in Britain on the second Saturday of June every year. She ascended the throne in 1952 upon the death of her father, King George VI. Her coronation, at Westminster Abbey, followed in 1953.

The Queen is married to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. In the British monarchy, the husband of a female monarch does not have any recognized rank or statues. **Prince Charles**, the Queens eldest son, is presently heir to the British throne. He will not become king until his mother retires or dies. If this happens he can pass the throne to his eldest son **Prince William**.

The Queen and Prince Philip live at Buckingham Palace in London. Although the Queen does not govern the country, she has many duties. Every year the Queen opens parliament and appoints the Prime Minister. She goes on many official state visits abroad and hosts visiting Heads of States. She visits charities and every day 'red boxes' are delivered to the Queen's desk. They are full of official documents. She must read and sign them if necessary. Her Majesty is queen of 16 former British colonies, including Australia, New Zealand and Canada. She is also **Head of the Commonwealth**.

The Queen is **Head of the Church of England**. She appoints archbishops and bishops. She is also Head of the Armed Forces. She is the only person who can declare when the country is at war and when it is over. The Queen represents the nation at times of joy or sorrow.

Answer the questions

1. What does ‘constitutional monarch’ mean? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

2. Who is the Queen married to? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

3. Is Prince Philip a king? Why not? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

4. Who can become the new king? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

5. What are the Queens duties? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

6. What is she head of? ……………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………

Writing

Write about a King or Queen in your country (past or present):

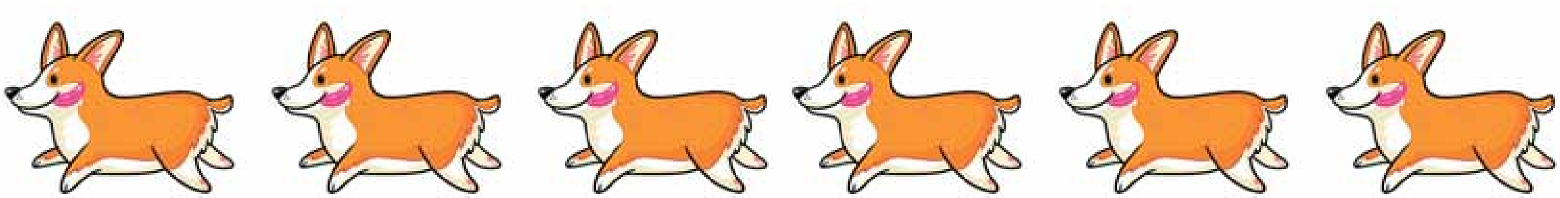
… …

… …

Facts

Queen Elizabeth II was the first, and so far only, female member of the royal family to serve in the armed forces.

The Queen has 9 Royal thrones.



Fun fact

The Queen’s favourite pet are her Corgis. She has owned more than 30 corgis during her reign. She feeds her dogs herself with fillet of beef from a silver platter with a silver fork.

It’s considered an act of treason to put a postage stamp with the the Queen’s head upside down on an envelope.

The Royal Family

The British royal family, the Windsors, are undoubtedly one of the most famous in the world. Officially, the royal family is comprised of the ruling monarch and all of the close relatives, including the consort (husband and wife) and their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Every member of the royal family has a title, like Prince of Wales, Duke of Windsor or Princess of York. The royals support the Queen with all her duties and are there where she can't be. They help to fulfil engagements and connect with the public. As a team, they have about 2,000 engagements, and answer 100,000 letters every year. They take part of about 3,000 charitable organisations. At least three Royal Garden Parties are held at Buckingham Palace each year and thousands of guests attend them.

For a long period the Royal family's popularity started to decline and the British population wanted to abolish the monarchy. Nowadays polls reveal that they are very much considered again and show big interest and affection for the Windsors. Especially after the wedding of Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, and Catherine Middleton in 2011 and then the recent wedding of Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, and Meghan Markle. They are admired all over the world and many people want to know every single thing about them. Newspapers and magazines in England are full of news and photos of the royal family. People copy their fashion styles and try to follow them as much as they can. Most eyes are on Prince William and Harry with their young wives and children and they seem to be the most popular royals in recent history.

Answer the questions

1. Who are part of the Royal family?.....

.....

2. What do the members of the Royal family do? .....

.....

3. How is their popularity nowadays? .....

.....

4. When did their popularity start to grow again? .....

.....

5. Where can you find information about them? .....

.....

6. Who are the people most interested in? .....

.....

Facts

Diana, Princess of Wales, was one of the most internationally well known members of the royal family in recent times. She married Prince Charles in 1981 and the wedding was watched by 750 million people around the world. They had two children together, William and Harry. Their marriage was not the happiest, and in 1996 they divorced. Then, in 1997, tragedy struck as Diana was killed in a car crash in Paris. There was a period of national mourning and millions of people watched the funeral.

British Parliament and Government

The United Kingdom is a democratic country. The British government runs the UK. Parliament represents the people and it is where politicians meet to decide laws and make decisions. The British Parliament is made up of the Queen, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

The House of Lords is made up of people who have inherited family titles or have been given a title by the Queen in recognition of their services to the country. There are more than 670 members. A person who is in the House of Lords is a peer. The main job of the House of Lords is to check the laws and make sure they are appropriate. **The House of Commons** has 650 members called Members of Parliament (MPs) who are elected by local residents to represent the 650 areas in the country in Parliament. An MP is a member of a political party. There are three major parties: **Labour**, **Conservatives** and **Liberal Democrats**. In theory the Queen should have complete authority over the two Houses, but today it is the Prime Minister, the leader who wins the election, and the House of Commons that make the laws and decisions regarding the country. The Prime Minister appoints the other ministers and they are responsible for the different government departments.

Answer the questions

1. What kind of country is the UK? .....

.....

2. Who takes part in the Parliament? .....

.....

3. Who takes part in the House of Lords? .....

.....

4. Who takes part in the House of Commons? .....

.....

5. What do they do?.....

.....

6. What does the Prime Minister do? .....

.....

Number 10 Downing Street in London

Facts

The monarch is not allowed to enter the House of Commons. The Queen has a throne in the House of Lords in which she sits for the traditional opening of Parliament.

The Palace of Westminster, also known as the House of Parliament is actually a royal palace.

Probably the most important address in England is the official residence of the Prime Minister.

A very important Prime Minister was Winston Churchill who was PM during the second World War, and is still remembered today because of his famous speeches and extravagant behaviour.

Brexit

On 23 June 2016 a referendum was held to decide whether the United Kingdom should remain in the European Union or leave it. The British voted for an exit and a new word was created – Brexit – which is a short way of saying 'the UK leaving the EU' by mixing the words Britain and Exit.

The Prime Minister Theresa May got agreement from the UK parliament, the House of Lords and House of Commons, on her proposed Brexit deal and now the UK government is in talks with the EU to decide exactly how the split should happen. This is a very complicated process because all the 27 countries' parliaments have to agree with the deal. The UK and EU have two years to agree which means that the UK should leave by 2019.

The European Union

The EU is a political and economic partnership between 28 European countries, (when the United Kingdom leaves it there will be 27). The EU was created after the Second World War to help and encourage economic cooperation. It has become an organisation that deals with different policy areas, from environment to development aid, from economic growth to human rights. Being one single market is the EU's main economic engine. It enables goods, money, services and people to move freely throughout most of the continent thanks to the abolition of border controls. So far, EU has brought half a century of peace and stability.

Both sides

"The EU has made Europe safer (no wars), and fairer (action on equal for women and rights for disabled people). EU membership allows to travel, study and work all over Europe, so if you want to be a fireman in Slovenia or a vet in Portugal, you can. But the EU is expensive, slow, complicated and terrible at explaining why it is a good thing. You would think, because there isn't a single shared language, that the EU would be careful to be very clear, but it uses a strange language no one except people who work for the EU understand, full of words such as 'comitology' and 'aquaculture'. Some people also dislike the idea of workers from other European countries coming to Britain, putting out our fires and curing our cats, when we could be doing those things ourselves".

Break

The queen and the soldier

The soldier came ..... upon the queen's door
He said, "I am not ..... for you any more"
The queen knew she'd seen his face someplace before
And slowly she let him inside.
He said, "I've watched your palace up here on the hill
And I've wondered who's the woman for whom we all kill
But I am ..... tomorrow and you can do what you will
Only first I am ..... you why."
Down in the long narrow hall he was led
Into her rooms with her tapestries red
And she never once took the ..... from her head
She asked him there to sit down.
He said, "I see you now, and you are so very young
But I've seen more ..... lost than I have battles won
And I've got this intuition, says it's all for your fun
And now will you tell me why?"
Well the ..... queen, she fixed him with an arrogant eye.
She said, "You won't understand, and you may as well not try"
But her face was a child's, and he thought she would cry
But she closed herself up like a fan.
And she said, "I have swallowed a secret burning thread
It cuts me inside, and often I've bled"
He laid his hand then on top of her head
And he bowed her down to the ground.
"Tell me how ..... are you? How weak you must feel
As you are living here alone, and you are never revealed
But I won't march again on your battlefield"
And he took her to the ..... to see.
And the sun, it was gold, though the ....., it was gray
And she wanted more than she ever could say
But she knew how it frightened her, and she turned away
And would not ..... at his face again.
And he said, "I want to live as an honest man
To get all I deserve and to give all I can
And to love a young woman who I don't understand
Your highness, your ways are very ....."
But the crown, it had fallen, and she thought she would break
And she stood there, ashamed of the way her heart ached
She took him to the doorstep and she asked him to wait
She would only be a moment inside.
Out in the distance her order was heard
And the soldier was killed, still waiting for her .....
And while the queen went on strangling in the solitude she preferred
The battle continued on.

Dear friend,
How are you? Today, I'd like to tell you about the Royal family. As you probably know, the Royal family is very popular in the UK. The Queen has been on the throne for such a long time! She's quite old now, but she still carries on doing her official and public duties. I love William and Harry, the two princes. Harry recently got married to Meghan and their wedding was fantastic!!! Did you watch it? I think in the UK everybody watched it. I went with my family and friends of ours to High street where we were able to see the Royal carriage. Thousands of people were there and they were all waving the union jack flag Meghan was very beautiful and she wore a lovely dress. Did you know she's American? She also played in a TV series. This is very unusual for an English monarch. Here in England, all the girls follow and watch what Kate and Meghan do and wear. If one of them wears a flowery dress for any occasion, the day after, it's sold out. All magazines and news papers speak about them and show photos of them and the other Royals. Do you have a Royal family in your country? Do you like the English one? Bye

Waiting for your letter.
love Jane

UNIT 5

Current issues

Eating disorders

Eating disorders are illnesses that make somebody eat too much or too little for a long period of time. Many of us might eat a little more one day and a little less the next. That's perfectly normal. People with eating disorders do this day after day, and they can't stop even though it's making them sick.

Men and women, girls and boys of any age can have an eating disorder, but most commonly affected are young women aged 13-17 years old.

Eating disorders have both mental and physical components with serious medical consequences that can disrupt growth and development.

Different kinds of eating disorders:

Anorexia Nervosa

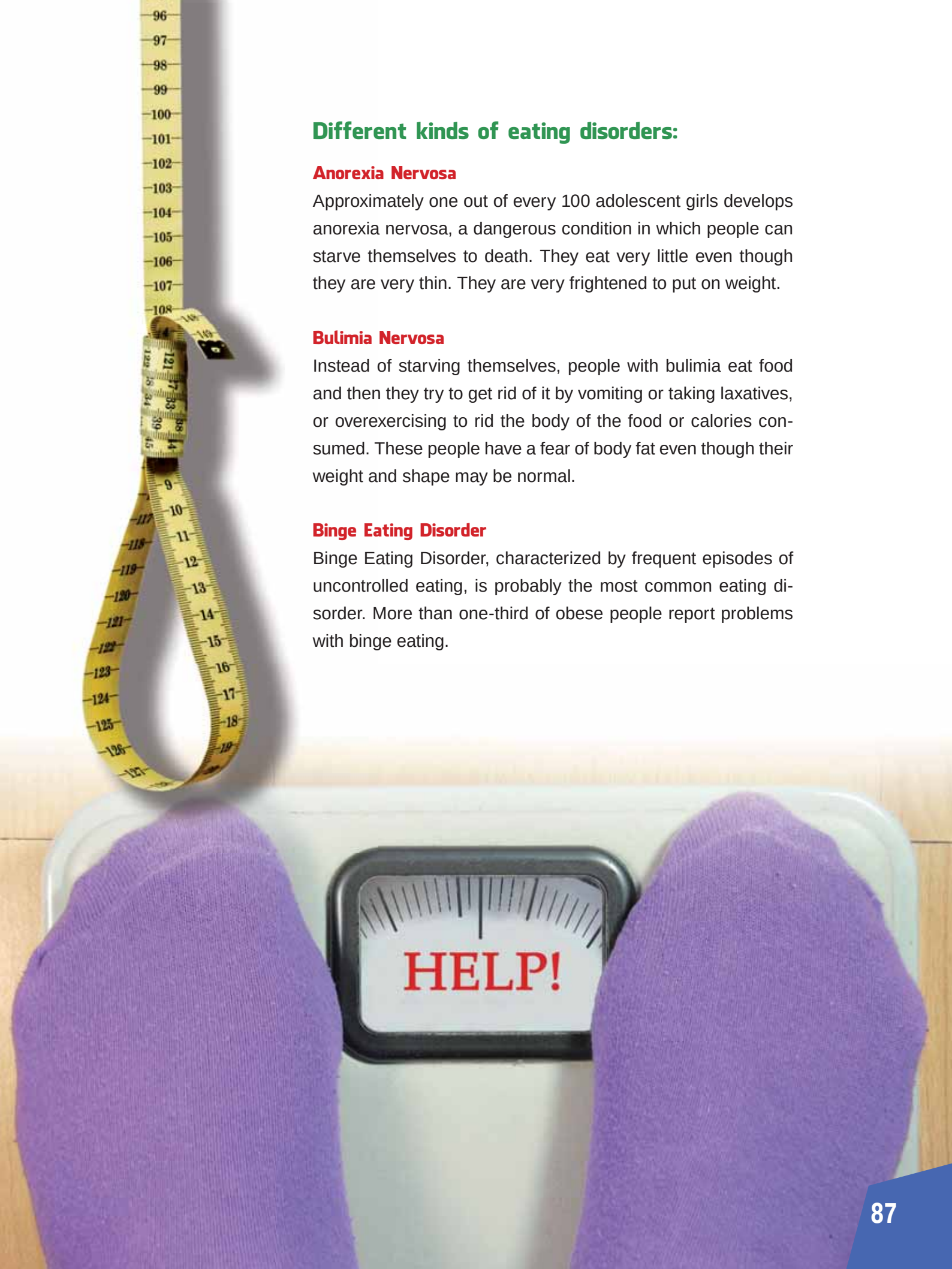
Approximately one out of every 100 adolescent girls develops anorexia nervosa, a dangerous condition in which people can starve themselves to death. They eat very little even though they are very thin. They are very frightened to put on weight.

Bulimia Nervosa

Instead of starving themselves, people with bulimia eat food and then they try to get rid of it by vomiting or taking laxatives, or overexercising to rid the body of the food or calories consumed. These people have a fear of body fat even though their weight and shape may be normal.

Binge Eating Disorder

Binge Eating Disorder, characterized by frequent episodes of uncontrolled eating, is probably the most common eating disorder. More than one-third of obese people report problems with binge eating.



What causes eating disorders?

We don't know exactly what causes eating disorders. It might be more likely to get an eating disorder if:

– you or a member of your family has a history of eating disorders, depression, or alcohol or drug addiction.
– you have been criticised for your eating habits, body shape or weight.
– you're overly concerned with being slim, particularly if you also feel pressure from society – for example many girls are under constant pressure to conform to a certain ideal of beauty. Seeing images in magazines or on TV of thin girls and women everywhere can be hard for some girls to feel good about their bodies.
– you have anxiety, low self-esteem, an obsessive personality, or are a perfectionist.

You can recover from an eating disorder, but it might take time

It is important to speak to somebody you trust (family, teacher) and then refer to a doctor (eating disorder specialist) who is responsible for the care of the person with eating disorder.

There are some warning signs of an eating disorder in someone else:

– dramatic weight loss
– lying about how much and when they've eaten, or how much they weigh
– going to the bathroom a lot after eating
– excessively or obsessively exercising
– avoiding eating with others
– wearing loose and baggy clothes to hide their weight loss

Reading and writing and speaking

https://keltyeatingdisorders.ca/generalinformation/stories/amys-story

1. Read the story about Amy.
2. Was there something in the text that you didn't know about?
3. Speak in your class about Amy's story!
4. Maybe you can write or tell another story of somebody you know.

Remember

In order to succeed in life what matters is what a person is and not his\her appearance or looking!

Drugs

A drug is any substance (with the exception of food and water) which, when taken into body, alters the body's function either physically and/or psychologically. Drugs may be legal (e.g. alcohol, caffeine and tobacco) or illegal (e.g. cannabis, ecstasy, cocaine and heroine).

How do drugs work?

Basically every drug is a poison. A tiny amount acts as a stimulant. A greater amount acts as a sedative. An even larger amount can kill instantly.

What is drug abuse?

It is the habitual use of drugs to alter one's mood, emotion, or state of consciousness. We cannot discuss Abuse without Addiction. Drug addiction is even more worrying, as it involves the brain. Drug addiction is a long-lasting illness. It does not go away like a cold. It can stay for a long time, sometimes for life.

Health

Drug abuse can affect negatively every major system in the human body.
It can lead to mental health problems such as depression, development lags, etc...
People think they will never get addicted but many end up addicted.
Someone who is addicted looses control and judgement and when use of drug is stopped many suffer severe psychological and physical symptoms, such as anxiety, unhappiness and stress.

Why do young people use drugs?

Experimentation with alcohol and drugs during adolescence is very common. Alcohol, cannabis, ecstasy and tobacco are the most common used by teenagers.

Young people use drugs for many reasons: for fun, out of curiosity, to escape from reality or from a difficult family situation, to feel part of a group or to change how they feel because they want to feel better or different. But they do not realize that once they start, it is very difficult to stop.

What is peer pressure?

Sometimes your close friends keep telling you to do something (like having the same haircut as all the others) because they are all doing it. Or everyone is going to the disco party in your class, and you feel you are the only one not going. It can make you feel a bit uncomfortable because sometimes we all want to fit well within a group.

Pressure is the feeling that you are being pushed towards making a certain choice – good or bad. **Peer** is someone in your own age group.

Most used drugs by Teens

Alcohol is the most widely abused substance for any age, including teenagers. Around 13 percent of teenagers between the ages of 12 and 17 reported drinking alcohol in the past month.

Marijuana is the illicit drug most commonly used by teens. Many people, including teenagers, do not believe that marijuana is dangerous to a person's health. However, studies have shown that marijuana can cause damage, especially to the developing adolescent brain. Nowadays it is often mixed with other substances which make it stronger and more dangerous. Sometimes using marijuana can lead to depression, panic attacks or anxiety.

Ecstasy also known as MDMA or Molly, is a popular drug. It is considered a disco, rave or party drug because of its stimulating effects. Ecstasy is a man-made pill, so we can't know exactly what is in it. This means that these pills can be extremely dangerous with terrible consequences. Ecstasy pills often have a graphic or logo on the tablet and are swallowed. These pills are popular among teenagers because they are easy to take and don't cost much money.

Synthetic drugs are those that are created in a lab to provide a similar high to drugs such as marijuana or amphetamines. The most popular synthetic drugs are known as K2 or Spice. These drugs are particularly dangerous because they consistently change in order to remain legal, so the side effects and long term damage are not completely understood.

How do young people get drugs?

People who get into drugs get it from friend's friend, who also got it from his friend's friend... and so on. At the end of this long line of friends there is a **dealer** who is making money out of destroying young people futures. That is very **BAD**!

Legal consequences

Very clear, explicit laws on drug abuse exist in every nation. Some nations have very hard laws and you can spend a lifetime in jail.

Answer the questions

1. What are drugs?.....

.....

2. Which drugs are legal and illegal in your country? .....
   legal:.....
   illegal: .....

3. What is a drug abuse? .....

.....

4. What does drug addiction mean? .....

.....

5. What do people often think when they try drugs?.....

.....

6. What are the most common used drugs among teens in your country? (search on internet, surveys) .....

.....

7. Why do young people use drugs? .....

.....

8. What does peer pressure mean? .....

.....

9. Why is ecstasy very dangerous?.....

.....

10. What are synthetic drugs? .....

.....

11. How do young people usually get drugs? Why is a dealer a bad person? .....

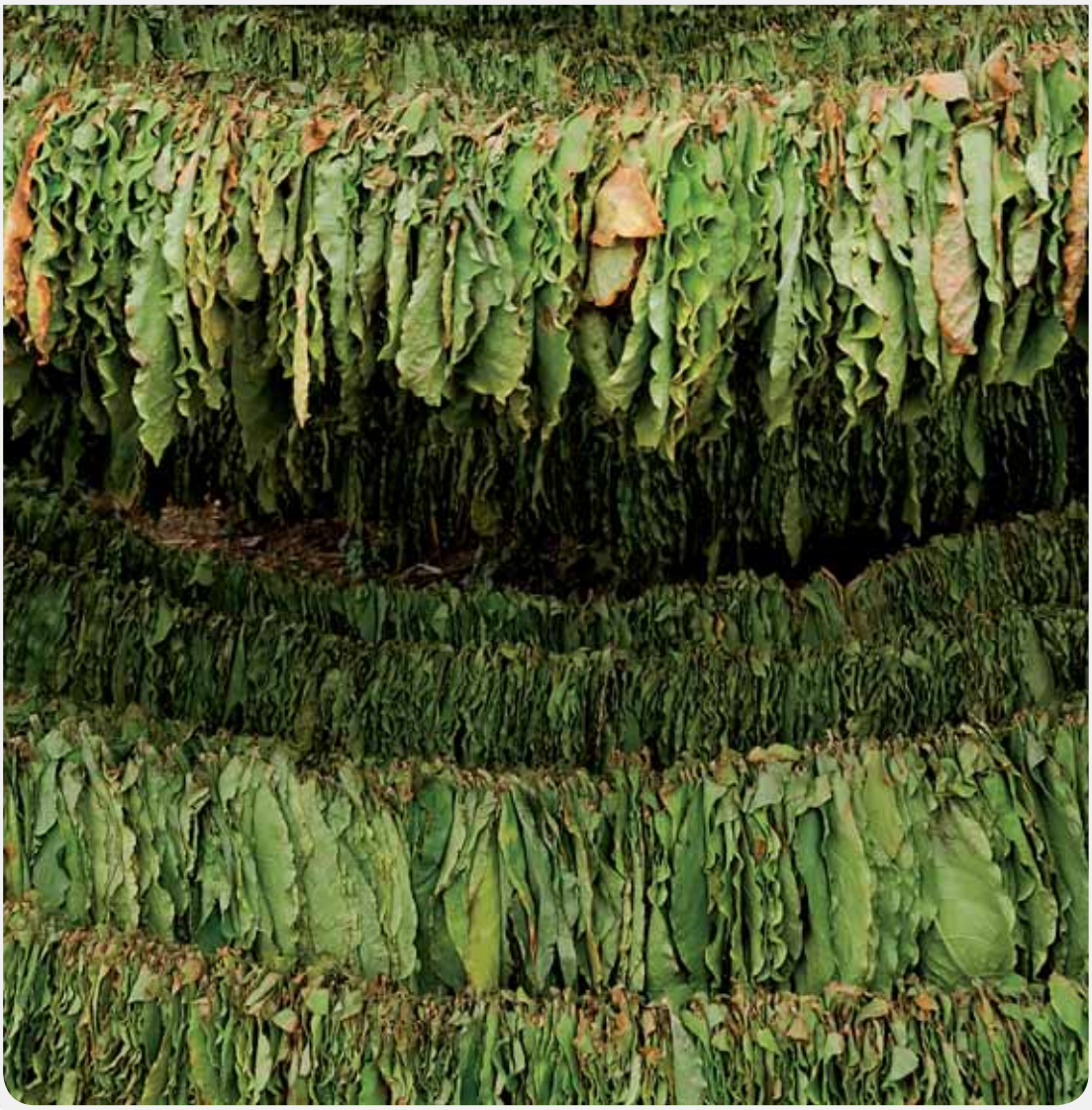
.....

Tobacco

Tobacco is a plant, found mainly in North and South America. Tobacco leaves are dried and often smoked in the form of a cigarette or cigar, in a smoking pipe or hookah. Many people smoke out of habit or to satisfy an addiction. In fact cigarettes and other tobacco products contain **nicotine**, which is an addictive stimulant.

Cigarette smoking among teens is a drug abuse. There are many reasons why teens start smoking:

- People they admire smoke.
- Teens find acceptance by peers if they smoke too. **Peer pressure**.
- Teens feel they can stop at any time. So why not try it.
- Teens think that smoking helps them lose weight, reduce weight, etc..



There are many health risks involved with tobacco smoking. Smoking causes many heart problems, increases the chance of cancer, chronic lung disease and stroke.

The danger of smoking is so great, but because government get a lot of tax money from tobacco and cigarettes manufacturers, they are less hesitant to ban it totally. Government and society are aware of the dangers, that is why they made it illegal for teens to possess and use cigarettes. You must be over 18 to buy cigarettes in the UK.

Tick true (T) or false (F)

	T	F
1. Tobacco is made in labs.	☐	☐
2. Tobacco is only smoked in form of cigarettes.	☐	☐
3. Cigarettes contain nicotine.	☐	☐
4. Nicotine is an addictive stimulant.	☐	☐
5. Smoking can cause many illnesses.	☐	☐
6. You can buy cigarettes when you are 16 in the United Kingdom.	☐	☐

Facts

– On average, the life expectancy of a smoker is 10 years less than a non smoker.
– 90% of smokers began before the age of 19.
– Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in the UK.
– About 1.69 billion pounds of **butts** end up as toxic rubbish each year, **making cigarettes the most littered item on Earth**.

Alcohol

What is alcohol?

The scientific name for alcohol the people drink is **ethanol** or **ethyl alcohol**. Beer, wine, and liquor all contain ethyl alcohol.

After you drink an alcoholic beverage like beer or wine, the alcohol enters your bloodstream from your stomach and small intestine. From there it travels to your brain. There it slows reaction time, makes you less coordinated, impairs your vision and leads to unclear thinking and irresponsible behaviour.

When people drink too much, with the time they risk becoming addicted to alcohol. This is called **alcoholism**, or **alcohol dependence**. **It's an illness, and can happen**.

Effects of drinking

The younger you are when you start drinking, the greater your chance of becoming addicted at some point of your life. More than 4 in 10 people who begin drinking before the age 15 eventually become alcoholic.

Drinking in large quantities can cause drunkenness and affects your mood and your thinking. This may cause you to hurt others, get into legal trouble and ruin your relationships.

Your brain is still developing during the teen years. Research on teens with alcohol disorders shows that drinking a lot in the teen years can cause long-lasting harm to thinking abilities.

Answer the questions

1. What is the scientific name for alcohol? .....

.....

2. What kind of drinks contain ethyl?.....

.....

3. Where does the alcohol flow to in your body? .....

.....

4. What happens to your body when you drink alcohol? .....

.....

5. What is the name when a person is addicted to alcohol?.....

.....

6. Is alcoholism an illness? .....

.....

7. What can some consequences be when a person drinks too much? .....

.....

8. At what age can you become alcohol dependent? .....

.....

9. Why is it dangerous to drink alcohol at a young age? .....

.....

Facts

Each year, an estimated 5,000 people under the age of 21 die from alcohol related injuries. Alcohol is a factor in about 4 out of every 10 deaths from car crashes, drownings, falls and other unintentional injuries.

Nowadays British newspapers and television report a dangerous new trend: **binge drinking**, it's a consumption of a large quantity of alcohol in a short time. As a consequence, people become very drunk and very often they have to be brought to hospital.

Bullying

Bullying is a kind of aggressive behaviour which is intentionally repeated, and usually the bullies hurt others who are often weaker. This can happen anywhere and at any time, during or after school hours, in the school building or playground, but it can also happen travelling to or from school, in the neighbourhood or on the Internet.

Types of Bullying

Bullying includes making threats, physically or verbally attacking someone, or excluding someone from a group. There are many types of bullying and some are obvious, but some can remain unnoticed for a long time.

There are four common types of bullying:

Verbal Bullying

is when someone says nasty and cruel words, including name-calling, threatens, insults, and makes bad and disrespectful comments about someone's attributes like appearance, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity...

Physical Bullying

is manifested as hitting, pushing, blocking, kicking, pinching, tripping, touching in inappropriate ways, or damaging property.

Social Bullying

involves lying or spreading rumours, making faces or physical gestures, playing nasty jokes to embarrass and humiliate, encouraging others to exclude someone. This kind of bullying is often difficult to recognize and can often be carried out behind the victims back.

Cyberbullying

is bullying using digital technologies (smartphones, computers) over social media, texts, websites. It is similar to traditional bullying, but sometimes the victims don't know the identity of their bully, or even the reason.

Why do bullies do what they do?

- Sometimes they want to impress their friends.
- Sometimes they enjoy feeling power over someone because they are being bullied by someone else.
- Sometimes they think that they will win and get what they want.
- Sometimes they don't even know what they are doing or they are jealous.

The person being bullied often feels that he or she can't do anything to stop it because:

- He or she might feel smaller or weaker than the bully.
- He or she might feel there is no help: No one to talk to or no one is standing up for him or her.
- He or she might feel outnumbered by the bully and the bully's friends.
- He or she feels very sad and frustrated, but does not know how to change the situation.

What to do if someone is bullying you?

- First of all, bullying can be difficult, but remember, you are not the problem, the bully is!
- Tell someone you trust (parent, teacher, older friends, someone from the family) about it. If it is easier for you write a note to that person instead.
- If the person you told cannot help you or does not do anything, find someone else! Never keep it a secret! They can do things to get bullying stopped.
- **Don't forget**, in this situation it's always good to have the support of the teacher or your classmates.

What do you do if you see someone being bullied?

- Get friends together and **TALK** to the bully. Let the bullies know that bullying is not accepted at your school.
- Don't cheer the bully on or stand around to watch.
- If you see someone being bullied, find someone to help and stop it (teacher, friend, principal).

Watch this video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oKjW1OIjuw

Watch this video
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fw2HEOkS8pI

The Bullying Survey in the UK

Key Findings

- **1.5 million** young people (50%) have been bullied within the past year.
- **145,800 (19%)** of these were bullied EVERY DAY.
- People who have been bullied are twice as likely to bully others.
- **14%** of young people admit to bullying somebody (12% daily).
- **20%** of all young people have physically attacked somebody.
- **44%** of young people who have been bullied experience depression.
- **33%** of those being bullied have suicidal thoughts.

Project

Writing:

- What about your country?
- Look for a recent survey about bullying in your country.
- Write down the key findings.
- Why don't you make a survey in your own school with the help of your teacher? (Maybe give school mates information beforehand)

Some possible questions:

- Have you ever been bullied?
- What did the bully (bullies) do? What did you do?
- Have you ever bullied someone? (this could be a difficult question, but you might find somebody who is brave, sincere and regrets)
- Have you ever seen somebody being bullied? What did you do?

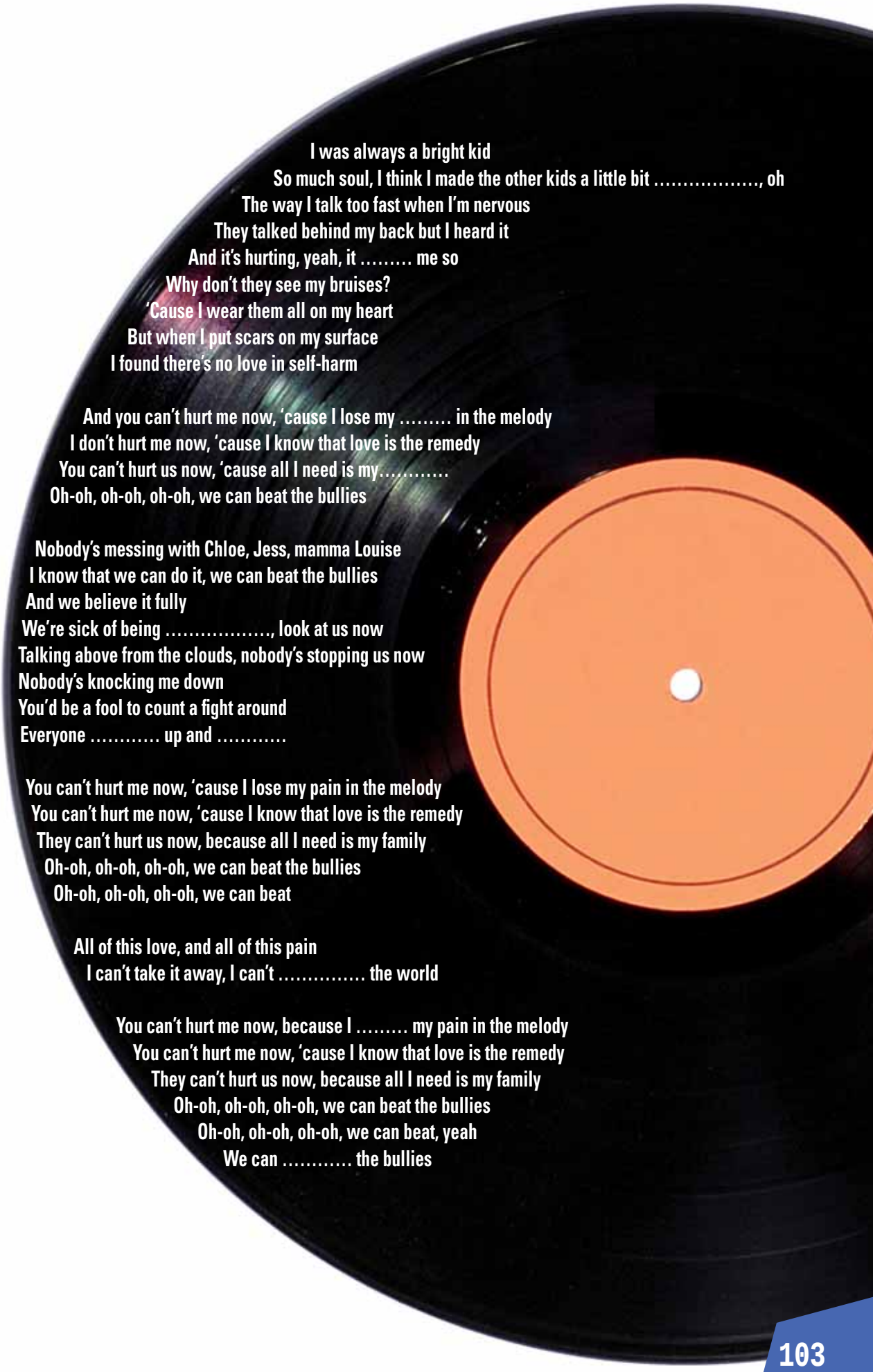
Group work:

Role play:

- In a group of five or six imagine you are a group of bullies against one student of your group.
- Talk together about how the student felt after being offended and then find a solution.
- You can play a short sketch in front of the class.

Break

Beat The Bullies



I was always a bright kid
So much soul, I think I made the other kids a little bit ....., oh
The way I talk too fast when I'm nervous
They talked behind my back but I heard it
And it's hurting, yeah, it ..... me so
Why don't they see my bruises?
'Cause I wear them all on my heart
But when I put scars on my surface
I found there's no love in self-harm

And you can't hurt me now, 'cause I lose my ..... in the melody
I don't hurt me now, 'cause I know that love is the remedy
You can't hurt us now, 'cause all I need is my.....
Oh-oh, oh-oh, oh-oh, we can beat the bullies

Nobody's messing with Chloe, Jess, mamma Louise
I know that we can do it, we can beat the bullies
And we believe it fully
We're sick of being ....., look at us now
Talking above from the clouds, nobody's stopping us now
Nobody's knocking me down
You'd be a fool to count a fight around
Everyone ..... up and .....

You can't hurt me now, 'cause I lose my pain in the melody
You can't hurt me now, 'cause I know that love is the remedy
They can't hurt us now, because all I need is my family
Oh-oh, oh-oh, oh-oh, we can beat the bullies
Oh-oh, oh-oh, oh-oh, we can beat

All of this love, and all of this pain
I can't take it away, I can't ..... the world

You can't hurt me now, because I ..... my pain in the melody
You can't hurt me now, 'cause I know that love is the remedy
They can't hurt us now, because all I need is my family
Oh-oh, oh-oh, oh-oh, we can beat the bullies
Oh-oh, oh-oh, oh-oh, we can beat, yeah
We can ..... the bullies

Dear friend,

Here I am again. I must tell you what happened this month at school. A new guy called Jim, very cool and good-looking, came to my school. All the girls were mad about him and the boys thought he was great because he's a brilliant football player and so they all admired him and wanted him in their team during PE. Jim started picking on our friend John because he's a little fat and clumsy. Jim tried to leave out John from any kind of activity and even started to insult him whenever he could. Most of the class ignored the fact that John had always been our friend and just followed their "new friend". At a certain point, John didn't come to school and nobody seemed to realise what was going on. His mum told some mums that he didn't want to come out of his room anymore. Some of us got together because we felt really ashamed and upset and decided that we couldn't leave our friend to himself. We convinced all our classmates + Jim to go to John's place and we organised a "little" party (with the help of his mother). It was great. We told him that we missed him and was our friend. Even Jim said he was sorry and promised to not upset him anymore! I'm so happy, John has come back to school! How are things going with your mates? Do you have a good relationship?

Love

Jane

UNIT 6

School Education

School in Britain

Education in Britain is **compulsory** for all children between the ages of 5 and 16. Over 90% of all schoolchildren attend a **state school**, which are free. Besides this state system of education there are also private schools, where parents pay fees. The most important of the private schools are known as **Public Schools**, which are secondary schools for boys and girls from the age of 11 to 16 years. The education system is divided into 3 stages: (nursery), **primary**, **secondary**, **higher**.

Primary Schools

Infant school is from 5-7 years and Junior school from 7-11 years. The day begins at 9 am and usually finishes at 3.30 pm. The infant school has its own building with a canteen and a playground and is next to the junior school. There are usually about 30 pupils in a class and the classrooms are usually spacious, bright and cheerful. Children have to take tests at the age of 7,11 and 14. They learn English, maths, science and technology, religious knowledge, history, geography, art and craft, physical education and music. They also learn about environment through projects.

Secondary Schools

Secondary education takes from 5 to 7 years. 7% of British children go to **Private Schools** (**called Public Schools**) and the rest go to **Comprehensive Schools**. Children study the National Curriculum that is: **English**, **Maths**, **Science**, **Art**, **Religious Education**, **a foreign language** (**usually French or German**), **Music**, **Technology**, **History**, **Geography and Citizenship**. At the age of 16 pupils take the main state examinations called G.C.S.E. Some pupils take 7 to 8 G.C.S.E.s. About 65% of children stay on at school after the age of 16. During these two years pupils specialise in three or four subjects that are usually important for the **degree subject** they wish to follow at university.

At 18 there are more difficult exams called **"A" levels** (Advanced) required for university entrance.

	AGE	YEAR	ASSESSMENT
Early Year Education	3 to 4	Nursery	
	4 to 5	Reception	
Primary Education	5 to 6	Year 1	
	6 to 7	Year 2	SATS (in English, Maths and Science)
	7 to 8	Year 3	
	8 to 9	Year 4	
	9 to 10	Year 5	
	10 to 11	Year 6	SATS (in English, Maths and Science)
Secondary Education	11 to 12	Year 7	
	12 to 13	Year 8	
	13 to 14	Year 9	
	14 to 15	Year 10	GCSEs
	15 to 16	Year 11	
FurtherEducation	16 to 17	Year 12	
	17 to 18		A–Levels (other qualifications)

The majority of British school children wear a school uniform. Sometimes it is very formal: a shirt, a tie, a blazer with a school badge on the pocket and dark trousers (shorts in the summer) and black shoes. Girls also wear ties but a dark skirt instead of trousers, even in winter. Each school has its school colour.

British schools do a lot of sport and have one afternoon a week of PE and all schools have football, hockey, netball and cricket teams. The schools usually have big playing fields where they can train.

There are also school choirs, drama clubs, chess clubs and many other activities.

Answer the questions

In your country:

1. At what age do you start school? ……

……

2. Until what age is education compulsory? ……

……

3. What are the names of the different schools?……

……

4. How many years do you study at these schools? ……

……

5. What subjects do you study at these schools? ……

……

6. What kind of exams do you take? ……

……

7. What kind of schools can you choose to go to? (differences?)……

……

8. Do you wear a school uniform at your school? ……

……

Discuss in groups:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of wearing a school uniform?

Would you like to have a school uniform? Why? Why not?

Facts

Since 2017, GCSEs are graded from 9 to 1 with 9 being the highest grade (replacing the old A to G grading system). There are a number of GCSE exams to take – **English and Maths are both compulsory** but pupils can choose from the range of science and humanities subjects, including sociology!

Oxford University

The University of Oxford is a collegiate research university located in Oxford, England. It is the second oldest performing university in the world (the oldest one is Bologna University). The history and influence of Oxford University has made it one of the most precious universities in the world.

History

It grew rapidly in 1167 when Henry II banned English students from attending the University of Paris. After fights between students in Oxford and some people who lived there, some students and teachers left the university in 1209, and founded the University of Cambridge. These two universities are now great rivals.

Until 1920, women were not allowed to take degrees at Oxford. Nowadays, all the colleges allow women and men as students, and the number of female and male is more or less equal.

There are 38 individual colleges and 6 permanent halls.

All the colleges are self-governing institutions within the university, each controlling its own membership and with its own structure and activities. Because it is a university city, it does not have a main campus and instead its buildings and facilities are scattered all around the city centre.

A college will normally offer the students accommodation (a room to sleep and study) and it will have some space for teaching and socializing. A permanent private hall is slightly different to a college. They were normally started by religious

groups to educate in theology and philosophy, but some have since grown and offer boarder range of subjects. Some halls are run by monks, and one of them – St Benet's Hall – will only accept male students.

The statics show that Oxford has 24,000 students and 10,000 students come to Oxford from more than **150 different countries and territories**. It offers more than **350 different graduate degree programmes**.

Oxford, like Cambridge, is very popular, but it is very hard to get into these universities. The colleges look for the best students with the best school results for which they are applying, typically 9 (A) marks on A-Levels.

Traditions continue to the present:

Academic dress is required for examinations, matriculation and when visiting university officers.

Some colleges have formal hall six times a week, but in other colleges it only happens occasionally. At these formal meals students must wear gowns and a Latin grace is said.

Balls are major events held by colleges; the largest are called Commemoration balls and the dress code is usually a white tie. There can be other smaller events during the year that they call summer balls or parties (black tie)

Punting (refers to boating in a punt) is a common summer leisure activity.

Sport is played between college teams, in tournament known as **cuppers**. The most important annual event is The Boat Race against Cambridge (university rivals).

Facts

One of the most **famous teachers** at Oxford University was Lewis Carroll, author of Alice in Wonderland.

Oxford has educated **27 British Prime Ministers** (Margaret Thatcher, Teresa May) and many international leaders such as Bill Clinton, Indira Gandhi and Aung San Sun Kyi.

Oxford is kind of **snobby**! And the word 'snob' actually originated here. It comes and abbreviates from the Latin phrase "sinenobilitate" which means "without nobility".

Students of Oxford University have won **158 Olympic gold medals**.

Harry Potter was in Oxford. The "Tudor Great Hall" in Christ Church College was the inspiration for the dining hall of Hogwarts in the film.

Another place is the Divinity Hall in Bodleian Library for filming the Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone etc.

Project

Find out about some important facts of some or one university in your country

– history
– nowadays

Break

The Hogwarts Song

Hogwarts, Hogwarts, Hoggy Warty Hogwarts,
…… us something please,
Whether we be …… and bald
Or young with scabby ……,
Our …… could do with filling
With some …… stuff,
For now they're bare and full of ……,
Dead flies and bits of fluff,
So teach us …… worth knowing,
Bring back what we've ……,
Just do your ……., we'll do the rest,
And learn until our …… all rot.

Hello my Pen friend,
Today I'm really happy because I got a good mark in our Citizenship Lesson.
Maybe I forgot to tell you that I'm in year 8 and I'm studying German. I love German. It's such an interesting language. I'm not very good at Maths and that's why it's not my favourite. What are your favourite subjects? What don't you like?
Did you know that we wear uniforms? Our uniform is really cool! The girls wear a grey skirt and blazer, a white blouse, bordeaux socks and tie. The boys in our school wear the same, but instead of skirts they wear trousers :). One day I'd like to study at university. Oxford would be a dream! I love their traditions and the buildings. Have you ever seen Oxford? It's so beautiful and old. Every year they have balls and there is a precise dress code. During the term they wear uniforms with capes, like in Harry Potter! Did you know that some places there were used to film Harry Potter? I went there last year and I saw the "Great Hall" in the Christ Church College and libraries where other scenes were filmed. It was great! When you go around Oxford you always feel like being in a film. Have you got important Universities in your city or country? Would you like to study at university? Hear from you soon.

Love
Jane

UNIT 7

Sport

Sport

Sports play an important part in the British culture. The United Kingdom has given birth to a range of major international sports including: **football**, **rugby**, **cricket**, **netball**, **darts**, **table tennis**, **tennis**, **golf**, **hockey**, **boxing**, **badminton**, **squash**, **croquet**, **bowls**, **rowing**, **water polo**, **snooker**, **curling**, and **billiards**.

Although cricket is officially recognized as England's national sport, for many people football is the most important sport. As well as taking part in sports, people enjoy watching them on television. Nearly every pub in the UK have at least one television. People meet up to watch football matches or golf tournament etc. together.

Cricket

The first cricket game was played in 1664 and the first ever international match took place in 1884 in New York between the United States and Canada (it was won by Canada). Nowadays it is popular in many countries because when the British Empire expanded, cricket was introduced to the Commonwealth Countries, such as India, Australia, Pakistan, New Zealand, Sri Lanka etc.. **Cricket is a bat-and-ball game** played on an oval grassy ground with two teams of 11 players.

Before the cricket ball was invented, players used stones to play. Nowadays the cricket ball is made of cork and is covered with hand-stitched leather.

A game of cricket can last a few hours or even a few days.

Football

Although football is considered important all around the world, there is a particular obsession in England which may be because of the sport's history.

England is considered the home of football and people believe the sport originated in England. Here are some reasons why:

- Football was first played in England in medieval times and there is written evidence.
- The Football Association (The FA) was set up in England in 1863 and in the same year, the modern rules were set up.
- The world's first football club was set up in England (Sheffield F. C. in 1857).
- The world's first national competition (the FA cup) started in England in 1871.
- England formed the first national football team and the world's first international football match was played in England, England against Scotland in 1872.
- The first national football league began in England in 1888.
- Today, there are over 40,000 registered football clubs in England.

Players like David Beckham, George Best and Bobby Charlton are national heroes and thousands of kids copy them in the streets, parks and on the playgrounds. Everyone knows the rules. "**Just get the ball into the other teams net**".

Horse racing

Horse racing is also known as '**the Sport of Kings**'. There are races nearly every day and thousands of people go and see them or watch them on television. **The Grand National** is known as the hardest horse race ever existed. Some of the best-known races are held at Ascot, Newmarket, Epsom and Goodwood. Betting is very popular in the UK and especially on horses.

Ascot is home to '**Royal Ascot**' one of the most important horse racing events. Even the Queen sometimes takes part with her own horses. She is a big fan of this sport.

Polo

People think that polo comes from England, but it actually started in India. It was brought to Britain by army officers during the 19th century. It is very popular among the English high society.

It is the fastest ball sport in the world. It is played by two teams of four men on horses. The men **hit the ball with a long stick** and are supposed to hit it into the other team's goal.

Prince Charles and his sons, William and Harry, are very fond of this sport.

Tennis

The world's most famous and oldest tennis tournament is Wimbledon. It began in 1877 and started offering prize money in 1968. It started as a small English tennis club which just wanted to organize a little tournament once a year. June was chosen because the weather is usually fine in this month. Nowadays it's a very important event with the best international players and many celebrity spectators. Thousands of people all over the world watch Wimbledon live on TV every year.

There is a special tradition at Wimbledon. The spectators eat **strawberries and cream** whilst watching the matches.

Answer the questions

1. What is England's national sport? .....
.....
2. Which is the most popular sport? .....
.....
3. What do you need to play cricket? .....
.....
4. How many players are there in a cricket team? .....
.....
5. When was football first played in England? .....
.....
6. Who are some of the national heroes?.....
.....
7. Which horse race is considered the hardest? .....
.....
8. What do polo players use to hit the ball? .....
.....
9. Which is the most famous and oldest tournament regarding tennis? .....
.....
10. What kind of special tradition is there at Wimbledon? .....
.....

Fact

London has hosted the Olympic games three times – 1908, 1948 and 2012.
205 nations took part in 300 events at the Olympic Games in 2012.
147 nations took part in the **Paralympic Games**.

Ascot

Royal Ascot is undoubtedly the UK's most glamorous horse racing event with its mix of royalty, fashion and high society.

Queen Ann founded the racecourse in 1711. Royal Ascot lasts five days and welcomes about 300,000 visitors each year in June.

Elizabeth II and other members of the Royal Family attend the Royal Ascot arriving in a horse-drawn carriage. Every year approx 400 helicopters and 1,000 limos attend the event.

There is a very strict dress code which must necessarily be followed. One of the rules is to wear a hat all the time. Ladies get out of their wardrobes the most peculiar and extravagant hats.

Answer the questions

1. What is the name of the most glamorous horse racing event? .....

.....

2. When was it founded? .....

.....

3. Who founded it? .....

.....

4. What is one of the most important dress code? ...

.....

The Boat Race

History

The friends Charles Merival, a student of Cambridge, and Charles Wordsworth, a student of Oxford, decided to hold the famous race between the universities in 1829.

The Boat Race is an annual rowing race between the Oxford University Boat Club and the Cambridge University Boat Club, rowed on the River Thames in London. The course covers a 4.2 mile (6.8 km) stretch of the Thames in West London.

Members of both teams are traditionally known as '**blues**' and each boat as a '**Blue boat**' with Cambridge in light blue and Oxford dark blue. Up to 2018, Cambridge has won the men's race 83 times and Oxford 80 times, with one dead heat (a tie).

In the women's race, Cambridge has won 43 times and Oxford 30 times.

Over 250,000 people watch the race from the banks of the river each year and millions watch it on television. It is a real national event.

Answer the questions

1. Who started the famous race between the two universities? ……

……

2. What are the names of the two universities? ……

……

……

3. What is the name of the river they row on?……

……

……

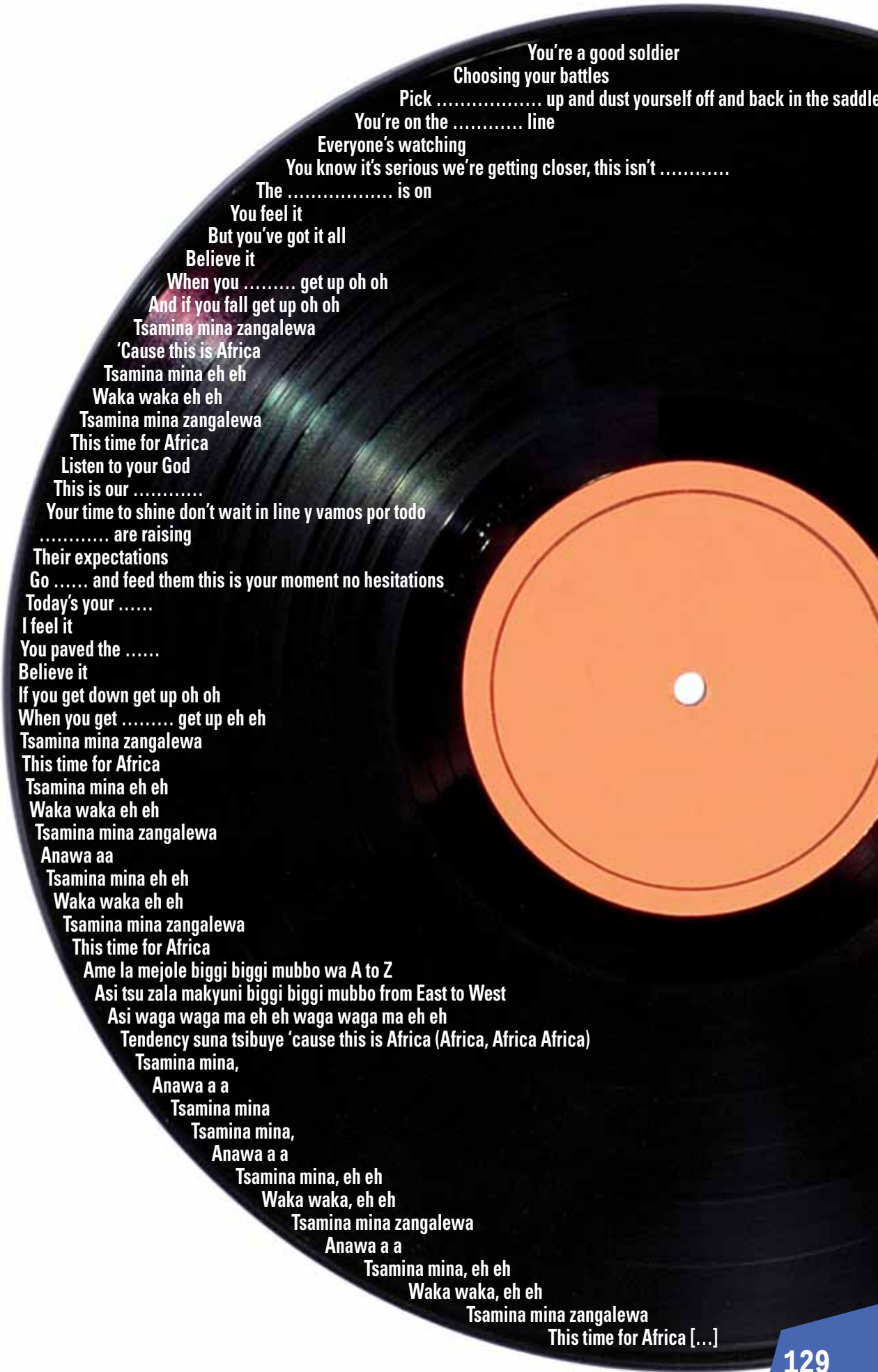
4. What is the colour of Cambridge and of Oxford? ……

……

……

Break

Waka Waka



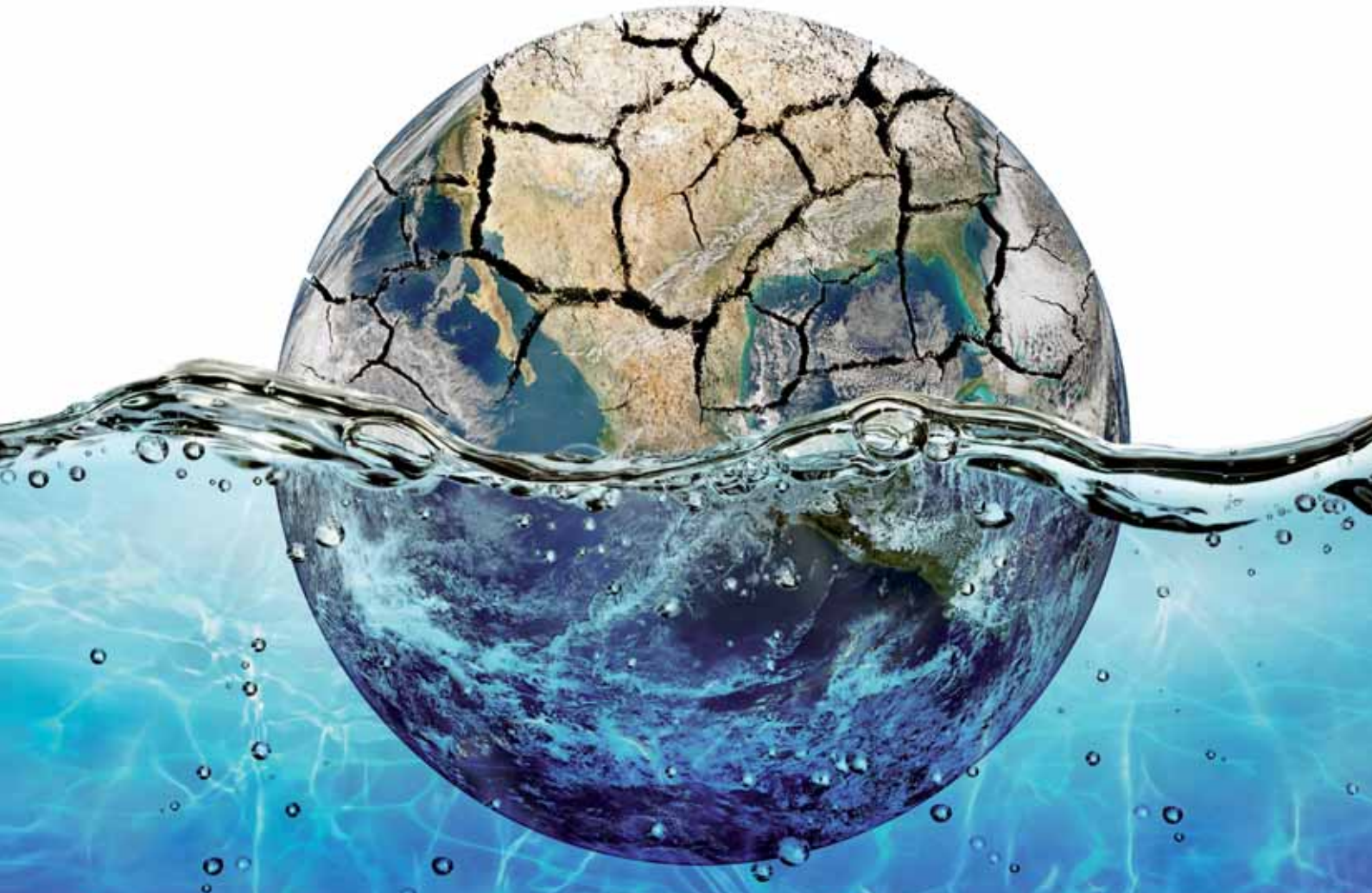
You're a good soldier
Choosing your battles
Pick ..... up and dust yourself off and back in the saddle
You're on the ..... line
Everyone's watching
You know it's serious we're getting closer, this isn't .....
The ..... is on
You feel it
But you've got it all
Believe it
When you ..... get up oh oh
And if you fall get up oh oh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
'Cause this is Africa
Tsamina mina eh eh
Waka waka eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
This time for Africa
Listen to your God
This is our .....
Your time to shine don't wait in line y vamos por todo
..... are raising
Their expectations
Go ..... and feed them this is your moment no hesitations
Today's your .....
I feel it
You paved the .....
Believe it
If you get down get up oh oh
When you get ..... get up eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
This time for Africa
Tsamina mina eh eh
Waka waka eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
Anawa aa
Tsamina mina eh eh
Waka waka eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
This time for Africa
Ame la mejole biggi biggi mubbo wa A to Z
Asi tsu zala makyuni biggi biggi mubbo from East to West
Asi waga waga ma eh eh waga waga ma eh eh
Tendency suna tsibuye 'cause this is Africa (Africa, Africa Africa)
Tsamina mina,
Anawa a a
Tsamina mina
Tsamina mina,
Anawa a a
Tsamina mina, eh eh
Waka waka, eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
Anawa a a
Tsamina mina, eh eh
Waka waka, eh eh
Tsamina mina zangalewa
This time for Africa [...]

Hi Pen friend,
Do you remember that I told you that I'm an Arsenal fan? Well, at the moment they're 6th on the England football position table. I love Rob Holding!!! He's a defender and he's playing very well. Do you like football? Do you play it or watch it?
Apart from football, Lilly and I really like tennis. We are in a tennis club and we play twice a week. We sometimes take part in tournaments on Sundays. We never go to Wimbledon to see a match because it's a little expensive. We often watch Wimbledon on TV with my whole family. We organize a kind of fan club at home, and of course, mum prepares strawberries and cream. I love Nadal but my parents and brother prefer Roger Federer. Do you like tennis?
In England people love horse racing and boxing. These are two sports that I don't like at all. Have you ever heard of Ascot? Well, this is an enormous horse racing event. All the VIPs and rich people go there. They all really show off!!! They wear terrible hats and don't really care about the race itself! The royals go there too. The Queen loves horses. I suppose every country has a kind of event like this (to show off :). What about your country?? Bye

Jane

UNIT 8

Global warming and climate change



What causes climate change?

Scientists have learnt that, through Earth 's history, temperature and CO_2 (carbon dioxide) levels in the air are closely linked and the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is the main cause to climate change.

Since the beginning of the **Industrial age**, we have invented and manufactured a lot of things that made us more comfortable. We've become technologically advanced. Cars, aeroplanes, trains and ships can be found everywhere. A lot of factories have sprung up to manufacture things that we rely on every day. All of this requires enormous amounts of energy, and our main source of energy are fossil fuels, mainly coal.

1. **Oil, gas and coal** are called "**fossil fuels**" because they come from fossils of ancient plants and animals. Those plants and animals had carbon in them. So when we burn oil, gas, and coal the carbon becomes carbon dioxide. **Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas**. That means it traps heat from the Earth's surface and holds the heat in the atmosphere. The carbon dioxide makes the earth warmer, like a greenhouse. The more heat is trapped in the planet the higher our temperature rises on the surface. That's why it's called Global Warming.

2. **Believe it or not, cows' eating habits** contribute towards greenhouse gases. When cows eat, methane gas builds up in their digestive system and is released in the form of... a fart!

This sounds funny, but if you imagine that there are almost 1.5 billion cows releasing all that gas into the atmosphere...

3. **Forests absorb huge amounts of carbon dioxide** from the air, and release oxygen back into it. The Amazon Rainforest is very large and efficient at doing this and that is why it is often called '**the lungs of the Earth**'. Sadly, many rainforests are being cut down to make wood, palm oil and to clear the way for roads, farmland, and dams.

What is climate change?

Everybody is talking about it, but what is exactly the problem?

Over millions of years, the Earth has alternated between warm and cold periods, but the climate has been fairly stable over the last 10,000 years. This stability has allowed a large variety of different ecosystem (and humans) to establish and flourish.

Human activities have had an effect on this natural balance and have caused a rise of the Global air temperatures of one and one-half degrees Fahrenheit in the last century and although this might not sound much, it means there is a serious problem for every single person and wildlife around the world.

Scientists see some alarming changes. These changes are happening fast - much faster than these kinds of changes have happened in Earth's long past. The last 10 years have been the warmest on record. The Earth has warmed twice as fast in the last 50 years than in the 50 years before that.

Unfortunately, rising temperatures will make our weather more and more extreme and unpredictable.

What are governments actually doing?

Hoping to decrease the effect of climate change, 195 countries came together and promised to reduce their carbon emission as soon as possible and to do their best to keep global warming well below 2°C by signing the Paris Climate Agreement in 2015. Each country set specific goals for reducing CO_2 emissions and made a plan to achieve those goals.

Unfortunately, on June 1st 2017, President Trump withdrew the US (one of the countries with the highest carbon emissions) from the Paris Agreement. However, 13 American States have added their names to the Paris Agreement to maintain commitments that the US made in 2015.

Find out about your country:

1. Which goals has your country set for itself?
2. Is it maintaining its goals and commitments?

How can every single person prevent climate change?

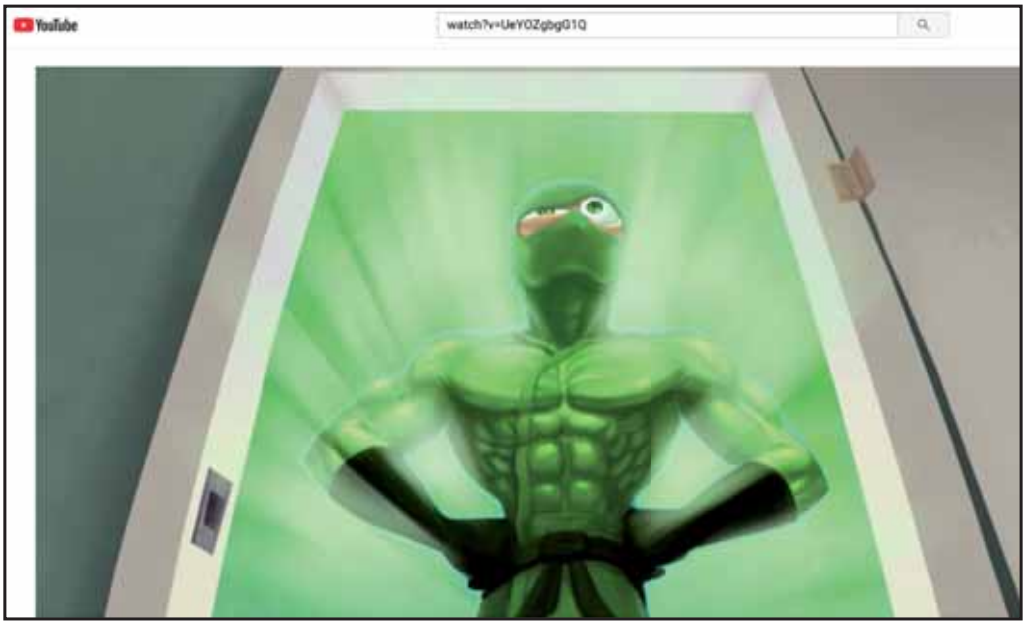
We can all reduce our **Carbon Footprint**. A carbon footprint is the carbon dioxide that is put into the air because of a person, a group of people, an event or a product. So when you use fossil fuels, like heating oil to keep your house warm or gasoline for your family's car these things create carbon dioxide (also called CO_2).

"Small changes" in your own home, school, etc. can make a difference!

Start by finding out your carbon footprint with the help of:
footprint. wwf. org. uk

Watch the video

Green Ninja: Footprint Renovation
www. youtube. com/watch?v=UeYOZgbgG1Q



Why should we care about Climate Change?

When the climate changes, life we know will be completely different. Here are some effects.

– Ice sheets will melt because of the increasing temperature of the surface of the Earth. Our freshwater supply is trapped in those ice sheets.
– As the Ice in the polar caps and glaciers melt, it will cause a rise in the sea levels. Since most of our major cities are in the coastal areas, the flooding will affect millions of people.
– Weather will become more extreme and there will be more and more strong storms, drought and stronger winters.

How will climate change affect wildlife and people?

Climate change is already affecting **wildlife** all over the world, but there are some species that are suffering more than others. **Polar animals** are particularly at risk because their natural habitat is melting in the warmer temperatures. In fact, experts believe that the Arctic sea ice is melting at a shocking rate **-9% per decade**! Penguins and polar bears need sea ice to hunt, raise their young etc..

It's not just polar animals who have difficulties. Apes that live in rain forests or turtles on beaches, and many other species in different habitats.

Climate change won't and does not just affect animals, it's already having an enormous impact on people, too. Most affected are people (farmers) who grow food we eat every day. **Farming communities**, especially in developing countries are facing high temperatures and drought in some areas and rainfalls and floods in others. This very often forces people to leave their own country and immigrate to others, otherwise they would starve of hunger (we will talk about the immigration problem on page 204-207).

Important things to do to stop global warming:

1. **The first thing to do is to get information** about what damage humans are doing. It's not much use trying to change something, but you don't know what it's all about!

2. **Talk with your friends,** your parents and your teacher about what you could do. For a start, you could write to or call your country's politicians telling them that you are worried about climate change. If enough people make a fuss, they have to do something.
   Try and create a group of friends, classmates and let people hear 'your voice'. Protest and make a fuss!!

3. **Why drive when you can walk?** If your family has a car, get them to use it less. Walk to school, shops, and friends. If you need to travel further than you can use a bus, train, metro if you can.
   Of course many cities are based around cars, but this has to change. Many European cities, like Holland, give priority to bicycles and even stop cars entering parts of the city. This is a fantastic idea.

4. **Turn the air conditioning down** in summer or use a fan. Turn the heating down in winter. If you are cold, wear more (warmer) clothes.

5. **Shop locally:** If you can, buy your food from local farm shops and avoid imported goods. Planes and lorries bringing food from other countries use huge amounts of fuel.

6. **Try not to travel long distances** unless you really have to. Try to avoid using planes and big cars like SUVs. Try to convince your family and friends to

have a holiday in your own country (you surely have the most beautiful places).

7. **See if you can get your parents and friends interested in free solar energy** – that's energy from the sun and wind. Solar panels can generate electricity and you can even get your hot water and heating from the sun. Many governments support this kind of alternative (pay less tax).

8. **Unplug! Turn off lights, TVs, computers** when you don't need them. An electrical gadget you can turn on with a remote uses power even when it is 'off'.

9. **Be careful with the use of water:** have short showers, turn off the tab while brushing your teeth, fill a bucket to do the washing up.

10. **Do not waste food!** Think before buying.

11. **Always remember the four Rs.**

Reduce: The most important.
If you don't buy so much stuff, then you don't need to recycle or reuse it.

Reuse: what ever you can (bottles, plastic bags).

Recycle

Repair

Writing:

Think of some other things you could add to this list:

……

……

……

……

……

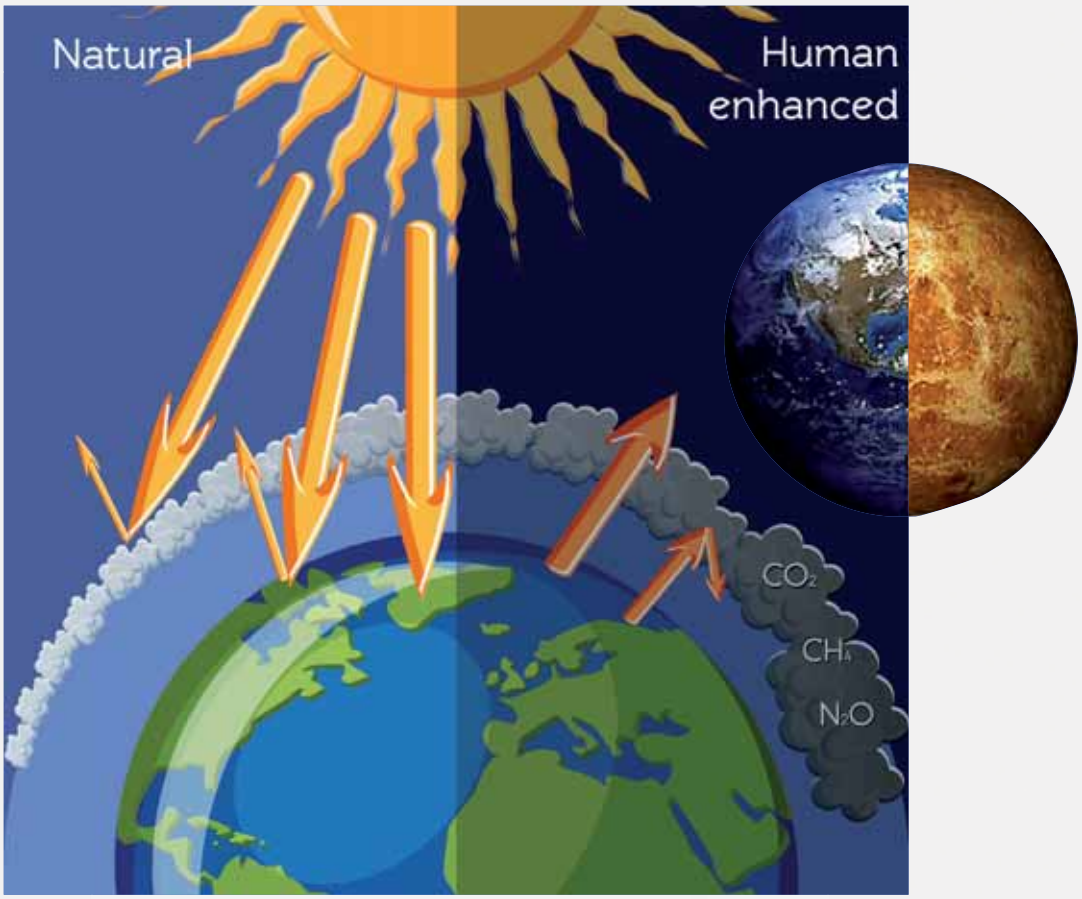
……

……

How do gases affect our weather?

Most of the gases have little to no effect on our weather patterns. However, a few gases have a significant effect and one of these is carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide has the unique characteristic of absorbing infrared radiation, or the heat sent to the Earth by the Sun. This helps to keep the lower atmosphere warm enough for life to exist. Carbon dioxide exists in the atmosphere naturally (when you breathe out, your body releases small amounts of carbon dioxide). In the last hundred years, humans have been artificially adding a significantly higher amount of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, mainly through the burning of fossil fuels.

Earth's sister Venus is an example of what can happen when there is too much carbon dioxide in the air. Venus is more or less of the same size as the Earth and made up of the same materials, but it was discovered that levels of carbon dioxide in its atmosphere was much higher than on Earth. The result of these high levels of carbon dioxide is that much of the Sun's heat has been trapped on the planet, driving the temperature on the surface up to hundreds of degrees. Much too hot for life.



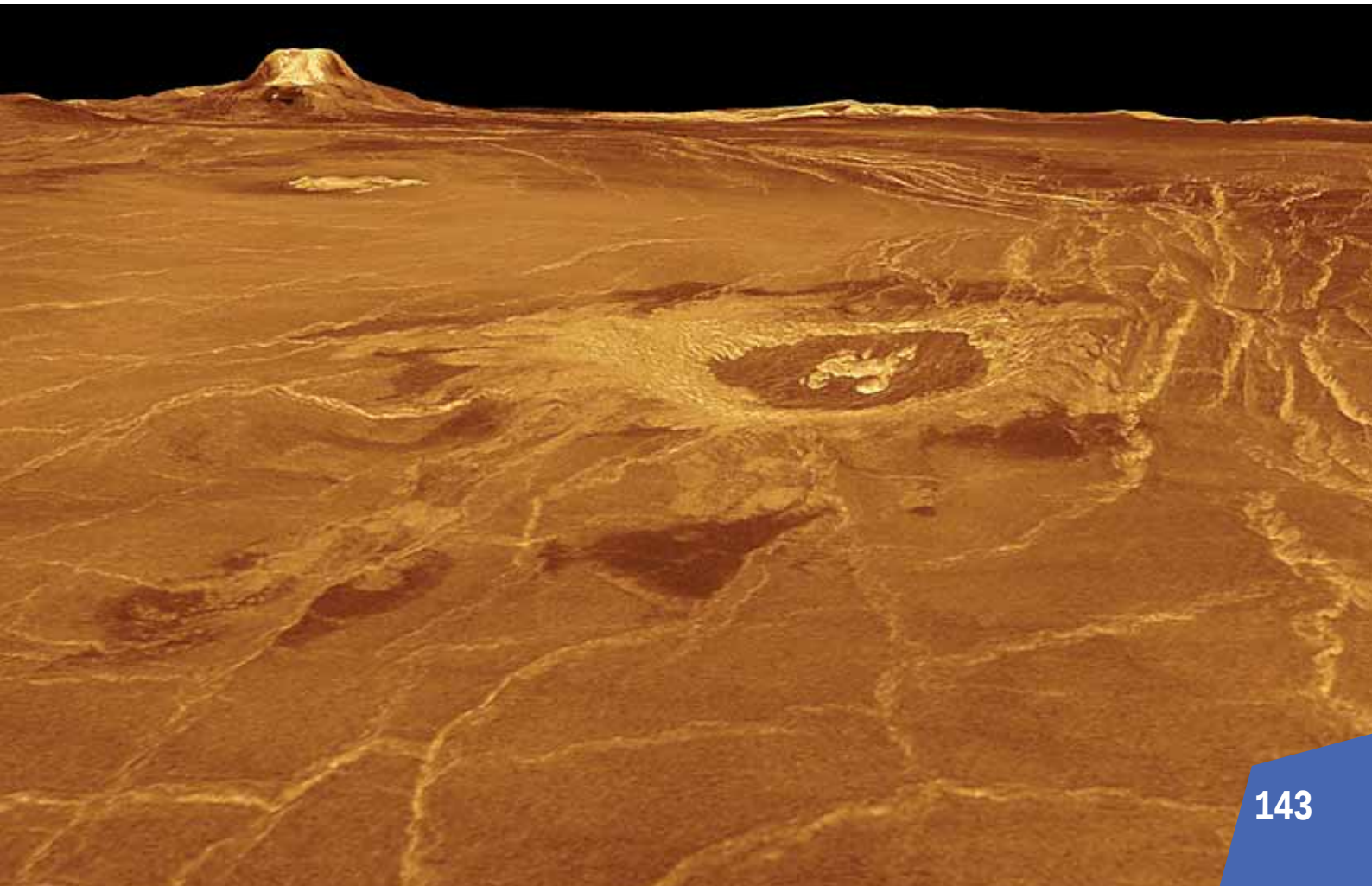
Tick true (T) or false (F)

	T	F
1. All gases have a significant effect on our weather patterns.	☐	☐
2. Carbon dioxide has the characteristic of absorbing the heat sent to the Earth by the sun.	☐	☐
3. Carbon dioxide exists in the atmosphere naturally and artificially.	☐	☐
4. It was discovered that levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere were lower than on Earth.	☐	☐
5. As a result, it is much too hot to live on Venus.	☐	☐

Facts

The concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has reached its highest level in at least 800,000 years.

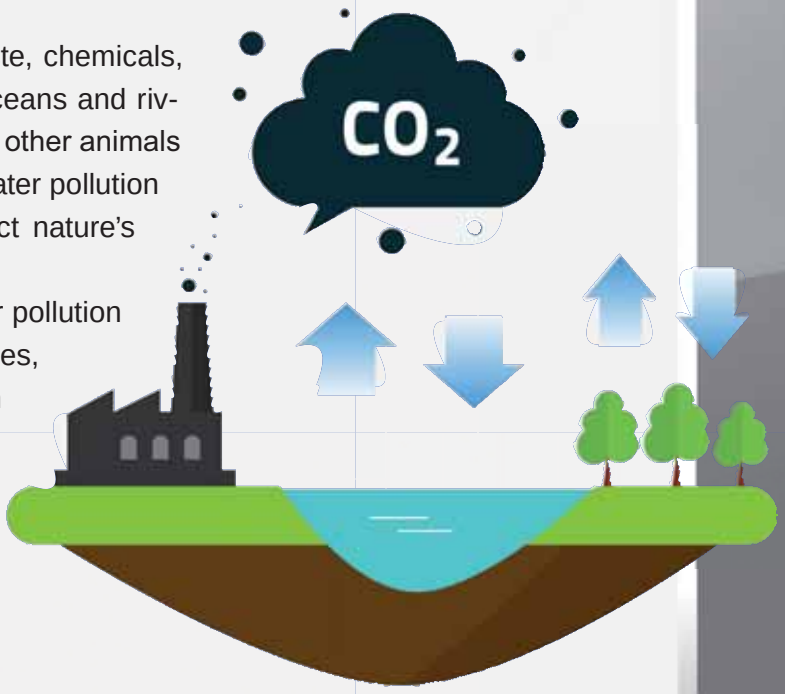
Scientists believe that the world has never experienced a rise in CO_2 levels as quick as it has in the last 10 years.



Water Pollution

Water pollution occurs when waste, chemicals, or other particles cause lakes, oceans and rivers to become harmful to fish and other animals that need the water to survive. Water pollution can disrupt and negatively impact nature's natural water cycle too.

There are natural causes of water pollution which can occur through volcanoes, algae blooms, and silt from storm and floods. But a lot of pollution comes from human activity, like waste water and chemicals from factories, pesticides and fertilizers from farms and rubbish from people littering.



Acid Rain

Air pollution can have a direct affect on water pollution. When particles like sulfur dioxide get high into the air they can combine with rain to produce acid rain. Acid rain can turn lakes acidic, killing fish and other animals.

Disastrous effects on the environment

- Pollution in the water can reach a point where there isn't enough oxygen in the water for fish to breathe
- It can affect the whole food chain. Small fish absorb chemicals into their body. The bigger fish eat the smaller ones. Birds or other animals eat the bigger fish.
- Sewage causes big problems in the rivers. Bacteria in the water will use oxygen to break down the sewage, the bacteria could use up so much oxygen that there won't be enough left for the fish.
- Acid rain and spills can completely destroy marine habitats.
- Harmful to our health: **Clean water is the most precious and important commodity for life on our Earth**. For more than 1 billion people, clean water is nearly impossible to have but, polluted water can make people very sick.

Answer the questions

1. What is water pollution? .....

.....

2. What can water pollution disrupt? .....

.....

3. Which kind of water pollution is caused by humans? .....

.....

4. What is acid rain? .....

.....

5. What are some of the disastrous effects on the environment? .....

.....

Facts

Only around 1% of the Earth's water is fresh water. The rest is salty and we can't drink it.

Around 40% of the rivers and lakes in the US are too polluted for fishing or swimming.

Antarctica

Antarctica is the Earth's southernmost continent. It is on the South Pole. Around Antarctic is the Southern Ocean.

It is the fifth-largest continent in area after Asia, Africa, North America, and South America. **About 98% of Antarctica is covered by ice**. This ice averages at least 1.6 kilometres in thickness. Antarctica, on average, is the coldest, driest, and windiest continent. It is also the highest of all the continents. It is considered a **desert**. Nobody lives in Antarctica permanently. However, about 1,000 to 5,000 people live through the year at the science stations. Only plants (grass, shrubs, algae, lichen, fungi, and bacteria) and animals (penguins, seals, and mites) can live there.

The Antarctic Treaty

The Antarctic Treaty was signed in 1959 by 12 countries. 46 countries have signed since then. The treaty declares that military activities and mineral mining are against the law. However, it supports scientific research. It also helps the continent's ecozone. More than 4,000 scientists from different nations and different interests experiment together.

Antartica is an ideal location to study local and Global scale climate change. The low diversity of life in the Dry Valleys allows scientists to study it in great detail - including the effects of small climate changes.

Antarctica also acts like an archive for ancient history. Small amount of air get trapped in ice and can reveal climate information from the past. Scientists have charted greenhouse gas levels from as far back as 800,000 years. Ice core data shows that temperatures were warmer when there were more greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and vice versa.

Ice cores: are cylinders of ice drilled from glaciers and ice sheets. When snow falls it takes with it many records of many aspects of the atmosphere. As long as no melting takes place, this information is preserved as each layer of snow is buried by successive snowfalls from year to year. By drilling into the ice sheet, we can recover a chronological archive of the atmosphere.

Answer the questions

1. Where is the Antarctica?……

……

2. What does the Antarctica Treaty declare? ……

……

3. Why is Antarctica the ideal place to study climate change. ……

……

4. How can scientists get their information from the past? ……

……

Quiz

What do you know about global warming?

More than one answer is possible.

1. What drives the climate 'machine'?

A ☐ The wind
B ☐ The Oceans
C ☐ The sun
D ☐ The red giant star Betelgeuse

2. Why is our planet heating?

A ☐ Because the sun's getting hotter.
B ☐ Because of people's machines.
C ☐ Because fossil fuels are being burnt.
D ☐ Because of greenhouses.

3. Oil is ..... .

A ☐ a fossil oil.
B ☐ good to eat.
C ☐ not a cause of pollution.
D ☐ what the sea is made of.

4. The greenhouse effect is mostly caused by

A ☐ carbon dioxide
B ☐ greenhouses
C ☐ penguins
D ☐ gamma rays from our space

5. The Arctic is losing ice fast

A. So what, if penguins and polar bears like warm weather. T ☐ F ☐
B. No, the Arctic is cooling fast. T ☐ F ☐
C. Yes, it is and it is very scary. T ☐ F ☐

6. **Why are sea levels rising?**

A ☐ They are not.

B ☐ Because so much ice is melting from ice sheets and glaciers.

C ☐ Because of all the penguins, whales and fish which are taking up too much space.

D ☐ Because the water is getting warmer and takes up more space as it expands.

7. **Some of the best land for growing food is also**

A ☐ the highest.

B ☐ well above sea level.

C ☐ the most low-lying.

8. **As the world warms, nasty diseases like.....are starting to spread.**

9. **Changing climate means**

A ☐ more desert in some parts of the world.

B ☐ more ice cream for kids.

C ☐ more stormy weather.

D ☐ nicer and sunnier weather, everyone's going to be happy.

10. **If global warming is caused by people, it's everyone's fault and everyone has to do something about it.**

A. Right. **T** ☐ **F** ☐

B. It's not caused by people and is totally natural. **T** ☐ **F** ☐

C. The blame mostly falls on people in rich countries who use too much energy. They have to do something about it. **T** ☐ **F** ☐

D. Most people in poor countries use hardly any energy. **T** ☐ **F** ☐

Break

Earth Song

What about sunrise
What about .....
What about all the things that you said
We were to gain
What about killing .....
Is there a time
What about all the things
That you said were yours and mine
Did you ever ..... to notice
All the ..... we've shed before
Did you ever stop to notice
This ..... Earth, these weeping .....
Aah, ooh
What have we done to the world
Look what we've done
What about all the .....
That you pledge your only son
What about ..... fields
Is there a time
What about all the .....
That you said was yours and mine
Did you ever stop to notice
All the ..... dead from war
Did you ever stop to notice
This crying earth, these weeping shores
Aah, ooh
Aah, ooh
I used to dream
I used to glance beyond the .....
Now I don't know where we are
Although I...

Dear Penfriend

Hope you're fine. I'd like to speak about something very important. It's about "Climate change". I suppose you've heard about it. Everybody's speaking about it but not many people are doing much about it. Especially politicians seem to ignore the facts and don't take it serious enough to put it in to their program or support it in any way. I'm very worried. Did you see what Greta Thunberg did and is still doing? You must watch her speech in front of the UN. She's great! Some friends and I were thinking to or organize a kind of club at school. We want to write to our mayor and see what our country is doing to reduce CO_2 and the burning of fossil fuels. We want to go on buses and inform people about the tragic situation. Try to make people protest with us. We think that the more we are the better and more likely that we get listened to. Greta was a little girl and by herself she was able to do so much! I think anybody can do something. We have to act and not remain indifferent. Do you take part in any kind of event? Let me know! Maybe we could start up something together. I think young people have to start doing something together for their (our) future! We want to live in a "normal" world. Adults must listen to us. We've only got One Earth!!! Dear friend, all the best.

Love Jane

The Last Shadow Puppets
The Age Of The Understatement
Radiohead
Arctic Monkeys

UNIT 9
Music

Fanfare Ciocarlia 20
JEAN-MICHEL JARRE ELECTRONICA 2
GOD SAVE
Sex
Radiohead
Genesis
PINK FLOYD
The Last Shadow Puppets
The Age Of The Understatement
Arctic Monkeys
DIRE STRAITS
DEPECHE MODE
AC/DC

Music

What is music?

Music is sound that has been organized by using rhythm, melody or harmony.

Music is an art that puts sounds together in a way that people like or find interesting. Most music includes people singing with their voices, the larynx (voice box) is like a wind instrument, or playing musical instruments, such as the piano, guitar, or drums.

The word music comes from the Greek word mousike, which means "**art of the Muses**". In Ancient Greece the Muses included the goddesses of music, poetry, art, and dance. A person who makes music is called a **musician**.

History

The first music was probably made trying to imitate sounds that occurred naturally. Some animals also use music. Songbirds use song to protect their territory, or to attract a male or female.

The first musical instrument used by humans was the voice. The human voice can make different kinds of sounds. The larynx (voice box) is like a wind instrument.

The first rhythm instruments or percussion instruments involved the clapping of hands, stones hit together or using other things. There are finds of this type that date back to the paleolithic.

The only way we can know about early music is by looking at very old paintings (also in caves) that show people playing musical instruments, or by finding them in **archaeological digs** (digging under ground to find old things).

Answer the questions

1. What is music? .....

.....

2. Where does the word 'music' come from? .....

.....

3. How do we call a person who makes music? .....

.....

4. What was the first musical instrument used by humans? .....

.....

5. How can we learn about early music? .....

.....

Periods in music history

Prehistoric music	(before writing)
Ancient music	(before 350)
Medieval music	about 350-1400
Renaissance music	1400-1600
Baroque music	1600-1750
Classical music period	1740-1820
Romantic music	1820-1900
Modern period	1900-today

Music in the United Kingdom

Since the earliest days, English music has been particularly diverse and important for the culture of the country. It was made up of religious music, folk music, classical music and many other styles. There were styles designed for the rich and the elite and others for the poor and the working class. English music was particularly influenced by **European movements**. However there are many trends and styles which were created within the country. Important examples are the **Celtic chants** and the **medieval carols**.

Folk music was the music of the people. This style of music changed over the years and reflected the experiences of the immigrants, working classes and esteemed classes. Folk music existed from the medieval times until the industrialisation of the society during the 19th and 20th centuries. The folk style combined song and dance. Today there are some folk musicians who use traditional style of **story-telling** with new modern instruments and equipment.

In the 1930s, American Jazz music (p. 164) entered the English market. This stimulated the local musicians, who started to explore and experiment their styles. The radio started to transmit popular dance tunes and any occasion of celebrating something was accompanied by vibrant music and dancing. In 1962, the Beatles revealed a completely new perspective on musical entertainment. This band was the most popular of its time and their songs were heard by young and old all over the world.

Since then, many many musical giants have come from this talented country. These include The Rolling Stones, Elton John, Queen, David Bowie, Blur, Oasis, Radiohead, Adele, Robbie Williams, Ed Sheeran, Coldplay, etc..

Answer the questions

1. What kind of styles is English music made up of? .....
.....
2. Who particularly influenced English music? .....
.....
3. What was Folk music? .....
.....
4. What did Folk music combine? .....
.....
5. What kind of music started in the 1930s? .....
.....

Britpop

Britpop is a type of alternative rock that started in the United Kingdom in the 1990s. This kind of music began as a reaction against some trends and styles, such as grunge from the United States. After American grunge bands such as Nirvana came to Britain, many Brit bands wanted to opposite them, and wrote about only British Topics and concerns.

The media called these bands a national importance and groups, such as Oasis, Blur and Pulp, have been called the most important ones of Britpop. Some of these bands became famous overseas, but Britpop mostly finished by the end of the decade.

Find out about the group Oasis:

- Where are they from?
- How many group members were they?
- When did they start and when did they split?
- Why did everybody speak about them?
- What were some of their number one hits?

Fact

In Britain Oasis were and still are very popular. Nearly Everybody knows at least one song by heart.

Listen to the song: Don't look back in Anger (Oasis)

Slip inside the eye of your mind
Don't you know you might find
A better place to play
You said that you'd never been
But all the things that you've seen
Will slowly fade away
So I start a revolution from my bed
'Cause you said the brains I had went to my head.
Step outside, summertime's in bloom
Stand up beside the fireplace
Take that look from off your face
You ain't ever gonna burn my heart out
And so Sally can wait, she knows it's too late as we're walking on by
Her soul slides away, but don't look back in anger I heard you say
Take me to the place where you go
Where nobody knows if it's night or day
But please don't put your life in the hands
Of a Rock n Roll band
Who'll throw it all away
I'm gonna start a revolution from my bed
'Cause you'

Glastonbury Festival

Glastonbury festival is a five-day music festival and takes place in Somerset, England every year in June. It is regarded as a major event in British culture.

It all started in 1970 with 1,500 festival-goers at a dairy Farm called Worthy Farm. The farmer decided to organize an open-air music festival on his fields and the price for the ticket was £1 including a free glass of milk and a place for your tent.

Today, it is known as **the largest Greenfield festival in the world** and it has numerous stages that showcase all sorts of musical acts. The pyramid stage (shape of a pyramid) is one of the most famous stages. It is 30 metres tall and made out of four kilometres of steel pipes.

Glastonbury festival has hosted hundreds of important performers, starting with David Bowie in 1971 and in 2015 showcasing Kanye West. Throughout the years the camper have been privileged to witness Elvis Costello, Johnny Cash, Radiohead, R. E. M., Coldplay, Paul McCartney, Oasis, James Brown, the Who, Adele, and Amy Winehouse.

Even though the weather can sometimes be dramatic, almost becoming a tradition for it to rain at least once during the festival, it has not stopped the people of taking part (today about 150,000).

Everybody just put on their wellies (boots), which have become a fashion "must", and dance in the mud.

The festival works with many charities and those in need, such as Greenpeace and Water Aid, because they have a strong belief in helping the environment. The festival has created a **Love the Farm**, **Leave No Trace campaign** to influence festival-goers to clean up after the concerts and take care of the field it is hosted in. The campaign started when one of the farmer's cows died because of a metal tent peg. The movement not only brings about the **environmental message**, but hands out biodegradable tent pegs for free to the campers and uses waste vegetable oil in their bio-tractors for the site.

Writing

Write about a music festival in your country:

- Where and when does it take place?
- Describe the place (indoor, outdoor, stage...)
- How long does it last?
- What kind of music and musicians?

Jazz

Jazz is a type of music that was invented around 1900 in New Orleans in the USA. There were many black musicians living there who played a style of music called **blues music**. Blues music was influenced by African music because the black people in the US had come as slaves (see p. 202) and played blues by singing, using the harmonica, or the acoustic guitar. Many blues songs had sad lyrics about sad feelings or sad experiences, such as losing a person of a family, or being tortured.

The black people had a very hard life, working in the cotton fields and being mistreated. Music helped them feel united and brought them back (for a little time) to their home country.

Jazz music mixed together blues music with European. Some black composers such as Scott Joplin wrote music called ragtime, which had a very different rhythm from standard European music. **Rag time** was a big influence on early jazz and the musicians used the trumpet, saxophone, and clarinet, piano, banjo, double bass, drums, guitar.

Jazz is usually improvised: the players make up the music while they are playing (but there are some rules). Jazz has influenced many types of music and in the 1930s and 1940s many pop music songs used chords or melodies from jazz songs. One of the best known jazz musicians was Louis Armstrong.

Answer the questions

1. When and where was Jazz invented? .....

.....

2. What style of music did they play in New Orleans? .....

.....

3. How did blues music arrive in America? .....

.....

4. What were the Lyrics about? .....

.....

5. What kind of instruments did Rag time bands use? .....

.....

The Beatles

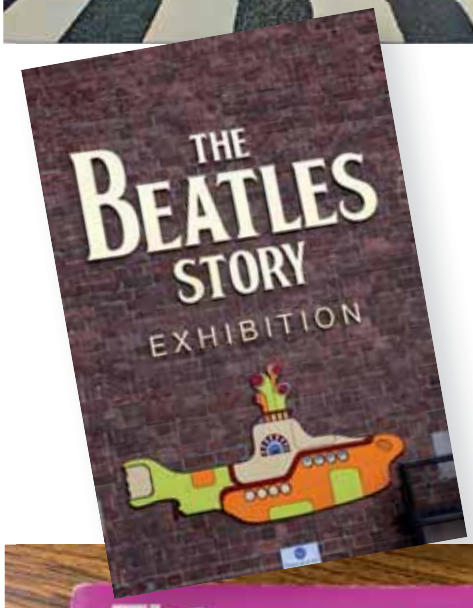
The Beatles were an English rock band and started in Liverpool, England in 1960. They were and still are, one of the most successful and influential bands in the history of modern music. The Beatles took their inspiration from many music genres, including folk, blues, country, pop, hard rock etc..

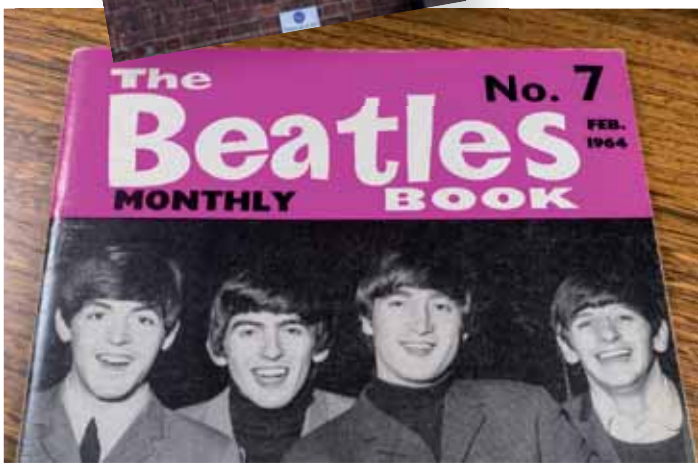
The members of the band were Paul Mc Carteny (bass guitar), John Lennon (rhythm guitar), George Harrison (lead guitar) and Ringo Star (drums). Almost all of their music was recorded at **Abbey Road Studios** in London.

Story of the Beatles

In 1957, John Lennon and some of his friends started playing in a band called Quarrymen. The members of the band often changed, and by 1960, the band was called The Beatles. They had their first hit in 1962 and from then on their songs started to reach the number 1 position on the British charts. In 1964, they went to the United States for the first time and they were met at the airport by thousands of screaming American teenagers. The Beatles became so popular that they were attacked by screaming fans everywhere they went (this was called Beatle-mania). The Beatles started changing their style and they hit a peak in 1967 with the release of "**Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band**", which was named as the greatest album of all time by Rolling Stone Magazine. They were also named the most influential artists of all time because their music, clothing style, and attitudes shaped much of what was popular among young people in the 1960s.

The Beatles broke up in 1970 because of the pressure of fame and each member becoming independent both in their personal lives and musically. Anyhow, they all had a personal career and still have, such as Paul McCartney and Ringo Star.





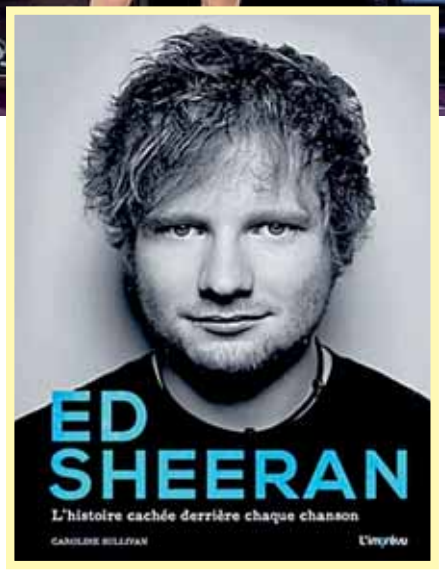
Writing

Write about a famous group in your country: (use internet)

– when did they start?
– what kind of music do they play?
– Are they famous all over the world?
– What are the names of their famous hits and/or albums?
– Have they changed styles?
– Are they still playing together?

Ed Sheeran

Ed Sheeran is a famous English singer and songwriter. Some famous hits include 'Thinking out Loud', 'Shape', 'Photograph' and 'Perfect'. He has won the hearts of people all over the world with his charm and melodic voice. Millions of people have fallen in love with his songs.



Childhood and early life

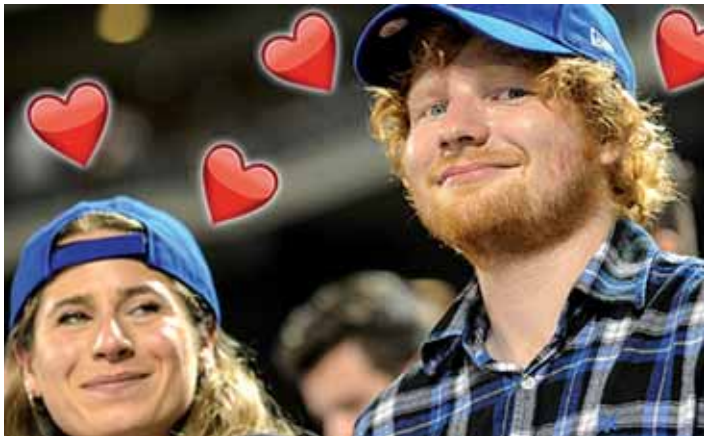
Ed Sheeran was born on 17th February 1991 in Yorkshire, England. He began playing the guitar as well as singing in a local church at a very young age. He attended Thomas Mills High School in Framlingham and later, he also studied music and joined the National Youth Theatre. When he was a teenager, he started recording CDs and selling them. At the age of 14, he released 'The Orange Room' and 'Spinning Man', important works for his early years.

In 2008, he moved to London and played in small venues and collaborated with some musicians. He went to LA in 2010 for a poetry night. After his performance Jamie Foxx, the famous American actor and comedian, allowed him to use his recording studio. Sheeran's fan-base started growing both online and offline. It was after the release of his album '+' (plus) in September 2011, that he rose to international fame. It stood at number one in several countries and sold 1,021,072 copies in the UK alone. His amazing performance impressed Taylor Swift, and she later worked with him on a single.

Sheeran has received many awards for his performances. They include the **British Artist of the Year**, the BBC's annual pop music award and the **American Music Award for Favourite Pop/Rock male Artist** in 2015.

Personal life

Ed Sheeran dated Nina Nesbitt, the Scottish singer and songwriter, in 2012. She was the subject of his song 'Nina' and 'Photograph'. After their break up in 2014, he started going out with Athina Andrelos. They broke up in 2015, and later, he began dating with his high school friend Cherry Seaborn, a hockey player. In 2018 he announced he was engaged to Cherry and he has bought a farm in Suffolk, England, and he plans to raise his family there.



DJ

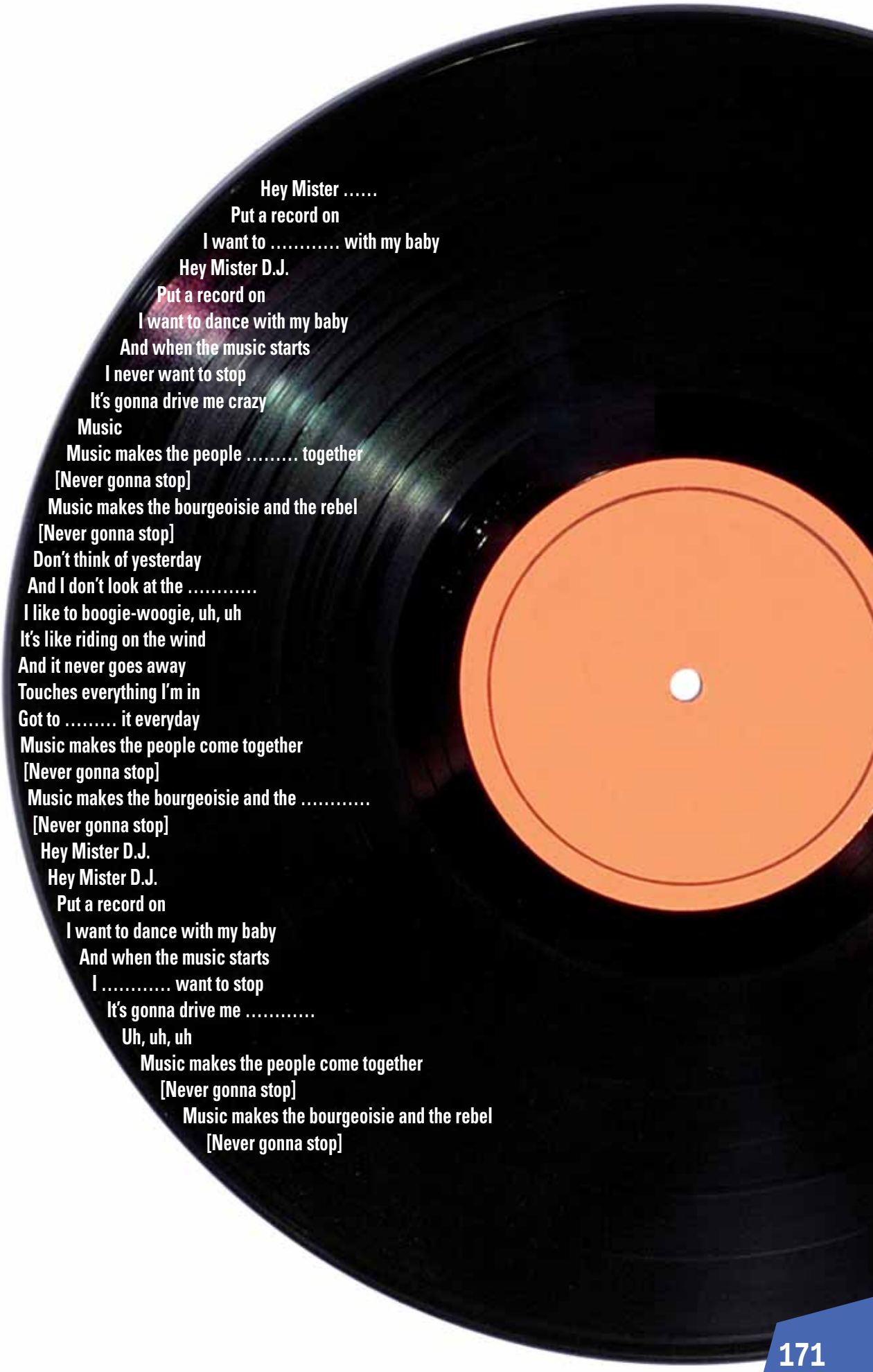
All true dancers know that the DJ is one of the most important elements of an event. They're usually situated a little bit away from the dancing floor on an elevated platform or behind a booth, with one headphone on, mixing up a storm. Their music brings thousands of people together and many DJs are international stars today. Djs are not just people who play a selection of music. **They create their own styles, sounds, and mix**. As music technology has progressed, DJs have adopted different types of equipment to play and mix music, all of which are still commonly used. Traditionally, DJs used two turntables plugged into a DJ mixer to mix music on vinyl records. Today, CD players called CDJs can take the place of turntables or be used together with turntables. Many CDJs can now play digital music files from USB flash drivers or SD cards in addition to CDs. With the spread of portable laptop, tablet and smartphone computers, DJs began using software together with specialized sound cards and DJ controller hardware.

Calvin Harris

No other British DJ has ever reached the level of global success and celebrity that Calvin Harris has achieved. He first became a DJ as a teenager, when he also started producing electronic music. In fact, he was the first electronic music producer and DJ to win the Ivor Novello Songwriter of the Year Award and the first British solo artist to reach more than a **billion streams on Spotify**.

Break

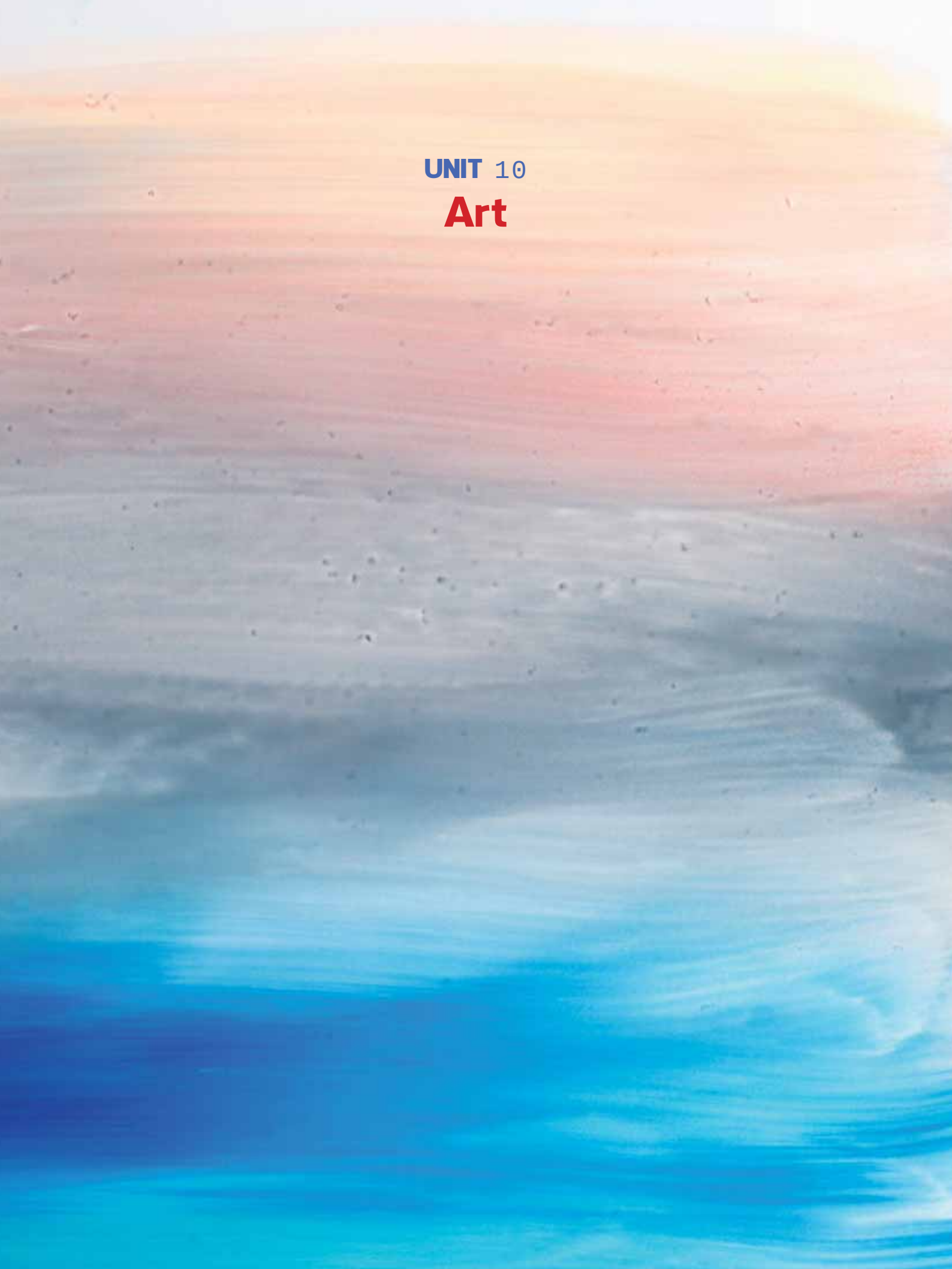
Music



Hey Mister ……
Put a record on
I want to …… with my baby
Hey Mister D.J.
Put a record on
I want to dance with my baby
And when the music starts
I never want to stop
It's gonna drive me crazy
Music
Music makes the people …… together
[Never gonna stop]
Music makes the bourgeoisie and the rebel
[Never gonna stop]
Don't think of yesterday
And I don't look at the ……
I like to boogie-woogie, uh, uh
It's like riding on the wind
And it never goes away
Touches everything I'm in
Got to …… it everyday
Music makes the people come together
[Never gonna stop]
Music makes the bourgeoisie and the ……
[Never gonna stop]
Hey Mister D.J.
Hey Mister D.J.
Put a record on
I want to dance with my baby
And when the music starts
I …… want to stop
It's gonna drive me ……
Uh, uh, uh
Music makes the people come together
[Never gonna stop]
Music makes the bourgeoisie and the rebel
[Never gonna stop]

Dear friend,
How are you? Hope fine. I'm still excited because last weekend I went to a pop concert. It was the concert of Ed Sheeran. It was absolutely fabulous!! He's so cute and great. I went with Lilly, Joan, Billy, Jim, and Fiona. We took the bus early in the morning and we got there we had to wait in a very long queue all day. Imagine, there were some guys that had slept in a sleeping bag outside Wembley stadium to get the best places. There were thousands of people and it was really exciting. People came from all over England to see him. Anyhow, the great moment was when he came on stage: all lights were switched off, he started to play the melody 'The shape of you' and.... there he was, everybody started screaming, wow! what a moment! I'll never forget it in my whole life! He played the whole concert without band. I bought a t-shirt there with Ed on it and put the concert ticket in a frame in my room. This weekend he's at Glastonbury. It's a famous music event in GB. It lasts 3 days and musicians from all over the world play there. You sleep in tents there. I would have loved to go there, but my parents say I'm too young. I can't wait to go there one day!
Have you ever been to a concert? Do you have important music events in your country? Write soon and take care.

Love Jane



UNIT 10

Art

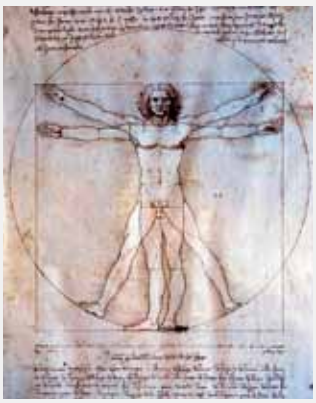
History of art

There are cave paintings and sculptures that date back to the Paleolithic era. All ancient civilizations, such as Ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, China, India or Arabia had works and styles of art. In the Middle Ages, most of the art in Europe showed people from the Bible in paintings, mosaics and stained glass windows.

After the Middle Ages, there was a "**Renaissance**" which means "**rebirth**". People rediscovered science and so they could paint other subjects (not only religious). Artists like **Leonardo da Vinci** and **Michelangelo** started to paint also mythological pictures and invented **perspective** where things in the distance look smaller than thing close up in the picture.

In the 1800s, artists in Europe created many new painting styles, such as Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism.

In the 1900s, art includes Expressionism, Fauvism, Cubism, Dadaism, Surrealism, and Minimalism.



What is art?

Many people disagree on how to define art. We may say, "it is an activity or creation by people which attracts the human senses". People who make art express herself or himself. Art include painting, drawing, sculpting, photography, performance art, music, dance, poetry, prose and theatre.

Art is divided into the plastic arts, where something is made, and the performing arts, where something is done by humans in action. There is another division between pure arts, done for oneself, and practical arts, done for practical purpose, but with artistic content.

Plastic arts

- Fine art is expression by making something beautiful or show emotions by: paintings, drawings, sculpture, paint making
- Literature: poetry, creative writing

Performing arts

- Performing art include drama, dance, acting, singing (using the body)
- Auditory art includes music and singing (making sound)

Practical arts

- Culinary art includes cooking (flavour and taste).
- The practical arts include architecture, photography, filming, fashion and video games. (making things and structures).

Remember

Art history is the study of development and stylistic changes of art over the course of time.

An art movement is a specific style of art that was used by a group of artists for a period of time.

Answer the questions

1. what was art like in the Middle Ages? ……

   ……

2. What happened after the Middle Ages? …

   ……

3. What did Leonardo di Vinci and Michelangelo start to paint? ……

   ……

4. What kind of styles were there in the 1800s?

   ……

   ……

5. What does art include? ……

   ……

6. How is art divided? ……

   ……

7. Plastic arts include: ……

   ……

   ……

   Performing arts include: ……

   ……

   ……

   Practical arts include: ……

   ……

   ……

Modern Art

Modern art refers to art made from the 1860s to the 1970s. In this period mechanical means of recording images were invented: photography and film.

Modern artists started to experiment with new ways of seeing and with fresh ideas about the nature of materials and functions of art.

Modern art begins with painters like Vincent van Gogh, Paul Gaugiun, Georges Seurat, Paul Cèzanne and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, who were all essential for the development of modern art.

Pablo Picasso made his first **cubist** paintings based on Cèzanne's idea that all paintings of nature can be reduced to three solids:

Cube, sphere and cone. Picasso dramatically created a new and radical way of painting and his new cubist inventions.

Modern art was introduced to the United States in 1913 through European artists who moved there during World War I. It was only after World War II, however, that the U.S. became the focal point of the new artistic movements.

Answer the questions

1. Which period does Modern Art refer to?

.....

.....

2. What did the artists experiment?

.....

.....

3. Who were the essential artists for the development of Modern Art?

.....

.....

4. What was Cézanne's idea based on?

.....

.....

5. Where and when did Modern Art start?

.....

.....

Fact

Roerich Pact is a treaty on Protection of Artistic and Scientific Institutions and Historic Monuments, 1st April 1935, signed by the representatives of 21 states in the White House (U.S.A.). The Roerich Pact is also known as Pax Cultura ('Cultural Peace' or 'Peace through Culture').

The most important idea of the Roerich Pact is the legal recognition that the protection of culture always has supremacy over any military necessity.

Pop Art

Pop art is a modern art style, a new form of "**Popular**" art that took inspiration from cultural icons such as film stars or popular mass media imagery as used in comic strips, advertisements and product labels. Probably, Pop Art was a reaction to the seriousness of Abstract Expressionist Art. Pop Art is supposed to be fun. Artists believed that art could be anything, and made out of anything.

The characteristics include bright, vivid, quirky colours, repetition of shapes and the use of collage technique.

The images were generally presented with a combination of humor, irony and critisism It began in the 1950s in England, but became very popular in the 1960s and became a true movement in New York.

The most famous artists who adopted the Pop Art style were **Andy Warhol**, **David Hockney**, **Roy Lichtenstein** and **Peter Blake**.

Andy Warhol is the most famous artist of the pop art movement who created iconic works with paintings of popular American products like Campbell soup cans.

English artist **Peter Blake** became worldwide famous when he created the cover of the Beatles 'Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Heart Club Band'. Roy Lichtenstein created the comic-strip style that parodied consumerism.

Street Art

Street Art is an art movement. Some people ask for a little money in the streets and make music, theatre, paintings or drawings on the ground. These are the '**true**' street artists.

History

Before Street Art emerged there was another art movement called Land Art. After the World War II, two artists started making illegal art in the streets of Paris in 1962 to protest against the Berlin wall. In 1972 and 1976, they made Land Art in the desert of California, building a very long fence. In 1985 they made a huge Land Art work in Paris. They wrapped the oldest bridge of the city with polyamide fabric (they were able to have a permission for this work).

Answer the questions

1. What are the typical characteristics of Pop Art? .....

2 When and where did Pop Art begin? .....

3. Who are the most well known Pop Art artists? .....

Graffiti

Graffiti is drawings, marks or scratchings made on a surface on a public place. It is usually created with **spray** (sprayed from a can) or paint.

Graffiti can take the form of art, words or drawings. When it is done without a property owner's permission it is considered a vandalism. Sometimes it is a public political protest or sometimes just a person's name. There are murals of Graffiti all over the world and they usually want to express a condition of the society (p. 30 Ireland).

History

Even in the Roman Empire people wrote messages and drew caricatures on the walls.

Modern Graffiti was made famous in New York in the early 1970s by the children of the working class. They called it 'writing' and called themselves 'writers'.

In 1971 a New York Times article used the term 'Graffiti' referred to the new urban explosion that was becoming popular in New York city.

Today Graffiti can be a complicated mixture of writing and pictures. These are always signed with a tag (graffiti slang, 'a signature'), which is a shape special to an artist.

Graffiti can be seen as part of hip hop or street protest. It is often but not always illegal. It can be very beautiful and not only something bad, but something good, like art. Some people or comunities pay graffiti artists to do graffiti on their building (sometimes to remember somebody special or a special occasion). Many Graffiti artists have become very famous, such as Banksy (Bristol, UK), Chanoir (Barcelona), Blu (Italy), 3 steps (Germany), Daku (Iran), André (France), Salomon Souza (Israel), Osa Seven (Nigeria), B. N. E. (New York), Chico (Egypt).

Answer the questions

1. what is Graffiti and how is it created? ...
   .....
   .....
   .....
2. In which city did Graffiti start? .....
   .....
   .....
   .....
3. What is a 'tag'?.....
   .....
   .....
   .....
4. Is Graffiti always illegal? .....
   .....
   .....
   .....

Fact

Probably the simplest Graffiti is when a person cuts the name of a lover on a tree with a knife.

Banksy

Banksy is a British street and Graffiti artist. He likes to remain anonymous and not let people know his true identity.

Banksy's work started in the Bristol underground scene, which had collaboration between artists and musicians. When he started, his work was mainly done freehand. In the 1990s, he started to use **stencils** (stencilling technique). Such works could or can be found on public places such as on buildings, train stations, bridges, walls etc. His art always wants to provoke something and send messages regarding politics, wars, consumerism, pollution and society (usually anti war or anti establishment). A lot of people love what he does and others consider it to be vandalism. Many of his works have been painted over soon after it appeared.

He often incorporates images of rats, apes, soldiers, children and policemen. Banksy has published a book of his work, and made a film called 'Exit through the gift shop' which won many awards.

Banksy does not sell photography or reproductions through commercial galleries, probably, because he does not agree with this kind of system (his art is worth millions), but it is known that art auctioneers have sold his street art on location and the problem of removal was left in the hands of the

winning bidder. This piece of a girl letting go of a heart-shaped balloon is one of Banksy's most famous works. It was created using a stencil and originally painted onto the the wall of a printing shop in London in 2002. In 2017, it was voted the nation's favourite artwork.

Fun facts

On 6th October 2018, **Banksy's girl with the balloon** had just been sold for 1.4 Million dollars at the famous Sotheby's auction when, suddenly, a few seconds later the picture started to disappear into a shredder hidden in its frame. Banksy posted an image on his Instegram of the shredded work dangling from the bottom with this quote title: "going, going, gone". (watch video: youtube)

"The greatest crimes in the world are not committed by people breaking the rules but by people who follow orders that drop bombs and massacre villages".

Banksy

Ophelia

Ophelia is a painting by British artist **Sir John Everett Millais**, completed in 1851 and it is in the collection of Tate Britain in London. It depicts Ophelia, a character from **Shakespear's play Hamlet**, singing before she drowns in a river in Denmark.

The artist

John Everett Millais was born 8th June 1829 and entered the Royal Academy school only at the age of 11 and won all the prizes.

The choice of playwright

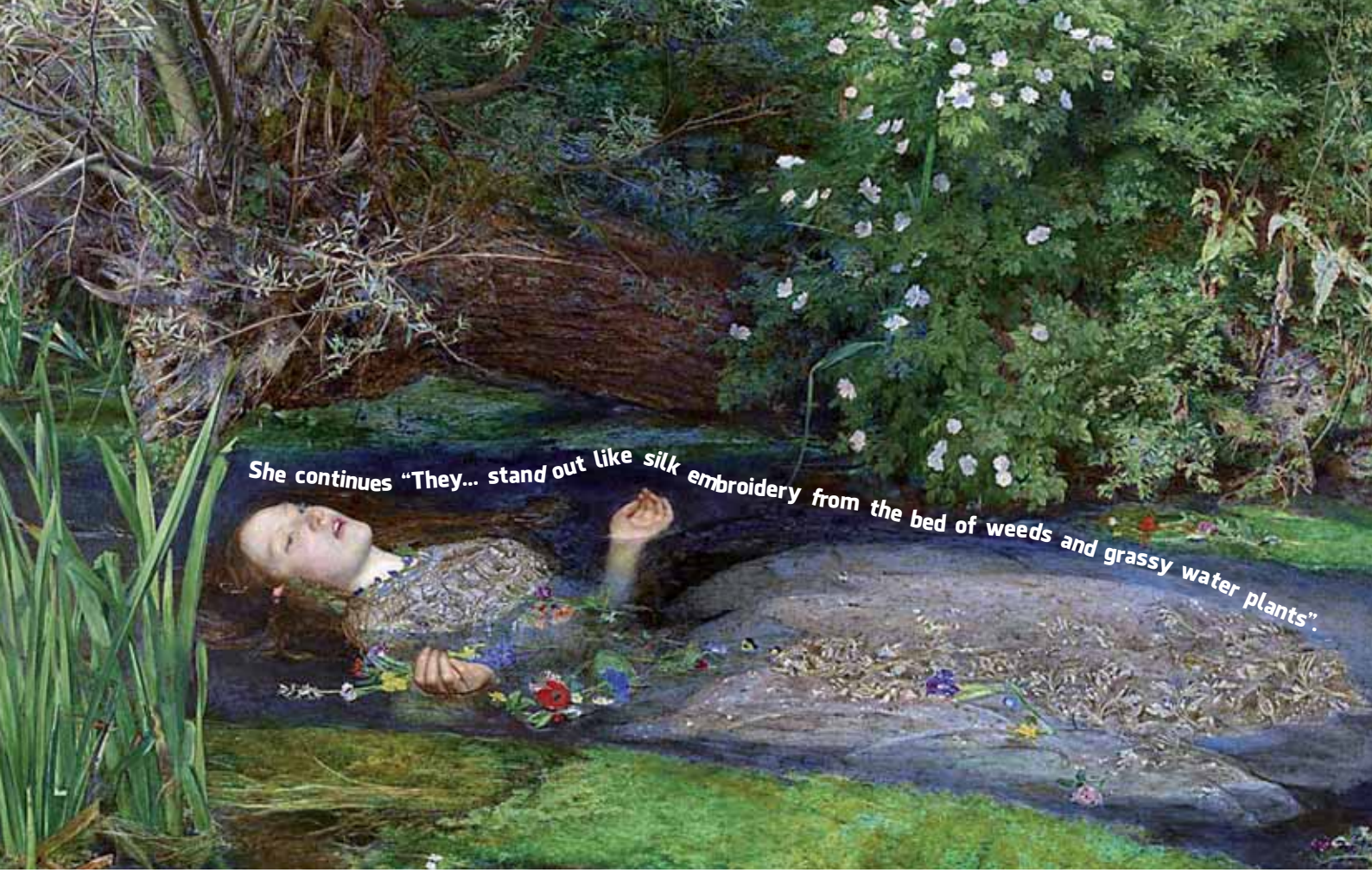
Shakespear's play were a common source of inspiration for Victorian painters.

The choice of character

Ophelia – tragic suicide of a very young woman (having been rejected by Hamlet and driven to distraction by Hamlet's murder of her father, Polonius). Shakespear was a favourite source for Victorian painters especially the tragic-romantic figure of Ophelia.

The Victorians were fond of tragic death. When Millais and the other artists discussed their paintings, they considered that the rejected women were destined for a sad life with little hope for marriage so in art the death by drowning was seen as an appropriate ending.

In Millais's Ophelia everything is relegated to the scintillating natural details of the scene.



The use of symbolism:

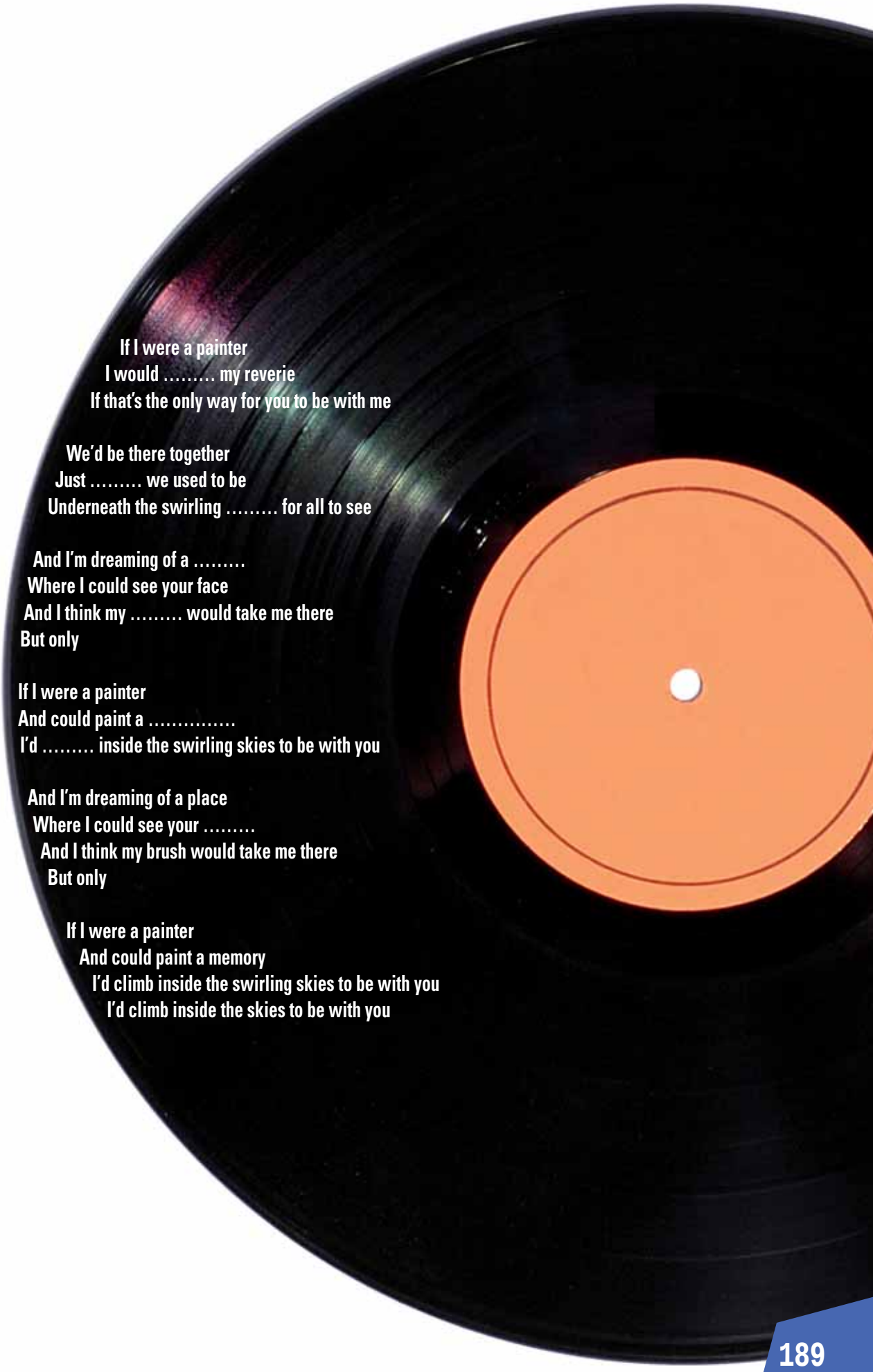
Willow – forsaken love
Nettles – pain
Daisies – innocence
Pansies – thought and vain love
Necklace of violets – faithful chastity and death of the young
The roses – Laertes called her 'rose of May'

The following flowers and plants are not in Shakespear's text but were added by Millais:
Poppy – death's flower
Faded meadowsweet on the bank to the left – usefullness
Forget-me-nots – self explanatory
The pheasant's eye – sorrow

It is clear from all this that Millais thought very carefully about what to include in his Ophelia.

Break

Painter Song



If I were a painter
I would ..... my reverie
If that's the only way for you to be with me

We'd be there together
Just ..... we used to be
Underneath the swirling ..... for all to see

And I'm dreaming of a .....
Where I could see your face
And I think my ..... would take me there
But only

If I were a painter
And could paint a .....
I'd ..... inside the swirling skies to be with you

And I'm dreaming of a place
Where I could see your .....
And I think my brush would take me there
But only

If I were a painter
And could paint a memory
I'd climb inside the swirling skies to be with you
I'd climb inside the skies to be with you

Dear friend,
What's up? :) I read the other day that Banksy hit again! Do you know Banksy? You should see his art on Internet! I think he's great. Apart from the fact that I really like his style and art, I think he must be a very interesting and intelligent person. I've got his picture of 'the girl with the balloon' hanging in my room. Banksy's anonymous and so nobody knows who he is. Someone suspects that he could be Robert De Naja from the group Massive Attack (group from Bristol). I like Banksy so much because he always gives messages and underlines something that's not working in our society. The last provoking mural was on a garage in Port Talbot, Wales. It shows a child catching snowflakes with his mouth. But once you look around the corner, you realize that the child's mouth is open to ash coming from a rubbish bin on fire. Banksy wanted to highlight Port Talbot's air pollution problem, also caused by a steel plant. This place is England's most polluted town and people are facing health risks. Banksy has often given messages regarding the environment ("I DON'T BELIEVE IN GLOBAL WARMING"). That's why I really admire him. It's so important that people who are able to capture public attention show <u>us all</u> what's going on in the world! It's quite a contradiction, if you think it's illegal what he's doing. What do you think? Do you like his art? Which one most? Do you like other kind of art?

Write soon, love Jane

UNIT 11

Human Rights

"Peace can only last where human rights are respected, where the people are fed, and where individuals and nations are free".

14TH DALAI LAMA

Holocaust

Throughout history human beings have done terrible things to each other.

The Holocaust (The Shoah in Hebrew) was the attempt by the Nazis to murder all the Jews in Europe. From when they took power in 1933 until the end of World War II. The Nazis used propaganda, persecution and legislation to deny human and civil rights to Jews. When World War II actually began in 1939, the Nazis armies started marching into other cities in Europe. When they took over a city, they would round up all the Jewish people and force them into the one part of the area. Then they would put up a wall around that section of the city so that no one could get out. They called these areas **ghettos**. The Nazis started building huge concentration camps where they would bring the jews and other people. The Jews were told that they were going to be resettled, so most of them left without protesting. Some concentration camps had gas rooms, where countless Jews were killed. These camps became known as 'Death Camps'. The biggest one was in Poland and was called **Auschwitz**. By the end of the Holocaust, six million Jewish women, children and men had been murdered in ghettos and concentration camps. But they did not only kill Jews. They killed disabled people, gay people, black people, political opponents, and many other groups.

After the Holocaust, the world said, **This must never happen again!** But sadly, similar crimes have happened in many countries around the world, and still happen today.

Writing

Work in groups: find places around the world where people are discriminated and very often have to escape from their country and are torn from their homes.

Where is the place?

Who treats the people badly and what do they do?

Why are the people treated badly or unfair?

What do these victims do (escape, hide?)

Remember:

What is discrimination?

When you treat a group badly and say mean and unfair things about them because of their race, religion or part of their identity.

What is antisemitism?

Antisemitism is discrimination specifically towards Jewish people.

HUMAN RIGHTS are rights to all human beings, whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1. We are all born free and equal.
2. Don't discriminate.
3. The right to life.
4. No slavery.
5. No torture.
6. You have rights no matter where you go.
7. We're all equal before the law.
8. Your human rights are protected by law.
9. No unfair detainment.
10. The right to trial.
11. We're always innocent till proven guilty.
12. The right to privacy.
13. Freedom to move.
14. The right to seek a safe place to live.
15. Right to a nationality.
16. Marriage and family.
17. The right to your own things.
18. Freedom of thought.
19. Freedom of expression.
20. The right to public assembly.
21. The right to democracy.
22. Social security.
23. Worker's rights.
24. The right to play.
25. Food and shelter for all.
26. The right to education.
27. Copyright.
28. A fair and free world.
29. Responsibility.
30. No one can take away your HUMAN RIGHTS.

The 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Coursesinireland • 308.024 visualizzazioni • 5 anni fa

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS Simplified Version This simplified version of the 30 Articles ...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyVJHpiHO8I

Martin Luther King's Dream
I have a dream

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today! I have a dream that one day down in Alabama little black boys and little black girls will join hands with little white boys and little white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today! We will work together; go to jail together knowing that we will be free one day.

That day all of God's children will sing in the words of the old Negro Spiritual: "Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.

Biography of Martin Luther King, Jr.

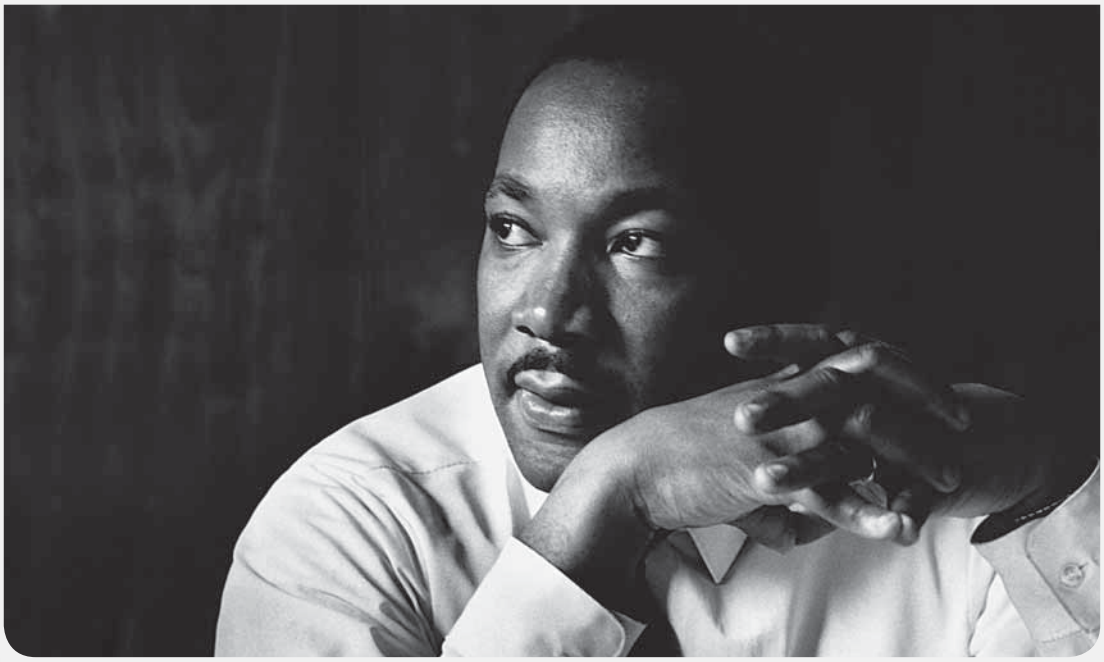
Martin Luther King was born on January 13, 1929 in Atlanta. His grandfather and father both served as pastors. King graduated from Morehouse College in 1948 with a degree in Sociology. He married Coretta Scott and they had two sons and two daughters.

In 1954, King was appointed the pastor of the Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. It was while serving as pastor of the church that Rosa Parks was arrested (p. 200). In 1955, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Association which led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott. During this time African-Americans refused to ride the public buses. King's home was bombed and he was arrested. He became leader of an organization which used ideas of civil disobedience and peaceful protest, like Mohandas Gandhi, to fight against segregation and discrimination. Their demonstrations helped to lead to the **Civil Rights Act of 1964** and **the Voting Rights Act of 1965**.

On August 28, 1963 there was the largest demonstration of its kind in Washington led by King. About 250,000 demonstrators took part and during this march King gave his famous speech "I have a dream" from the Lincoln Memorial.

At the age of 35 he received the Nobel Peace Prize. He gave the entire amount of the prize money to the Civil Rights movement.

From 1965 to 1968, King continued his work and fight for Civil Rights. He became a critic of the war in Vietnam. While speaking from a balcony at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis on April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King was assassinated.



What happened in Martin Luther King's life in these years?

1948 .....

1954 .....

1955 .....

1963 .....

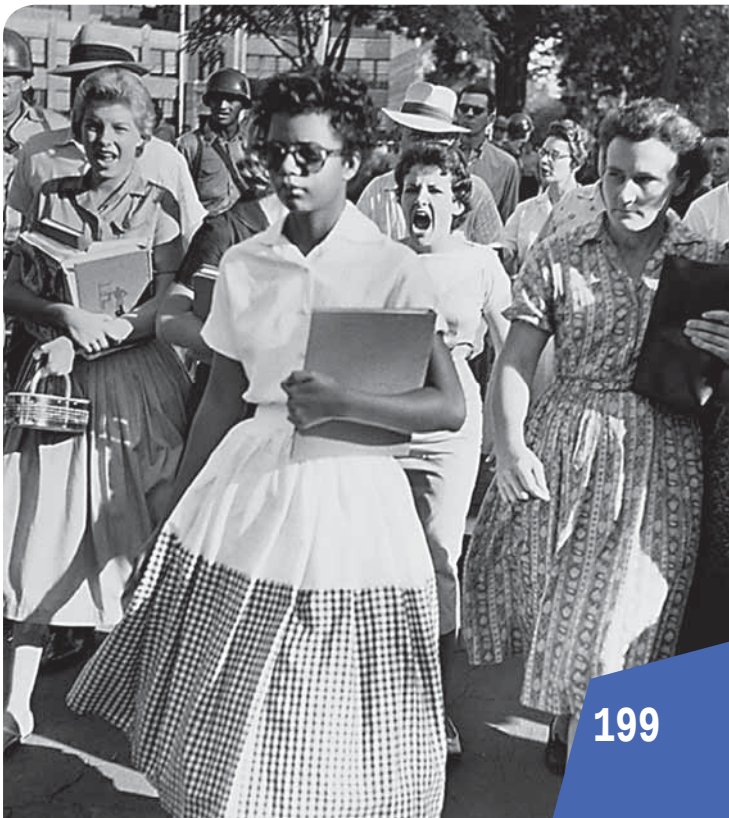
1964 .....

1968 .....

Remember

Racism or racialism is a form of discrimination based on race, especially the belief that one race is superior to another. Racism may be expressed individually and consciously, through explicit thoughts, feelings, or acts, or socially and unconsciously, through institutions that promote inequality between races.

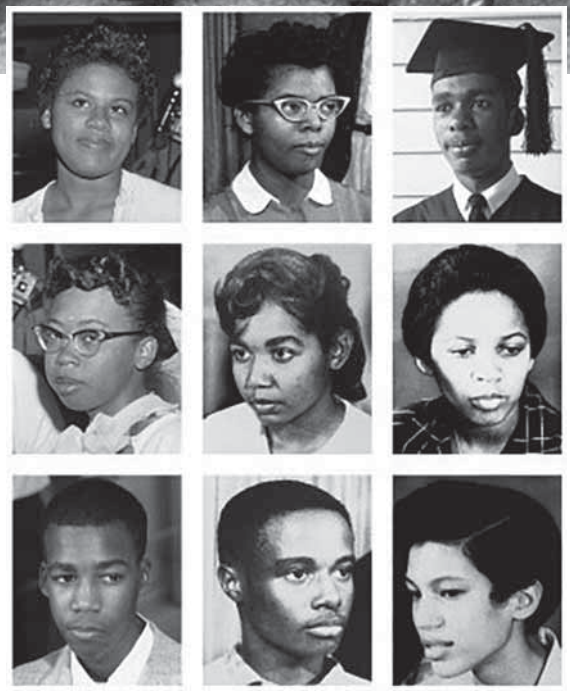
There are two main definitions of racism today. One of them state that racism is discrimination on alleged race, the other newer one states that racism has started to include also discrimination based on religion or culture.



Civil Rights Movement

The African-American Civil Rights Movement was an on-going fight for racial equality that took place for over 100 years after the Civil War. Leaders such as Martin Luther King, Booker T. Washington, and Rosa Parks paved the way for non-violent protests which led to changes in the law. These movements were in the 1950s and 1960s and led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

An important event in the movement happened in 1955. **Rosa Parks** was arrested for not giving up her seat on the bus to a white passenger. This led to the **Montgomery Bus Boycott** which lasted a year and brought Martin Luther King to the forefront of the movement. King led a number of non-violent protests including the Birmingham Campaign and the March on Washington.



Facts

The National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee was once the Lorraine Motel, where Martin Luther King, Jr. Was shot and killed in 1968.

Today, African-Americans have been elected or appointed to the highest positions in the US government including Secretary of State (Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice) and President (Barack Obama).

Writing

Search on internet about "**The little Rock nine**".
Write about this true story and talk about it in class.

Answer the questions

1. What was the African-American Civil Rights Movement? .....

.....

2. Who were the leaders? .....

.....

3. What important event happened in 1955? .....

.....

History of slavery in the United States

The first slaves in the American colonies arrived on a Dutch ship in Virginia in 1619. Over the next 200 years, around 600,000 more slaves were brought to the American colonies. They were supposed to work the cotton and tobacco fields.

Slaves came from the continent of Africa and were brought on the slave ships. The conditions of the ships were terrible, they hardly had any space and were chained. Many slaves died during the trip due tu disease and starvation.

The colonies made laws regarding slaves called **slave codes**. These laws established punishment for slaves who tried to escape. Other codes made it illegal to pay a slave to work, to help a slave to hide, to teach a slave to read. It was illegal for slaves to leave their plantation, or lift a hand against a white and to have weapons.

After the American Revolution, many states outlawed slavery. In 1840 most slaves were set free in the North of the country and this made many slaves try to escape from the South of the country. In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln gave the **Emancipation Proclamation** which declared that the slaves in the South were free.

Answer the questions

1. How did the slaves come to Virginia in 1619? ……

……

2. Where did they come from? ……

……

3. What were the conditions on the ship like? ……

……

4. What did the slave codes establish?……

……

Facts

The international slave trade was outlawed by Britain in 1807 and the US in 1808. However, slavery was still legal and slaves were smuggled into the country up until the end of the Civil War.

Some slaves were treated well by their owner, while others were treated horribly. They were sometimes beaten, whipped, branded, burned, and imprisoned.

Children of slaves were owned by the slave owner. They were often sold to other owners.

What is immigration?

Immigration is the process of moving to a new country, with plans to live there permanently. People who move to a new country are called immigrants. The same people are emigrants when they leave their own country or region.

Many immigrants come to a new country in search of a better life. They want a good job and better opportunities for their children (school, university...). They are mainly legal because they have documents and have asked for permission.

Other people are forced to leave their country because of wars, religious and political persecution, racial discrimination, famine, or natural disasters. These people are **refugees**, they move to other countries to find help and asylum. Most refugees are illegal immigrants or undocumented immigrants (very often and more than half are children and women). There are many reasons why they have no documents (stolen, lost, destroyed). This makes it very difficult for the different countries to identify the people and understand their background.

Someone may ask for political asylum when they are frightened to live in their own country. They are usually victims of threat, physical harm and have no human dignity. **The political asylum is one of the human rights**. All countries who have agreed to the United Nations Conventions Relating to the Status of Refugees must let people, who do qualify, come into their country.

People who qualify for asylum are those who can show that they are badly treated in their country because of their:

- **Religion**
- **Political opinion**
- **Membership of a particular social group or social activities**
- **Personal lifestyle and sexual orientation**.

In the early 2000s there were more than 10 million undocumented immigrants in the United States.

In the last few years immigration has become a serious and dramatic problem all over the world. There are many wars all over the world, so more and more people are desperate and escape from their countries. Also due to climate change (drought, floods) more and more people have to immigrate to other countries to survive otherwise they would starve because their fields of cultivation are flooded (e.g. India) or because of drought (e.g. Africa).

When people immigrate, they leave behind their families, friends, culture. They often have to sell what they have, like a house or farm, or anything else. The journey to get to the new country is usually very expensive and can last for years. Many people never get to their destination and others have to suffer of starvation and endure humiliation and torture. The immigrants have to use all their money and when they finally arrive, they do not have anything. They have to find a house, a job, and learn a new language. Very often they have to live in very bad and poor conditions. Sometimes they can even be victims of racism.

People in the United States or in Europe disagree about whether undocumented immigration is helpful or harmful to the country. Some think that it helps the economy. For example, many undocumented workers take low-paying jobs that other people in these countries do not want to do. But others think that immigrants cost the government too much and take away their jobs.

History

People have moved to new lands throughout history. In modern times, the largest waves of immigration were from Europe to the Americas in the 1800s. Millions of people from Europe settled in Canada, South America and the United States. Among this movement, known as the **Great Atlantic Migration**, were Irish, Germans, Norwegians, Italians, Greeks and many others.

Irish Immigration to America in the 1800s: Irish potato famine

Thousands of Irish were forced to immigrate to America because Ireland was devastated by the Irish Potato Famine (1845-1849) and the potatoes in the fields of Ireland turned black and rotted in the ground. Potatoes were the main food product in the country and this devastation led to the 'Great Hunger'. It is hard to imagine, but people were faced with death by starvation. It led to terrible diseases such as typhus (black fever). The Irish Potato Famine was made even worse by unusually harsh weather conditions and the only escape was to immigrate to America. Immigrants started their voyage on what were called '**Famine Ships**' or '**Coffin Ships**' but many of them never reached their destination due to starvation, black fever or other diseases. In the 1840s, the immigrants from Ireland constituted nearly half of all immigrants to the United States. Most were poor but found work in the coal mines or new transportation systems. By 1850 nearly one million Irish, including a large number of Catholics, emigrated to the US. Anti-Irish and Anti-Catholic feelings led to the formation of the Know-Nothing Party.

Think about these quotes:

“Your enemy is not the refugee. Your enemy is the one who made him a refugee”.

(from a tweet by Tatiq Ramaden)

“The land was flourished because it was fed from so many sources – because it was nourished by so many cultures and traditions and peoples”.

Lyndon B. Johnson

“Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are decended from immigrants and revolutionists”.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

“Everywhere immigrants have enriched and strengthened the fabric of American Life”.

John F. Kennedy

“People came here penniless but not cultureless. They bring us gifts. We can synthesize the best of our traditions with the best of theirs. We can teach and learn from each other to produce a better America”.

Mary Pipher

“No one leaves home unless home is the mouth of a shark”.

Warsan Shire

Meet young immigrants

Teacher.scolastic.com/activities/immigration/young_immigrants/vandi.htm

Remember

People who are given political asylum are called refugees. They are often confused with economic refugees. Economic refugees are people who move from a poor country to a richer one so that they may work and make more money, often to send back to their families.

Worksheets

Imagine that you arrive home from school and your parents tell you that your family are going to emigrate to the UK. You are going to leave your country next week. Work on your own to write some notes in the boxes.
Then compare your ideas in a group.

In my suitcase I will put

……
……
……
……
……

Things I will miss about my country

……
……
……
……
……

How you are feeling

……
……
……
……
……

I hope that

……
……
……
……
……

I'm worried about

……
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……
……

I'm looking forward to

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……
……

Discuss with your classmates:

Everybody should be able to live where they choose. Freedom is a human right.

……

……

……

……

People should stay and live in their own country.

……

……

……

……

There should be more help for people who immigrate. They help to adapt in their new country.

……

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……

People can not be ‘illegal’.

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In an ideal world nobody would need to emigrate.

……

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……

Immigration makes countries, towns and villages more interesting and may become communities which appreciate living together.

……

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……

Immigration is one of the biggest problems of our time.

……

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……

Immigration can be a natural process.

……

……

……

……

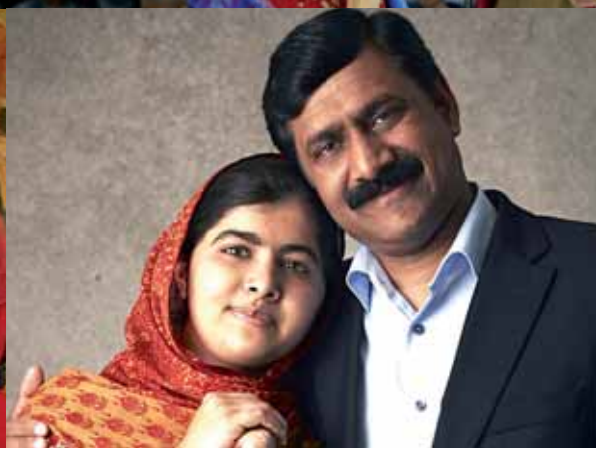
The right to education is a fundamental human right. Every individual, irrespective of race, gender, nationality, ethnic or social origin, religion or political preference, age or disability, is entitled to a free elementary education.

“Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world”.

Malala

Malala Yousafzai was born in a small town of Mingora in Pakistan. Malala loved going to school and her early childhood was one of happiness and peace. Her father was a teacher who ran schools for girls which Malala attended. She dreamt of becoming a teacher, doctor or even a politician. Her father always encouraged her to learn more and more and taught her that she could accomplish anything.

The Taliban began to take over the region where she lived. The Taliban decided that women were to stay at home and they believed that girls should only do household chores. They made many other strict laws. Women would not be allowed to vote or have jobs or even go out without being accompanied by a male relative. There would be no dancing, television and music. Suddenly, the Taliban decided



that the girl schools had to be shut down. This is when Malala started to write a blog for the BBC, under a pseudonym, describing her life under the oppressive rule of the Taliban. She soon became famous and started speaking in public about the treatment of the Taliban. According to the Taliban, Malala was committing a serious crime by encouraging girls to attend school and she was told to stop speaking and received death threats.

One day after school, on October 9, 2012, Malala was shot by a Taliban while she was on a bus back home. She was hit in the head and neck. Her conditions were so critical, so she was flown to a military hospital in Peshawar and then she was transferred to a hospital in Birmingham, England. She miraculously survived the injuries and after a long time of recovery, she was able to begin attending a school in England.

This terrible act, instead of spreading fear and discouraging the girls worldwide, endeared this brave little girl to everyone around the world and further strengthened the girl education campaign. When Malala was only 16 years old, she toured the entire world to promote the cause of education for the girl child. Many famous people have invited her, including the Queen of England.

In 2018, she returned to Pakistan for the first time since her brutal 2012 attack. She met the Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, and made an emotional speech at his office.

“In the last five years, I have always dreamed of coming back to my country she said, adding, “I never wanted to leave”.

Malala has received many awards:

– On October 10, 2013, the European Parliament awarded Malala the Sakharov **Prize for Freedom of thought.**

– In April 2017, United Nations Secretary – General Antonio Guterres appointed Malala as a U. N. Messenger of Peace to promote girls education. It is the highest honour given by the U.N..

– Malala won the the **Nobel Peace Prize in 2014** with India's Kaliash Satyarthi, a child rights activist.

– Malala tweeted in August 2017 that she was accepted to Oxford University, where she will study Philosophy, Politics and Economy.

Watch this film about Malala

1. Where was Malala born?

- UK ☐
- Iran ☐
- Afghanistan ☐
- Pakistan ☐

2. What did Malala's father do for work?

- Officer in the Taliban. ☐
- Ran a small market. ☐
- Was a teacher who ran schools. ☐
- He was a farmer. ☐

3. What group took control of the region where Malala lived when she was 11?

- United Nations ☐
- Taliban ☐
- Al-Qaedo ☐
- Isis ☐

4. How did she first become famous?

- She was a famous singer. ☐
- She worked for a local paper. ☐
- She wrote a blog. ☐
- She was a famous actress. ☐

5. What happened to the girls' school?

- Computers were taken away. ☐
- It was bombed. ☐
- The teachers were sent away. ☐
- It was shut down. ☐

6. How were the women's rights restricted under the rule of the Taliban?

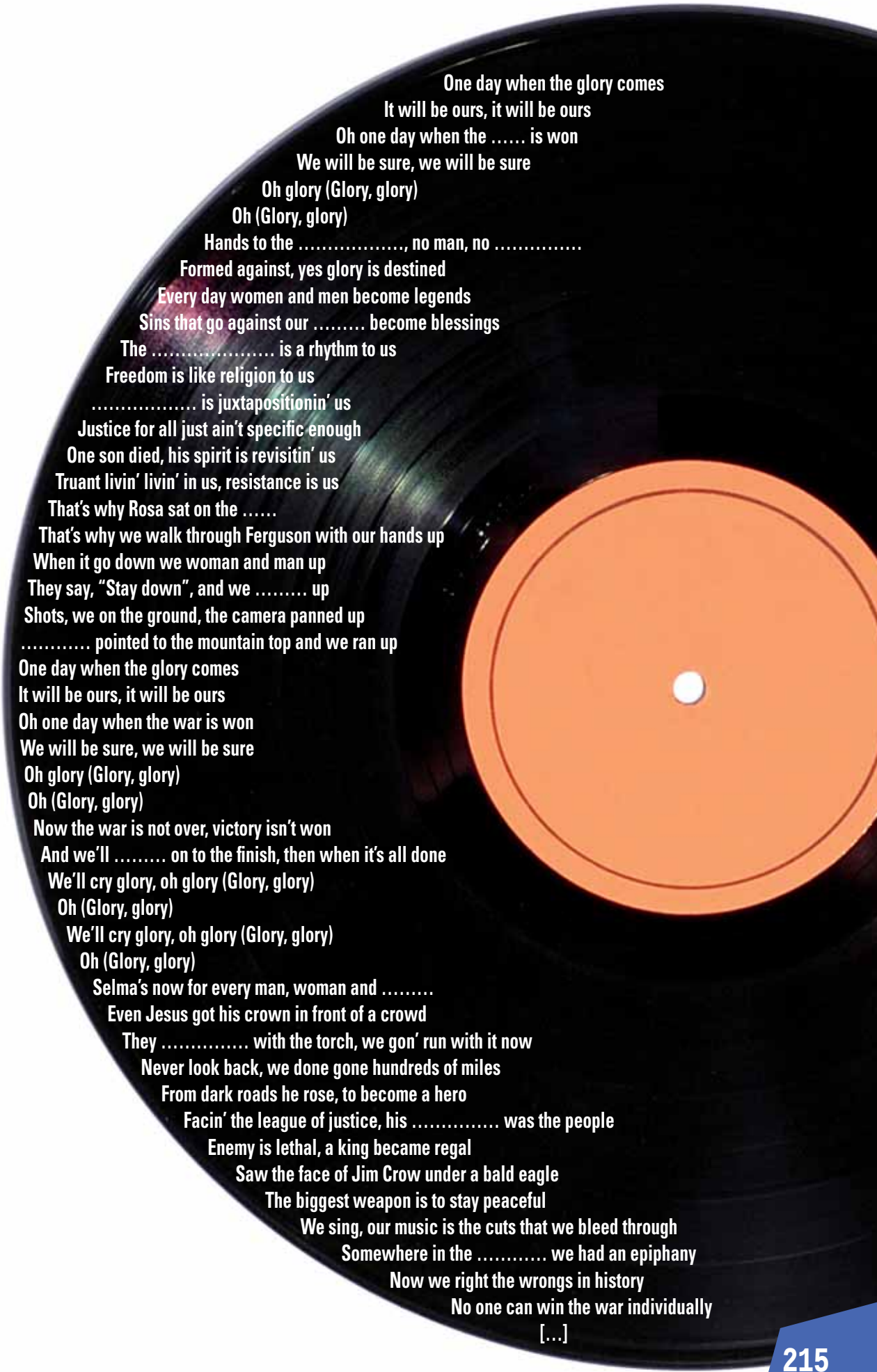
- They were not allowed to have jobs. ☐
- They could not vote. ☐
- They were not allowed to go out by themselves. ☐
- They were not allowed to clean and cook. ☐

7. Malala was awarded the …… Peace Prize.

- Islamic ☐
- Nobel ☐
- Pakistani ☐
- United Nation ☐

Break

Glory



One day when the glory comes
It will be ours, it will be ours
Oh one day when the …… is won
We will be sure, we will be sure
Oh glory (Glory, glory)
Oh (Glory, glory)
Hands to the ……, no man, no ……
Formed against, yes glory is destined
Every day women and men become legends
Sins that go against our …… become blessings
The …… is a rhythm to us
Freedom is like religion to us
…… is juxtapositionin' us
Justice for all just ain't specific enough
One son died, his spirit is revisitin' us
Truant livin' livin' in us, resistance is us
That's why Rosa sat on the ……
That's why we walk through Ferguson with our hands up
When it go down we woman and man up
They say, "Stay down", and we …… up
Shots, we on the ground, the camera panned up
…… pointed to the mountain top and we ran up
One day when the glory comes
It will be ours, it will be ours
Oh one day when the war is won
We will be sure, we will be sure
Oh glory (Glory, glory)
Oh (Glory, glory)
Now the war is not over, victory isn't won
And we'll …… on to the finish, then when it's all done
We'll cry glory, oh glory (Glory, glory)
Oh (Glory, glory)
We'll cry glory, oh glory (Glory, glory)
Oh (Glory, glory)
Selma's now for every man, woman and ……
Even Jesus got his crown in front of a crowd
They …… with the torch, we gon' run with it now
Never look back, we done gone hundreds of miles
From dark roads he rose, to become a hero
Facin' the league of justice, his …… was the people
Enemy is lethal, a king became regal
Saw the face of Jim Crow under a bald eagle
The biggest weapon is to stay peaceful
We sing, our music is the cuts that we bleed through
Somewhere in the …… we had an epiphany
Now we right the wrongs in history
No one can win the war individually
[…]

Hello my friend,
The other day was the Memorial Holocaust Day and my teacher started a new project. It was really interesting and made me think a lot. We read a touching book called 'Number the stars' which describes the tragic part of our story. It's so difficult to imagine how cruel people can be! Our teacher asked us, how we would feel if suddenly we were discriminated for any kind of reason and how we would feel to leave home, family, safety, freedom, comfort .... Then we started to think spontaneously about immigration today. We realized that these poor people must feel the same leaving their homes and families because of poverty, discrimination, torture, bombing, shooting..... These innocent people, victims of conflicts, always pay the highest price! When they immigrate to other countries, they are very often not accepted, treated badly, discriminated and sometimes their lives are not even saved when they are in danger. I think it's very important to learn about the past and remember it so that certain situations must not be repeated. But I'm not sure if everybody has learnt the lesson. I ask myself, where is humanity ??? Where are the human rights we learnt about?
What do you think about the immigration question? Do you speak about it at school?
I hope that our generation will be more generous. Today we can learn more than the generations did in the past. We have to help people to understand that <u>no wall</u> will keep anybody. It's nobody's fault to be born in a certain place, at a certain time. We are all <u>human beings</u>: black, white, ugly, gay, poor. ... I trust our generation!!! Jane

UNIT 12

The English-speaking world

The United States of America

The United States of America is the world's third largest country in size, after Canada and Russia, and the third largest in terms of population, after China and India. Located in North America, the country is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and to the east by the Atlantic Ocean. Along the northern border is Canada, and along the southern border is Mexico. The United States is a federal republic divided in fifty different states and the District of Columbia. Besides the 48 states that are in the central part of North America, the US includes Alaska, the biggest state in area, located northwest of Canada, and the island state of Hawaii, in the Pacific Ocean. Washington is the national capital city.

The USA has a vast nature, high mountains in the west and a central plain. The lowest point in the country is the Death Valley and the highest peak is Mount McKinley.

The landscape varies across the enormous country - from the snowy peaks of the Rocky Mountains and the Appalachians to the tropical beaches of Florida, from the rolling prairie lands and deserts in the west to the great areas of wilderness in the north. One of the largest rivers, the Mississippi, flows through the heart of the country and other important rivers include the Rio Grande, the Missouri, the Ohio, and the Colorado. The Great Lakes, which include Lake Ontario, Huron, Erie, Michigan and Superior, are the world's largest group of fresh-water lakes.

Climate

Because the U. S. is so large and has so many geographic features, it means that it has different kinds of climate. It's tropical in Florida, polar in Alaska, and arid in the Great Basin, desert in the Southwest. Extreme weather is quite usual. There are often hurricanes and severe floods and fires.

The country is divided into six regions:

New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Middle Atlantic: Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

South: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

Southwest: Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas

West: Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Population

The United States has a highly diverse population. Throughout its history the United States has been a nation of immigrants. No other country has a wider range of racial, ethnic, and cultural types than the US has.

History

When **Christopher Columbus** first arrived in the area, today known as North America, in 1492, humans had inhabited the land for 30,000 years. After his discovery, Europeans (French, Dutch, Spanish...) began to explore the land. England, however, was the first country to settle there and establish colonies. The first colony was at Jamestown in 1607.

European found an Indian population living in tribes. Indians were forced to give their land to the newcomers and were treated very badly. Soon, many colonies were established, especially with the arrival of the **Mayflower pilgrims**, who established Plymouth Colony in 1620. This group wanted to be free to practice their religion without pressure from the British king. During the following years, these pilgrims formed many colonies and by 1733, thirteen colonies were officially established. Each of them had their own governor who was chosen in England. The colonies had to pay high taxes and started to rebel. As a protest people began to boycott British trade. In 1773 some Bostonians, disguised as Indians, raided a British ship and threw all the cargo of tea into the Harbour of Boston. This was the famous **Boston Tea Party** which gave a start to the American Independence War. The colonies decided to stand together and fight for their freedom. **On 4th July 1776**, the colonies officially declared their independence as the United States. The United States Constitution was then adopted in 1787.

In 1789 **George Washington** became the country's first president. The nation quickly expanded and the first ten amendments to the constitution were introduced. These gave citizens freedom to speech and other important rights.

Answer the questions

1. Where is the USA located? .....
.....
2. Which countries border the USA? .....
.....
3. Which seas border the USA? .....
.....
4. Where is the island Hawaii? .....
.....
5. Which is the biggest state in area? .....
.....
6. What is the name of a very long river in the USA? .....
.....
7. Where are the Rocky mountains? .....
.....
8. What is the name of the highest peak? .....
.....
9. What is the climate like in Florida, Alaska and in Great Basin? .....
.....

Country Profile

Area: 9.4 million square kilometers

Population: 325 million

Capital City: .....

Number of States: .....

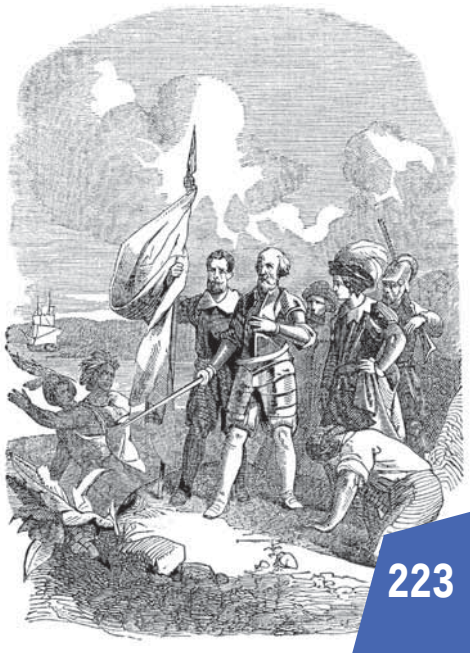
Mountains: .....

Plains: .....

Rivers: .....

Lakes: .....

Island: .....



New York

The Big Apple

New York city is the largest city in the United State. It is located in the southern part of New York State, at the mouth of the Hudson River. Much of New York is built on the three islands of Manhattan, Staten Island, and Long Island. New York City includes five boroughs: Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island. It is the most densely populated city in the United States with 8.4 million people within an area of 322 square miles.

History

New York City was founded by the Dutch in 1624. It was called New Amsterdam and soon became an important trading harbour.

In 1664 the English took over the city and changed the name to New York.

After the American War of Independence, New York became the largest city and the most important business centre in the US by the end of the 19th century. In the 20th century the city experienced great prosperity and its many tall buildings were built, called '**skyscrapers**'. But this was also a century of great economic crises and war.

Probably, the most tragic event took place in **September 2011** when terrorists flew two planes into the **Twin Towers**, which collapsed killing thousands of people.

Today New York is the world's main center of commerce and finance and world leader in many fields including the arts, fashion, advertising and communication. The United Nations headquarters are here and many other important international corporations.

New York has a 24-hour subway which is used by thousands of people night and day. The city is always very lively, full of people and traffic in constant activity and movement. It is said: "**The City that never sleeps**".

Wall Street has been a dominant global financial centre since World War II.

The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of the city known all over the world. It greeted millions of immigrants as they came.

Facts

- It's without doubt that New York is the most cosmopolitan place on earth. More than 3million people are foreign born, 200 languages are spoken and half of the city's population speaks another language besides English. Each community tries to maintain its own culture and tradition. In fact some areas are called China Town, Little Italy etc. in the city itself. This is why New York is called a '**melting pot**'.
- The New York metropolitan area has the largest Jewish community outside Israel. The five largest ethnic groups are: Puerto Ricans, Italians, Chinese, Dominicans, and West Indians.

Answer the questions

1. Where is New York located? .....
.....
2. What are the names of the five boroughs? .....
.....
3. Who founded New York City in 1624? .....
.....
4. What is the name of a very tall building? .....
.....
5. Why is New York called "melting pot"? .....
.....

Writing

Write about an important city in your country:

– Where is it located?
– Does it have boroughs/areas?
– Does it have important buildings and/or monuments?
– What about its story?
– Are there any foreign communities?

US Government and Constitution

It all started on July 4th, 1776 when Thomas Jefferson, with other founding fathers such as Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, wrote the Declaration of Independence. It started that all people have "**certain rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness**".

Many of these rights are guaranteed in the Bill of rights, which are the first 10 amendments of the Constitution. Other amendments were added to improve the rights of the people, including abolishing slavery and the right for everybody to vote regardless of gender or race.

Constitution

The United States' Constitution became official in 1788. It became the highest form of law in the country and is the foundation of the federal government.
One main part of the Constitution is that the government is made up of three different branches.

These branches include the **Executive Branch** (the president and the cabinet), the **Judicial Branch** (the Supreme Court) and **the Congress** (House and the Senate).

Congress

The Congress is part of the government that writes and votes on laws. It meets in the Capitol building in Washington D.C.. It comprises the House of Representatives and the Senate.

House of Representatives

There are 435 total Representatives in the House. Each state has a different number of representatives depending on their total population.

The Senate

It has a total of 100 senators, two for each state. The consent of both chambers is required to pass legislation, which then becomes law by being signed by the President.

The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is the highest court of law in the country. It consists of nine judges appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

The President

The President lives and works in the building known as the **White House** in Washington, D.C.. The president is chosen through an election and belongs to a political party, but it may or may not be the party that has the most members in the legislature. The President has many powers.

The President is the leader of the US Government and is head of the state and the Commander-in-Chief of the US armed forces.

There have been 45 presidents of the United States. The first was George Washington. Other notable presidents were Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Roosevelt was the only person to be elected president four times. Some presidents were assassinated while in office, including John F. Kennedy. In 2008 Barack Obama became the first African American to be elected president of the United States.

Democracy

The word 'democracy' comes from the Greek word '**demos**' which means '**people**'.
The United States is the oldest recognized democracy in the modern world.

What is a democracy?

A democracy is a government run by the people. Each person is supposed to have a say or vote in how the government is run. This is different from a monarchy or dictatorship where one person, the king or dictator, has all the power.

There are two main types of democracies: **direct** and **representatives**.
Direct: is when every citizen votes on all important decisions. The United States is so big that it would be very difficult to get all people together and vote.

Representative: is when the people elect representatives to run the government. The United States is a representative democracy (or democratic republic). The citizens elect representatives such as the president, members of congress, and senators to run the government.

Facts

In the United States there are two main political parties: **Democrats** and **Republicans**. These two parties run much of the government.

Fun fact

Many presidents had unusual careers before entering the White House. Jimmy Carter, the 39th president, was a peanut farmer. Ronald Reagan, the 40th president, was a movie actor. And Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president, once worked chopping rails for fences.

Australia

Australia is a country in the Southern hemisphere. It is the smallest continent of the seven continents and is one of the largest islands in the world after Greenland. Australia is an island continent surrounded by the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. Australia is a federation of six states, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, and two territories, Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. It has a federal form of government. It is a member of the Commonwealth. This means the head of the state is the British monarch and is represented by the Governor General.

The capital city is Canberra and other main cities are Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Darwin, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Hobart. Two thirds of the country consists of desert. The highest mountain of Australia is Mount Kosciuszko with 2.228 metres. Ayers Rock also called '**Uluru**' is the largest alone standing rock in the world. The longest river of Australia is the Murray River and the **Great Barier Reef** in Eastern Australia is the biggest coral reef in the world. The reef consists of more than 3,000 reefs in which live more than 350 species of corals and over 1,500 species of fish. Australia is the driest inhabited continent of the world.

People: Aborigines

Aborigines are Australia's first people and inhabited the continent for about 60,000 years before European settlement. They travelled through the bush, hunting with spears and boomerangs for animals. When the British came to Australia in 1788, they took their land away and many Aborigines died.

Today they make up 2% of Australia's population. Most of them live in main cities (often in poor conditions) but some live in the desert areas of the Australian outback. The '**outback**' is the vast, dry and remote inland parts of Australia. The Aborigines still live in the sacred area around **Ayres Rock**, a huge rock formation in the centre of the continent. They are very skilled in arts and crafts and have a strong relationship with their land and environment. They have been fighting for many years to protect their land and trying to follow their traditional way of life.

Answer the questions

1. Is Australia an island? .....

.....

2. Which oceans surround Australia? .....

.....

3. Who is the head of the state in Australia? .....

.....

4. What is the 'Uluru'? .....

.....

5. Who are the Aborigines? .....

.....

Fact

Road signs in Australia warn drivers about wild animals, mainly kangaroos that might hop across the roads.

In 1851 gold was discovered in Australia. A rush to find riches brought thousands of new immigrants, and by 1859, six separate colonies existed. In 1901 these colonies joined to form a British commonwealth.

Canada

Canada is the second largest country in the world. Despite its size, it is one of the world's most sparsely populated countries. Its capital city is Ottawa and the official languages spoken are English and French.

Canada shares a 5,525 mile (8,890 km) long border with the United States (including Alaska) - the longest border in the world not patrolled by military forces. Most of its population lives within 185 miles (300 km) of the international boundary.

Canada has a vast landscape with dark-blue lakes, numerous rivers, majestic mountains, rolling central plains, and forested valleys. It is also home to the oldest rocks on Earth.

Canada's far north lies in the frozen grip of the Arctic, where snow, ice, and glaciers dominate the landscape. Native Canadians, called First Nations people, live in this region by hunting and fishing.

The remote north and extensive forests are home to wildlife: bears, wolves, deers, beavers, bighorn sheep, and mountain lions. The country's lakes and rivers, which contain about **20% of all fresh water on Earth**, are full of salmon and trout.

Canada is many nations in one. People descending from French and British immigrants make up half the population. They were followed by other European and Asian immigrants. The First Nation people make up about 4% of the population.

Government

The British monarch is the head of state of Canada. The monarch is represented by a govern-general, who has very limited powers. Laws are made by Canada's elected federal government, which include a parliament and a prime minister.

History

The first people came to Canada about 12,000 years ago across a land bridge that joined Asia and North America.

In the 16th century, French and English settlers arrived. There were many conflicts between farmers and fur traders. The final war, called the French and Indian War, left the British in control of Canada, but French influence remains strong even today.

In 1931 Canada became an independent nation.

Answer the questions

1. Which languages are spoken in Canada? Why? .....

.....

2. Where does Canada lie? .....

.....

3. What kind of animals live in the north? .....

.....

4. Where did the first people come from? .....

.....

Fact

Canadians work hard to protect the native wildlife. There are 41 national parks and three marine conservation areas.

New Zealand

New Zealand is a mountainous group of islands in the Pacific Ocean. It is about 1,600 kilometres away from Australia. Its capital city is Wellington and the official languages are English and Maori. The two main islands, North and South Islands, are separated by the Cook Strait. The islands were created 23 million years ago when land was pushed out by volcanic forces. New Zealand has many volcanoes and some are still active today. The landscape includes rocky shores and snowy peaks. The highest mountain peak is Mount Cook (3,754 meters) and is called "**Cloud Piercer**" by the Maori people. Because of its remote location, New Zealand is full of unusual wildlife that can not be seen anywhere else in the world. Nearly all the land animals are birds, but in the last 1,000 years, half of the species have become extinct. Deforestation is threatening the remaining species, including the Kiwi bird.

New Zealanders, also called **Kiwis**, have been shaped by their isolation. Today most of the Kiwis live in cities and are no longer farmers. The Maori culture is widely respected by the New Zealanders and many parts of land were given back to the Maori.

Government

New Zealand's government is based on the parliamentary democracy based on the system used in the UK. There are 122 seats in the House of Representatives and 7 seats are reserved for the Maori. There are two main parties, National and Labour, and the Prime Minister.

History

The Maori people arrived by canoe from islands in Polynesia in 1,000 AD. In the 1600s a Dutch explorer visited the islands, but had to escape. In fact, New Zealand is named after a region in the Netherlands.

In 1769, the sailor **Captain Cook** explored the islands and then the British started to settle there and signed a treaty with the Maori. The Maori protested the treaty after their lands were seized, and in the 1860s a long war started. Peace was restored to the islands only in 1870s.

In 1907 New Zealand became a dominion of Britain and gained its independence in 1947.

Facts

Rugby is the favourite sport and nearly everyone cheers on the national team, the **All Blacks**.

Watch this tradition:

https://www. youtube. com/watch?v=vnvl6V-TtLs

Answer the questions

1. What kind of islands make up New Zealand? .....

.....

2. What other name can you call the New Zealanders? .....

.....

3. What is threatening the remaining species? .....

.....

4.Where did the Maori people come from and when? .....

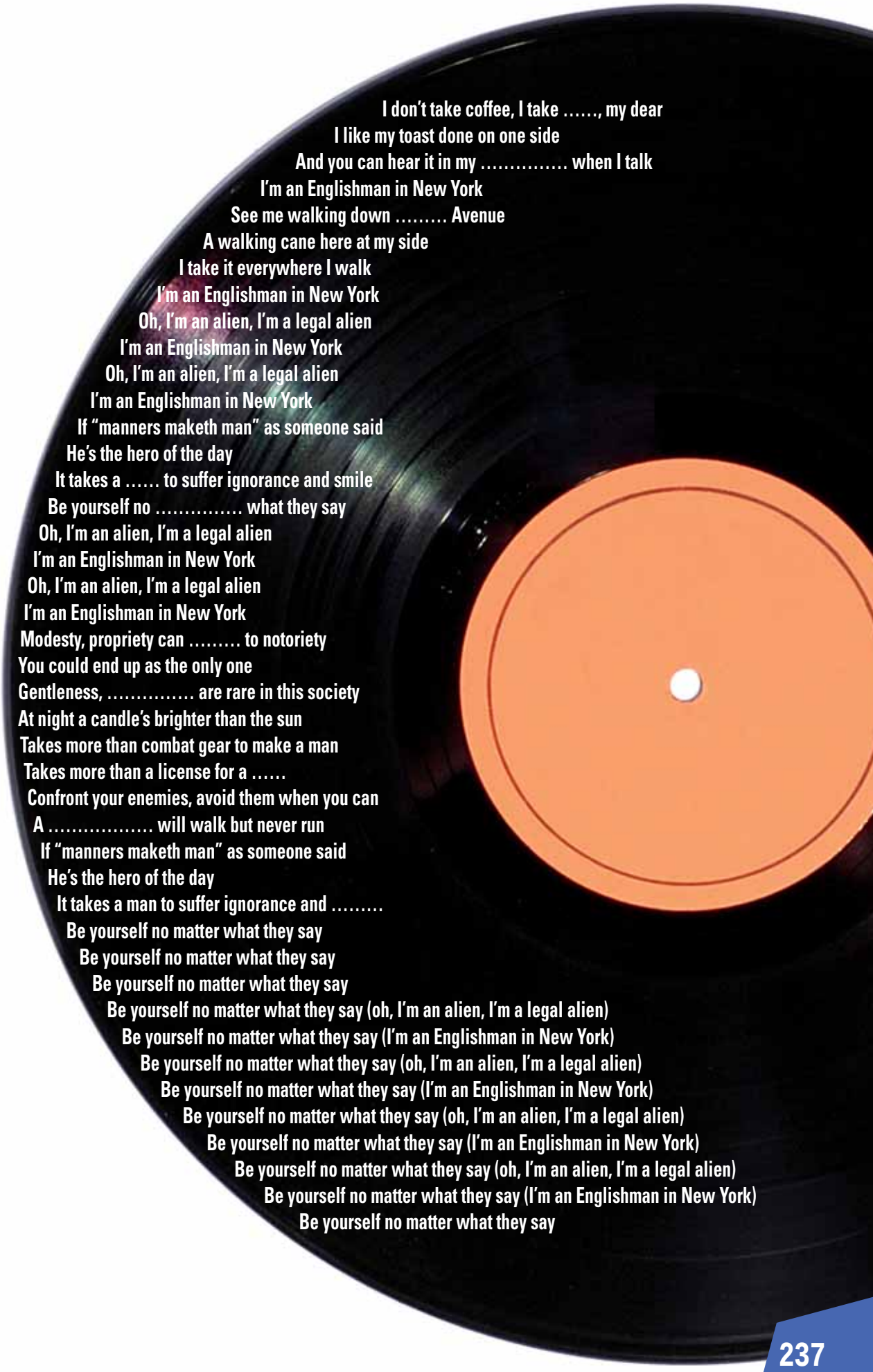
.....

Whales visits the islands on their way to breed.

Kiwi

Break

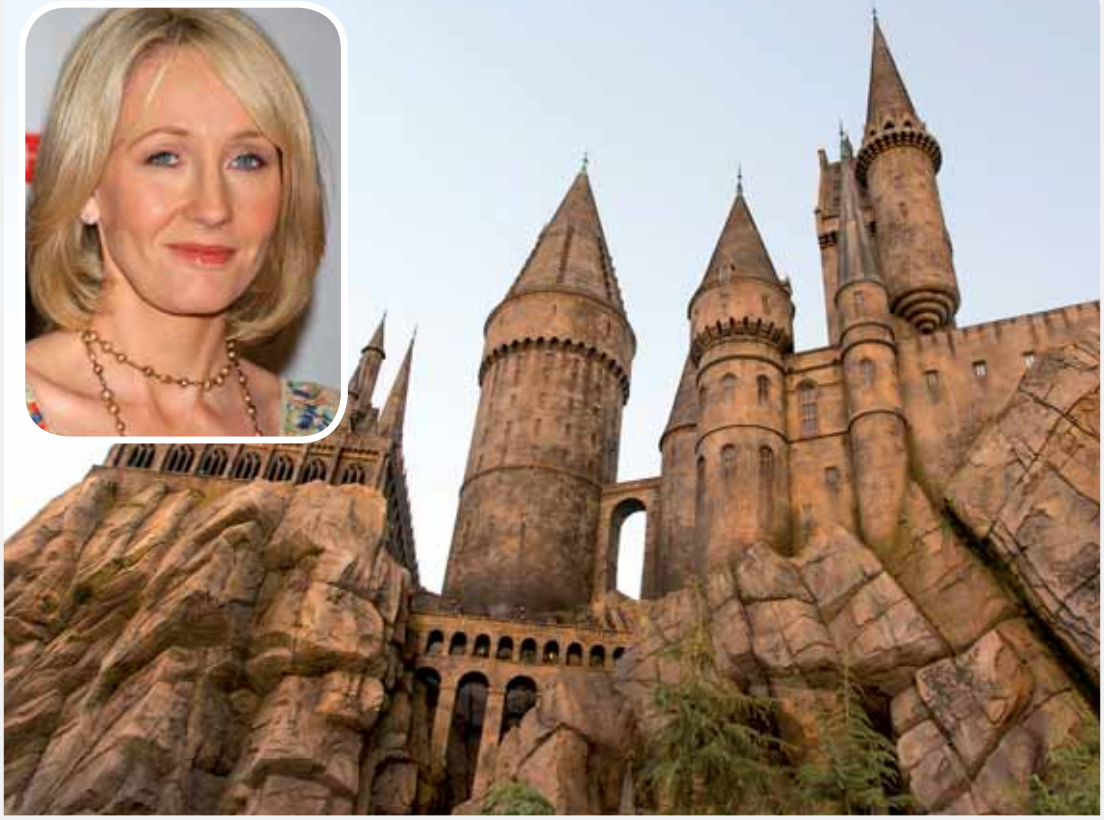
Englishman in New York



I don't take coffee, I take ……, my dear
I like my toast done on one side
And you can hear it in my ……. when I talk
I'm an Englishman in New York
See me walking down …… Avenue
A walking cane here at my side
I take it everywhere I walk
I'm an Englishman in New York
Oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien
I'm an Englishman in New York
Oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien
I'm an Englishman in New York
If "manners maketh man" as someone said
He's the hero of the day
It takes a …… to suffer ignorance and smile
Be yourself no ……. what they say
Oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien
I'm an Englishman in New York
Oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien
I'm an Englishman in New York
Modesty, propriety can …… to notoriety
You could end up as the only one
Gentleness, ……. are rare in this society
At night a candle's brighter than the sun
Takes more than combat gear to make a man
Takes more than a license for a ……
Confront your enemies, avoid them when you can
A ……. will walk but never run
If "manners maketh man" as someone said
He's the hero of the day
It takes a man to suffer ignorance and ……
Be yourself no matter what they say
Be yourself no matter what they say
Be yourself no matter what they say
Be yourself no matter what they say (oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien)
Be yourself no matter what they say (I'm an Englishman in New York)
Be yourself no matter what they say (oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien)
Be yourself no matter what they say (I'm an Englishman in New York)
Be yourself no matter what they say (oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien)
Be yourself no matter what they say (I'm an Englishman in New York)
Be yourself no matter what they say (oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien)
Be yourself no matter what they say (I'm an Englishman in New York)
Be yourself no matter what they say

Dear friend,
How dre you? I'm great because I've just come back from my holiday in New York. It was wonderful. The weather was fantastic and the temperature was perfect. I went with my family to visit my aunt and cousins who have been living there for years. They live in Manhattan which is a beautiful area. New York is very busy and it's full of cars and taxis. We always took the subway which is the easiest way to go around the city. I loved Central Park. It's just like in films! There was a live rock concert when we went. The park is always full of people and everybody does something different. Some people like sunbathing, others walk their dogs, and some read, study, go jogging, or skating. TimeSquare at night is unbelievable. It's full of lights and people. In New York there are so many people from different countries. If you go to Little Italy or China town you feel like being in that precise country. In fact, we went to and Italian restaurant and had delicious Italian pasta. Everybody spoke Italian, great! Did you know that thousands of Italians immigrated to America in the 1800s and 1900s? Another good place to go is Broadway. It's full of theatres and you can go and see famous musicals. You can get the most beautiful view from the Highline! The High-line used to be a train railway above the city. Today it's a green area that lies over the city. I think it's a wonderful idea to create green areas where before was only concrete. The people of the city love this place. My cousins do more or less the same things we do in GB. But sometimes their slang is difficult to understand! Have you ever been to a place far away? Love Jane xxx

UNIT 13
English literature



Harry Potter

Plot

Harry Potter is a boy whose loving parents, Lily Potter and James Potter, were killed by a dark evil wizard named Lord Voldemort when he was only one year old. Voldemort heard a prophecy that his greatest enemy would be a boy who sounded like Harry. Voldemort fails to kill Harry and disappears. After the death of Harry's parents, he grows up in a normal world with his aunt, uncle, and cousin.

At first, Harry does not realize that he is a wizard. He eventually discovers that there is a world, full of magical people, living secretly and hiding from normal people, known as "muggles". On Harry's 11th Birthday, he receives a letter inviting him to go to a boarding school called Hogwarts for young witches and wizards. Each book tells the story of one year of his life at the school. At the school, he meets Hermione and Ron, his two best friends, with whom he shares all his adventures. Voldemort tries several times to return, before finally succeeding in the fourth book. The series revolves around Harry trying to defeat Voldemort for good.

Biography JK Rowling

Joanne is a British novelist, screenwriter, and producer who is best known for writing the Harry Potter fantasy series. The books have won many awards, and sold more than 400 million copies. They have become the best-selling book series in history and been the basis for a series of films, of which she is also producer.

Joanne Rowling was born in Yates, England in 1965. Her father was an aircraft engineer and her mother was a science technician. Joanne had always dreamt of becoming author, a dream she would eventually see come true.

Growing up, Rowling had a tough and difficult life at home. Her mother was ill and she didn't get on with her father. This drove her to read more books and write her own stories which she would read to her little sister, Dianne. Rowling attended Exeter University in 1982 when her teachers felt she was a good student in her English and literature classes, but not excellent (Surprising!!!).

After university she moved to Portugal to teach English. She got married and had her daughter, Jessica, and eventually she moved to Edinburgh, Scotland. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was first published in the United Kingdom in 1997. She married again in 2001 and had two other children. Rowling has lived a "**rags to riches**" life story. This means that she was first poor, living on state benefits, and then became a billionaire. However, she lost her billionaire status from giving away much of her earnings to charity. In 2010, Rowling was named the "**Most Influential Woman in Britain**".

Some details about Rowling and Harry

- They both blow out candles on 31 July.
- Rowling: “Hermione is a bit like me when I was Younger and my favourite animal is an otter”, which is, of course, Hermonie’s patronus.

What made you think of people’s names and dormitories?

- Rowling: I invented the names of the Houses on the back of an airplane sick bag! This is true. I love inventing names, but I also collect unusual names, so that I can look through my notebook and choose one that suits a new character.
- Rowling suffered of depression after her mother’s death. She used the experience to characterize the Harry Potter’s dementors, creepy creatures that feed on human emotions. “It’s so difficult to describe (depression) to someone who’s never been there, because it’s not sadness. I know sadness. Sadness is to cry. But it’s that cold absence of feeling – that really hollowed-out feeling. That’s what Dementors are”.

How did you get the idea of the game Quidditch?

- Rowling: “If you want to create a game like Quidditch, what you have to do is have an enormous argument with your then-boyfriend. You walk out of the house, you sit down in a pub, and you invent Quidditch. And I don’t really know what the connection is between the row and Quidditch except that Quidditch is quite a violent game and maybe in my deepest, darkest soul I would quite like to see him hit by a bludger”.

Do the wizarding world’s plants come from a real book?

- Rowling: “I used to collect names of plants that sounded witchy and then I found this book, Culpeper’s Complete Herbal, and it was the answer to my every prayer: flax weed, toadflax, fleawort, Gou-wort, grommel, knotgrass, Mugwort”. The book was penned in the 17th century by English botanist and herbalist Nicholas Culpeper.

They didn't think they could bear it if anyone found out about the Potters. Mrs. Potter was Mrs. Dursley's sister, but they hadn't met for several years; in fact, Mrs. Dursley pretended she didn't have a sister, because her sister and her good-for-nothing husband were as unDursleyish as it was possible to be. The Dursleys shuddered to think what the neighbors would say if the Potters arrived in the street. The Dursleys knew that the Potters had a small son, too, but they had never even seen him. This boy was another good reason for keeping the Potters away; they didn't want Dudley mixing with a child like that.

When Mr. and Mrs. Dursley woke up on the dull, gray Tuesday our story starts, there was nothing about the cloudy sky outside to suggest that strange and mysterious things would soon be happening all over the country. Mr. Dursley hummed as he picked out his most boring tie for work, and Mrs. Dursley gossiped away happily as she wrestled a screaming Dudley into his high chair.

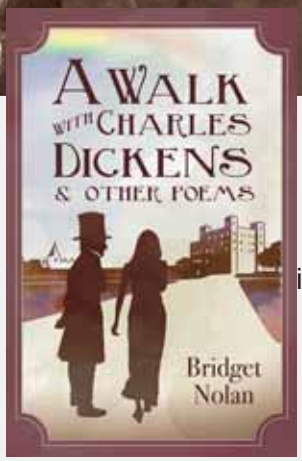
None of them noticed a large, tawny owl flutter past the window.

At half past eight, Mr. Dursley picked up his briefcase, pecked Mrs. Dursley on the cheek, and tried to kiss Dudley good-bye but missed, because Dudley was now having a tantrum and throwing his cereal at the walls. "Little tyke," chortled Mr. Dursley as he left the house. He got into his car and backed out of number four's drive.

It was on the corner of the street that he noticed the first sign of something peculiar — a cat reading a map. For a second, Mr. Dursley didn't realize what he had seen — then he jerked his head around to look again. There was a tabby cat standing on the corner

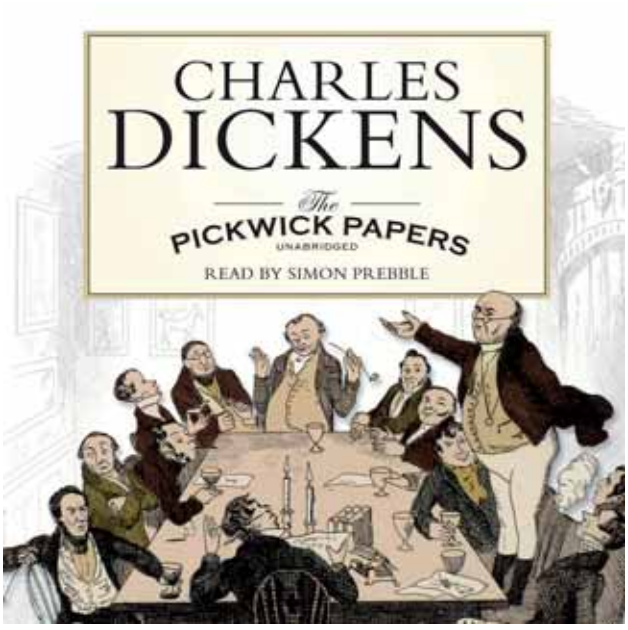
Charles Dickens

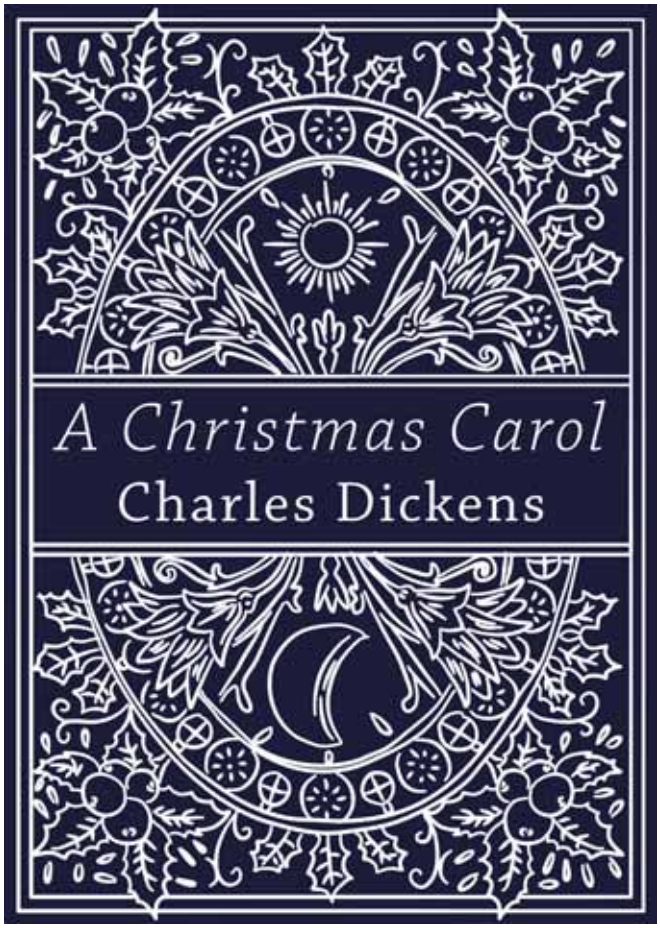
Charles was born on 7 February, 1812 in England to very poor parents. In those days there were hardly any schools for children, especially if you were poor. So poor children mostly went to work and helped their families. Charles had always wanted to go to school and he loved reading books. He dreamt of writing a book of his own some day. He attended home school run by local ladies when ever he could but, little Charles had a hard life. His parents had to grow up eight children with hardly any money and when Charles was only 9 years old, his parents were put into prison for not paying their debts. He had to leave school and started to work in a factory making 'blacking' (paste used for blackening fireplaces, shoes...). His only companions in the dirty factory were rats and gloomy workers and he felt very sad and lonely.

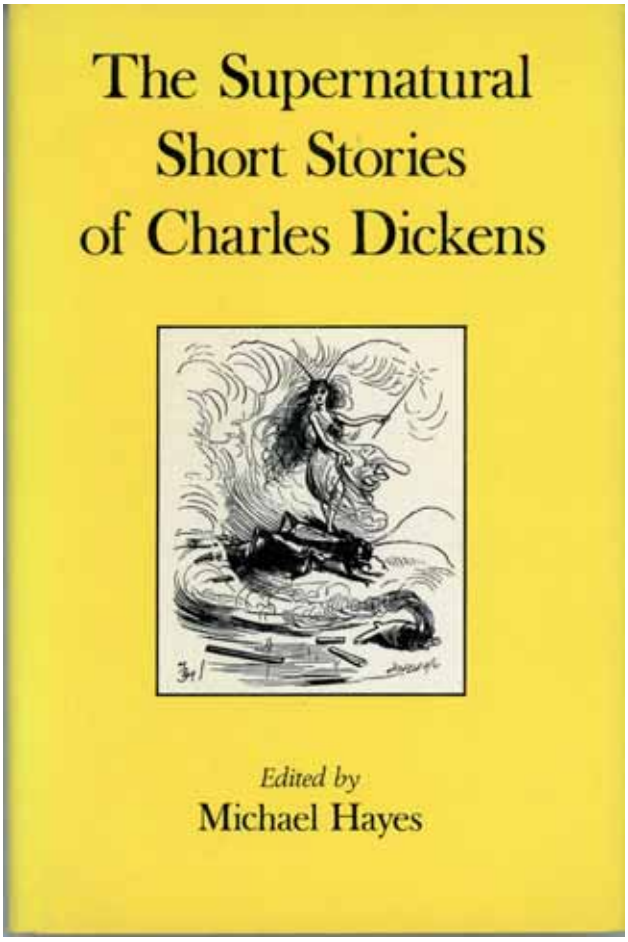


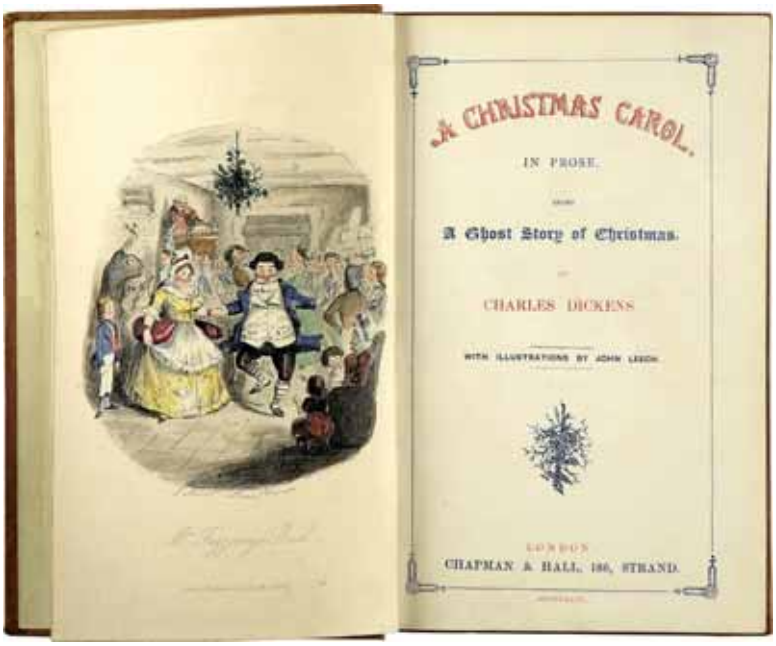
Eventually his parents were released and he could finally go back to school and was able to learn everything he could. At the age of 14, he got the opportunity to work as a clerk at a lawyers office. There he read many books and learnt a lot about law. He started to write and his dream started to come true. His characters often resembled people and situations he had got to know in his real life. He often described the society in England (London) and especially the conditions of the poor and working class in the Victorian era with strict laws. Success came to him with the publishing of his first novel, The Pickwick Papers, a funny novel about a group of four people travelling round England and making reports on it. Charles became famous with many celebrated novels such as Oliver Twist, The Great expectations, A Christmas Carol, David Copperfield and many more.

In 1870 Dickens suffered a stroke at his home after a full day's work. Contrary to his wish to be buried "in an inexpensive and strictly private manner" he was laid to rest in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey.









Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens was one of the most famous English writers and social critic of the Victorian era. He published fifteen novels, wrote hundreds of short stories and non-fiction pieces, lectured and performed both in England and the United States, wrote plays, wrote thousands of letters and edited two journals. His novels and short stories are still widely read today.

Oliver Twist

Charles Dickens often wrote about the poverty and hardship that he had seen and actually experienced himself in the Victorian London.

Oliver Twist tells the story of a poor orphan and highlights the cruel reality and life among the poor at the time. The original book was titled Oliver Twist: **The Parish Boy's Progress**. A parish boy was a child who had no parents and was handed over to the parish authorities. In Oliver's case, he was born in '**the workhouse**' as were many children of the time. But Dickens's hero runs away to London, where his adventures begin. Charles Dickens used the story to draw the attention to many social ills in **Victorian London**.

The new poor law introduced in 1834 was something that Dickens especially disliked. It meant that any person who was homeless, ill or disabled, could be put into enforced labour in the dreaded workhouses. Many children from the workhouse, such as those as Oliver Twist who had been orphaned, were sold as child slaves. They were made to do the most dirty and dangerous jobs in terrible conditions.

To many people today, Charles Dickens's name is still associated with the poverty and corruption that he described and wanted to improve. We even use the term '**Dickensian**' to describe harsh, primitive conditions or villainous characters such as Fagin, Mr Bumble and Bill Sykes that he describes in Oliver Twist.

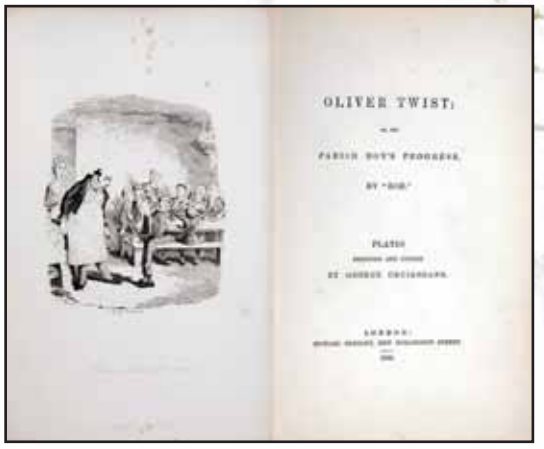
There is no doubt that this intense work played a large role in carrying out those much-needed reforms. Sadly, he died before being able to see some important changes. But as we know today, little children in poor countries are still exploited by big companies and also in very bad conditions. Not much has changed from the times of Charles Dickens's Oliver Twist.

Answer the questions

1. Who is Charles Dickens? ……
……
2. Could poor children go to school in those days?
……
……
3. Why did Dickens start to work? ……
……
……
4. Where did he work when he was a child?
……
……
5. Was he able to go back to school? ……
……
6. What do his characters resemble? ……
……
7. In Which period did Dickens live? ……
……
8. What did Dickens want to draw attention to in Oliver Twist?
……
……

Why don't you read Oliver Twist:

Write a summery of the story



Fun Fact

He married Catherine Hogarth in 1836 and together they had 10 children, all of which he gave strange nicknames, such as Lucifer Box, Chickenstalker and Skittles.

He would always sleep facing north. He thought this would improve his writing and, as he did some terrific works, if you're looking to masterpieces why not give it a try!

William Shakespeare

Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England in 1564, during England's Tudor period.

He was one of eight children and his father was a glove-maker and his mother an heiress from a wealthy family.

Very little is known about Shakespeare's early years.

It's supposed that he had a good childhood and attended a good school. He was only 18 when he married Anne Hathaway and they had three children together. In 1592 he turned up in London as a playwright and actor. But poor William didn't have it easy his jealous rivals, known as the '**University Wits**', criticised and made fun of his work. One writer, named Robert Greene, called him 'an upstart crow'! William took part of a theatre company called Chamberlain's Men and they performed in a place called '**The Theatre**'. But it was shut down and they rebuilt a new one and named it **the Globe**. This large, open-air theatre was open to everybody but the poor had to stay on the ground floor without a seat and exposed to the cold and rain because there was no roof.

The rich had a comfy seat in covered galleries on the higher levels.

Plays in Shakespeare's time were very different to the ones we have today. There were no female actors and so the women's parts had to be played by men. The audiences were very loud and rowdy and if they didn't like the play or actors they would shout booo and even throw food at them.

Shakespeare's plays had the royal seal of approval. Both Queen Elizabeth and James VI of Scotland would hire Shakespeare's company to come and perform at the royal court. In 1613, a disaster struck when the Globe caught fire. Short after that Shakespeare retired from the theatre.

He went back to his family in Stratford-upon-Avon and died in 1616, after falling ill. It's believed he may have died on his birthday, but without an official birth record, no one can be sure.

William Shakespeare wrote 40 plays as well as poetry, and poems called sonnets. Shakespeare's plays were immediately very successful. He wrote different kinds of plays, all of which can be divided into three categories:

History:
including Henry IV, Henry V and Richard III.

Comedy:
including Twelfth Night and the Taming of the Shrew

Tragedy:
including Hamlet, Othello, King Lear and Romeo and Juliet

Famous sentences from Shakespeare

“All that glitters is not gold”.

“If music be the food of love, play on”.

“To be, or not to be: that is the question”.

“A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool”.

Writing

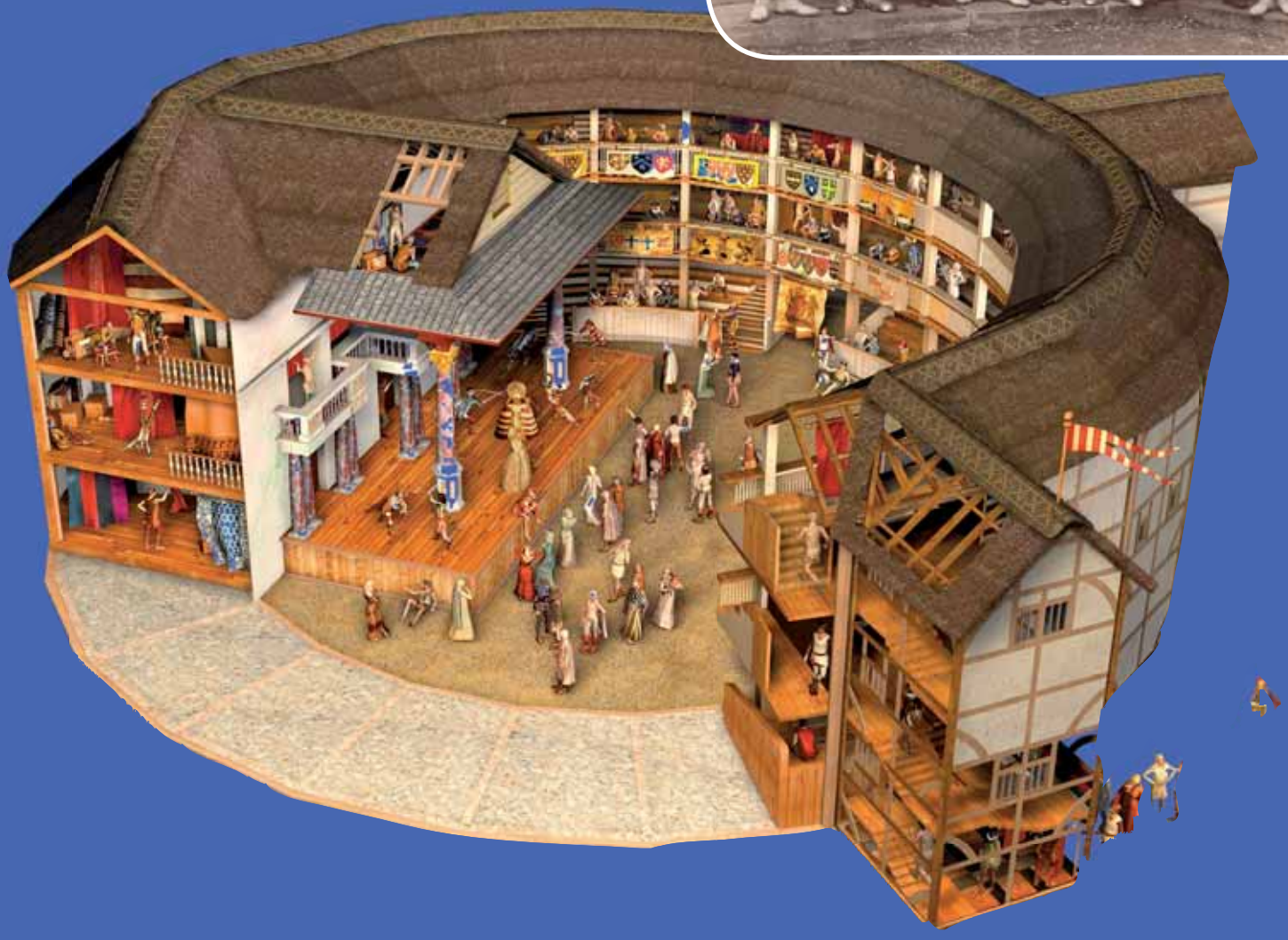
Find out about ‘The Globe’.

How was it constructed?

How were the plays performed?

Were there any special affects?

Who and where were the audience?



Answer the questions

1. Where was Shakespeare born? .....

.....

2. In which period did he live? .....

.....

3. Was he only a playwright? .....

.....

4. What was the name of the theatre company he took part in? .....

.....

5. Could everybody play theatre those days? .....

.....

6. What does “the royal seal of approval” mean? .....

.....

7. Did Shakespeare only write plays? .....

.....

8. How can his plays be divided? .....

Fact

The time from 1585-1592 is known as ‘Lost Years’ as there is absolutely no reference about what Shakespeare did during this period.

Fun fact

William Shakespeare lived during the reign of both Queen Elizabeth and King James. Both these monarchs went to see his plays and were said to be his fans!

Romeo and Juliet

Romeo and Juliet is a play written by Shakespeare and has always been one of his most popular plays. It has been adapted to opera, ballet, television productions, and films.

Plot

The noble families of the Montagues and the Capulets live in the city of Verona, Italy. They are enemies and the young men and their servants of both families fight each other in the streets and often get badly injured.

Verona is ruled by Prince Escalus. He commands the Montagues and the Capulets that they have to stop fighting otherwise they will be punished. Because the two families profoundly hate each other, it is difficult for them to control their rage. Montague has only one child, a boy called Romeo and also Capulet has only one child, a beautiful 14-year-old daughter called Juliet. They don't know each other, because Juliet can not go anywhere without her nursemaid. One evening, Romeo and his friends go to a masked ball organized by the Capulet family. Romeo and Juliet meet at the party and straight away fall in love with each other. Because they know that their parents are against this relationship, they try to hide their love and do not tell anybody about it, except to a friar. Juliet knows that her parents want her to marry a cousin of the prince so, Romeo and Juliet get married in secret.

Because of their secret marriage, many things happen which lead to many deaths.

About the play:

Because this play was written in the 1500s, the English language is not exactly like the English we use today.

Juliet says: “If they do see thee, they will murder thee!”

In modern English we say **you** for one person and also **you** for more than one person. But in Shakespeare’s English, he often writes **thee** and **thou** when it means just one person.

Many words are used differently to the way they are used today, and some words are hardly used today, or only used sometimes in poetry.

morn for morning
morrow for tomorrow
woe for unhappiness

Romeo and Juliet has been performed on stages all over the world and there have also been many films. Probably the most famous scene is the one of the balcony:

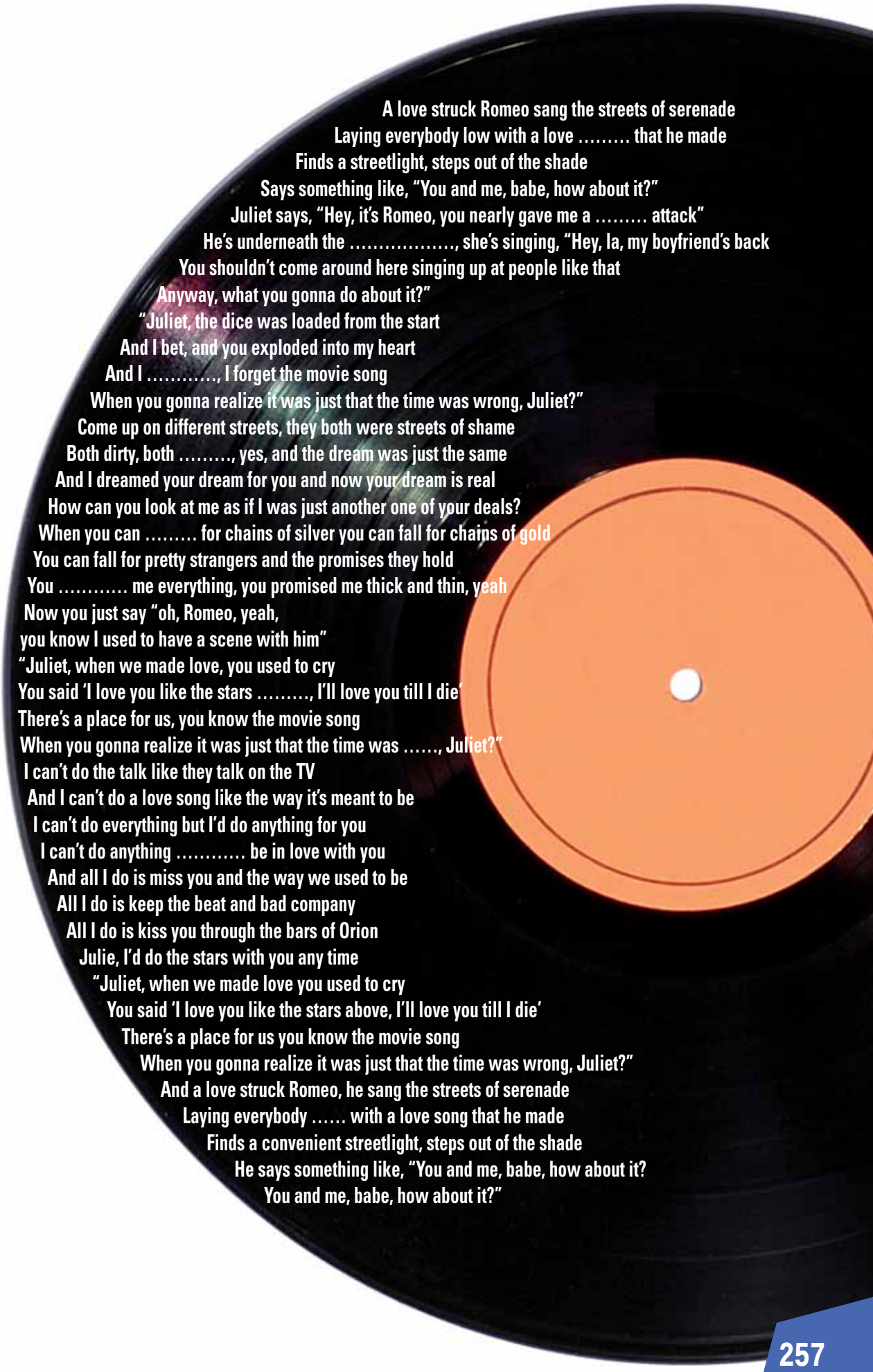
After Romeo and Juliet have met at the party and fallen in love, Juliet goes up to her bed-room but cannot sleep. She stands on her little balcony and pretends she is talking to Romeo.
Romeo passes and says “But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? ... It is my Lady! O, it is my Love!”

Juliet, not knowing he is there, says “Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?” (Romeo, Romeo, why do you have to be who you are?) She wishes he was not part of the Montague family.

Romeo climbs up onto the balcony. Juliet tells him that her love for him is as deep and endless as the sea. They part from each other with the famous words:

Break

Romeo and Juliet



A love struck Romeo sang the streets of serenade
Laying everybody low with a love …… that he made
Finds a streetlight, steps out of the shade
Says something like, "You and me, babe, how about it?"
Juliet says, "Hey, it's Romeo, you nearly gave me a …… attack"
He's underneath the ……, she's singing, "Hey, la, my boyfriend's back
You shouldn't come around here singing up at people like that
Anyway, what you gonna do about it?"
"Juliet, the dice was loaded from the start
And I bet, and you exploded into my heart
And I ……, I forget the movie song
When you gonna realize it was just that the time was wrong, Juliet?"
Come up on different streets, they both were streets of shame
Both dirty, both ……, yes, and the dream was just the same
And I dreamed your dream for you and now your dream is real
How can you look at me as if I was just another one of your deals?
When you can …… for chains of silver you can fall for chains of gold
You can fall for pretty strangers and the promises they hold
You …… me everything, you promised me thick and thin, yeah
Now you just say "oh, Romeo, yeah,
you know I used to have a scene with him"
"Juliet, when we made love, you used to cry
You said 'I love you like the stars ……, I'll love you till I die'
There's a place for us, you know the movie song
When you gonna realize it was just that the time was ……, Juliet?"
I can't do the talk like they talk on the TV
And I can't do a love song like the way it's meant to be
I can't do everything but I'd do anything for you
I can't do anything …… be in love with you
And all I do is miss you and the way we used to be
All I do is keep the beat and bad company
All I do is kiss you through the bars of Orion
Julie, I'd do the stars with you any time
"Juliet, when we made love you used to cry
You said 'I love you like the stars above, I'll love you till I die'
There's a place for us you know the movie song
When you gonna realize it was just that the time was wrong, Juliet?"
And a love struck Romeo, he sang the streets of serenade
Laying everybody …… with a love song that he made
Finds a convenient streetlight, steps out of the shade
He says something like, "You and me, babe, how about it?
You and me, babe, how about it?"

My dear friend,

As you know I love reading. I've just finished reading Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. I enjoyed this book very much. It's a story of a poor little orphan boy and about his adventures in a dark and cruel London. In those days, life was very difficult for poor people and especially for poor children. They very often had to work in dreadful conditions and were not able to go to school. This was about 180 years ago! The other day our teacher spoke about the conditions of some children today. She showed us children who work in cobalt mines. I didn't know anything about cobalt, but now I'm really shocked! This cobalt is found in every rechargeable battery on the planet - from smartphones to tablets to laptops to electric vehicles. This mineral is having a boom, and our world is increasingly reliant on it. Cobalt is mined in Congo, Africa. There is such a high demand that big international companies go there take advantage of poor children and let and make them work in the most terrible conditions. I'm not going to tell you what I saw (see it for yourself!). But all this... so that we can use our phones, computers... Maybe not many things have changed since Charles Dickens's Oliver Twist?! Winston Churchill once said, "Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it." I deeply believe that We cannot change the past, but we can reshape the future.

Your friend,
Love
Jane

GLOSSARY

(adj) = adjective; (adv) = adverb; (n) = noun; (v) = verb

Unit 1

bagpipe (n) - typical Scottish musical instrument
border (n) - the dividing line between two countries or regions
cloudy (adj) - lots of clouds in the sky
cool (adj) - low temperature
gorgeous (adj) - fine, sunny
kilt (n) - typical Scottish skirt
mainland (n) - the largest part of a country
mild (adj) - pleasant weather (not too hot and not too cold)
rule (n) - the exercise of governmental authority or control
snow (n) - soft white bits of frozen water that falls from the sky
to gather (v) - come together in a group
to rule (v) - person or group that rules a country or controls its affairs

Unit 2

bell (n) - device that makes a ringing sound
borough (n) - district
ceiling (n) - horizontal surface that forms top part of a room
escalator (n) - moving staircase
flag (n) - piece of cloth which is used as a symbol of something, especially of a country
huge (adj) - giant, enormous
lift (n) - a device that carries people up and down inside a biulding

peculiar (adj) - strange, unusual, bizarre
range (n) - number of different things of the same general kind
stall (n) - stand, table (at markets)
to rent (v) - regularly pay a sum of money for something
to shout (v) - scream, raise your voice
to tick(v) - a clock or watch ticks
topic (n) - subject, point, question, issue
venue (n) - a meeting place (for en event)
weird (adj) - strange, bizarre

Unit 3

bun (n) - small bread roll
busy (adj) - actively or fully engaged, occupied, crowded
cutlery (n) - knife, fork, spoon
dish (n) - the food in a dish, plate
meal (n) - breakfast, lunch, dinner
napkin (n) - serviette
pie (n) - baked food with meat or vegetables inside
pool (n) - a game of billiard
teapot (n) - container in which tea is made and from which it is served
to hangout (v) - frequent a place, to relax
tournament (n) - sporting competition

Unit 4

abroad (adv) - in a foreign (other) country
archbishop (n) - bishop of the highest rank
charity (n) - an organization which raises money to help poor people
envelope (n) - you put a letter in it to send by post
environment (n) - it is all the things, people, events around someone
joy (n) - happiness
peer (n) - a person who is equal in age
sorrow (n) - sadness, grief, regret
stamp (n) - you put it on an envelope to pay the cost of the postage
to split (v) - break, separate, divide

Unit 5

behaviour (n) - manner of conducting
brain (n) - an organ inside your head
development (n) - gradual growth of formation of something
growth (n) - process of growing
mood (n) - a way you are feeling
poison (n) - a substance that harms or kills people
sick (adj) - ill
tiny (adj) - very small
to hurt (v) - ache, be painful
to lie (v) - say something not true
to swallow (v) - pass food, drink through the mouth
to threat (v) - declaration to inflict harm, pain, misery

Unit 6

badge (n) - a piece of cloth or metal which you wear to show that you belong to an organization
ball (n) - a large formal event at which people dance
canteen (n) - a place where meals are served (school)
compulsory (adj) - something you must do because it is the law
fee (n) - sum of money that you pay to do something
gown (n) - a long loose outer garment
monk (n) - a member of a male religious community
playground (n) - a piece of ground where you coin play

Unit 7

bank (n) - banks of a river, canal, or lake are the raised area of ground along its edge
carriage (n) - a vehicle, usually for a small number of passengers, which is pulled by horses
leather (adj) - animal skin which is used for making shoes, clothes, bags
peculiar (adj) - strange, unusual
rowing (n) - a sport in which people or teams race against each other in boats with oars
stick (n) - a long thin piece of wood which are used in sports

to bet (v) - promise a sum of money on a result of a horse race, football game…

to hit (v) - hit something, you deliberately touch it with a lot of force, with an object held in your hand

wardrobe (n) - a cupboard where you hang clothes

Unit 8

dam (n) - a wall that is built across a river in order to stop water flowing and to make a lake

drought (n) - a long period of time during which no rain falls

farmland (n) - land used for farming

flood (n) - a large amount of water covers an area which is usually dry

hunger (n) - the feeling of discomfort that you get when you need something to eat

rainfall (n) - the amount of rain that falls

sewage (n) - waste matter from domestic or industrial establishment

silt (n) - sand or mud which is carried along by rivers

to starve (v) - suffer from lack of food

Unit 9

booth (n) - a small tent in which you can buy goods

by heart - learn so well that you can remember it without having to read it

decade (n) - period of ten years

field (n) - area of grass, e.g. in a park or on a farm

laptop (n) - portable computer

mud (n) - sticky mixture of earth and water

peg (n) - a small devise which you use to fasten clothes to a washing line

stage (n) - an area where actors or musicians perform

tent (n) - a shelter made of canvas or nylon

to showcase (v) - present, exhibit, or display

trend (n) - general tendency or direction; fashion

Unit 10

advertisement (n) - is an announcement online, in a newspaper, on television

auction (n) - a public sale where goods are sold to the person who offers the highest price

auctioneer (n) - a person in charge of an auction

bidder (n) - someone who offers to pay an amount of money for something (auction)

cave (n) - a large hole in the side of a cliff or hill

close up (n) - shows a lot of details because the photograph or picture is taken very near to the subject

comic-strip (n) - a series of drawings that tell a story

freehand (adv/adj) - a drawing is drawn without instrument such as a ruler

label (n) - a piece of paper or plastic that is attached to an object to give information about it

Unit 11

famine (n) - have no food

leader (n) - somebody who is control or in charge of people or activity

owner (n) - a person to whom belongs something

to beat (v) - hit very hard

to deny (v) - state that something is not true

to whip (v) - beat

weapon (n) - gun, knife

Unit 12

amendment (n) - a section that is added to a law or rule in order to change it

branch (n) - of a business is one of the shops or offices that belongs to it and is located in different places

desert (n) - a large place of land, usually in a hot region, where there is almost no water, rain, trees, or plants

feature (n) - aspect, quality, characteristic

harbour (n) - a place on the coast where ships may stay in shelter

judge (n) - person in court who decides how the law should be appointed

plain (n) - large flat area of land with very few trees on it

skyscraper (n) - very high building

trader (n) - a person who buys and sells goods

widely (adv) - something that includes a large number of different things or people

Unit 13

childhood (n) - period of life when you are a child

debt (n) - a sum of money that you owe someone

friar (n) - is a member of one of Catholic religious orders

gloomy (adj) - dark, dull, unhappy

hardship (n) - a situation in which your life is difficult, often because you don't have enough money

harsh (adj) - severe, cold

heiress - a female heir

homeless (n) - people who have nowhere to live

lonely (adj) - unhappy because you are alone or do not have anyone to talk to

masterpiece (n) - an extremely good novel, painting, film

rage (n) - strong anger that is difficult to control

strict (adj) - severe, harsh, firm

to burn (v) - destroy or damage with fire

to defeat (v) - win a victory

to earn (v) - receive money in return for work you do

to exploit (v) - treated unfairly by using their work or ideas

to fail (v) - not succeed in doing something

to resemble (v) - be like, look like

to search (v) - look carefully for something

to shut down (v) - to close, stop

villainous (adj) - person is very bad and willing to harm people

wizard (n) - a man who has magic power

Dear teachers, ...

A few years ago I started a pen friend project with India and since then we have never stopped. It has been the most rewarding and worthwhile student activity I've ever led.

It helped the students to understand that English is not only a school subject, but a real mean of communication which they can enjoy and have fun with.

It elicits an exchange of culture without any kind of formal trapping but only through the language itself. Language is the main instrument of conversation between two different countries and also a way to have direct contact with their foreign peers. They learn and understand how other people live, and how similar we are all despite some cultural differences or habits. This really opens their minds.

Students discover different times and ways of communication to allow a greater involvement and more profound reflection on what is being carried out.

It provides a lane to create better writers via an authentic audience. Students know that not only is someone actually going to read their letter, but also respond to it. This encourages to write with meaning and with a sense of purpose. English becomes an easy and international mean of communication.

The processing, correction, any rewriting, sending, waiting, reception, reading, interpretation, and elaboration of the letters will help the pupils to experiment a very old form of communication, so really new.

I'm sorry about the length of my letter, but I didn't have enough time to shorten it.

BLAISE PASCAL, 1656

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Ira Bhattachary from The Heritage School in Kolkata, India, for her precious collaboration with my school Istituto Pontano, Naples.

I deeply thank Claudia Ambron, my friend and colleague, for her support and for her fantastic creative ideas.

Pen friend competition

The publishing house and author would be very happy to receive the letteres of your students. After a careful selection, a special volume with the best letters will be sent to each school. The classes that write the best letters to Jane will receive some books as an award. Moreover, Jane will answer to those students who wrote particularly well.

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