

- *Names and Nicknames*

1. A nickname for a Welshman. It is the Welsh form of the English name “David”.

Taffy



Taffy is a nickname for a Welshman, deriving from the supposed Welsh pronunciation of Dafydd, a common Welsh forename. Dafydd is the Welsh form of the English name, David.

2. What were people who disagreed with the teachings of the Church of England called?

Gallery of famous seventeenth-century Puritan theologians: Thomas Gouge, William Bridge, Thomas Manton, John Flavel, Richard Sibbes, Stephen Charnock, William Bates, John Owen, John Howe, Richard Baxter.



In the 17th century the religious situation in Britain was not simple. Some people said that the services of the Church of England had become too complicated and too rich and took too much money. They wanted to make the Church of England more modest, to purify it. They were called Puritans.

A **Puritan** of 16th and 17th-century England was an associate of any number of religious groups advocating for more "purity" of worship and doctrine, as well as personal and group piety. Puritans felt that the English Reformation had not gone far enough, and that the Church of England was tolerant of practices which they associated with the Catholic Church. The word "Puritan" was originally an alternate term for "Cathar" and was a pejorative term used to characterize them as extremists similar to the Cathari of France. The term "Puritans" roughly corresponds with Luther's term *Schwärmer*. Because the Puritans were under the influence of radicals critical of Zwingli in Zurich and Calvin in Geneva, they seldom cooperated with Presbyterians in England. Instead, many advocated for separation from all other Christians, in favor of gathered churches under autonomous Puritan control.

Currently, the designation "Puritan" is often expanded to mean any very conservative Protestant, or even more broadly, to evangelicals. Thus, scholars commonly use the term **Presbyterianist** in regard to the historical groups of England and New England.

3. What are the names of the first political parties which appeared in Charles II's reign?

One of these parties was called Whigs, the other was nicknamed Tories

Whigs is a rude name for cattle drivers. The Whigs were afraid of an absolute monarchy and of the Catholic faith. They wanted to have no regular army.

The Tories supported the Crown and the church. These two parties became the basis of Britain's two-party parliamentary system of government.

The **Whigs** are often described as one of the two original political parties (the other being the Tories) in England and later the United Kingdom from the late 17th to the mid-19th centuries. The Whigs' origin lay in constitutional monarchism and opposition to absolute rule. Both parties began as loose groupings or tendencies, but became quite formal by 1784, with the ascension of Charles James Fox as the leader of a reconstituted "Whig" party ranged against the governing party of the new "Tories" under William Pitt the Younger.

The Whig party slowly evolved during the 18th century. The Whig tendency supported the great aristocratic families, the Protestant Hanoverian succession and toleration for nonconformist Protestants (the "dissenters," such as Presbyterians), while the Tories supported the exiled Stuart royal family's claims for the throne (Jacobitism), the established Church of England and the gentry. Later on, the Whigs drew support from the emerging industrial interests and wealthy merchants, while the Tories drew support from the landed interests and the British Crown. The Whigs were originally also known as the "Country Party" (as opposed to the Tories, the "Court Party"). By the first half of the 19th century, however, the Whig political programme came to encompass not only the supremacy of parliament over the monarch and support for free trade, but Catholic emancipation, the abolition of slavery and, significantly, expansion of the franchise (suffrage).

Toryism is a traditionalist political philosophy, which grew out of the Cavalier faction in the Wars of the Three Kingdoms. It is most prominent in Great Britain, but also features in some parts of The Commonwealth — particularly in Canada. Historically it also had exponents in former parts of the British Empire, for instance the Loyalists of British North America who sided with Britain and Crown during the Revolutionary War. The Tory ethos can be summed up with the phrase *God, King and Country*. Tories advocate monarchism, are usually of a High Church Anglican or Recusant Catholic religious heritage and opposed to the radical liberalism of the Whig faction. Some call their stance counter-revolutionary, neo-feudal and medievalist.

Tories emerged to uphold the legitimist rights of James, Duke of York to succeed his brother Charles II to the British throne. James II was a Catholic, while Britain was largely reformed in religious disposition — this was an issue for the Exclusion

Bill supporting Whigs, the political heirs to the nonconformist parliamentarians and Covenanters. There were two Tory ministries under James II; the first led by Lord Rochester, the second by Lord Belasyse. Some were later involved in his usurpation with the Whigs, which they saw as protecting the Church of England. Tory sympathy for the Stuarts ran deep however and some supported Jacobitism, which saw them isolated by the Hanoverians until Lord Bute's ministry under George III.



James Stuart was the pretender during the Jacobite rising of 1715-1716. Gaining some Tory support, it was thus used to discredit them by the Whigs.

4. What is the old name of London? Londinium

Carausius coin from Londinium mint.





The Romans founded more than twenty large towns. Also they built a town near the river Thames which was called Londinium.

Londinium was established as a town by the Romans after the invasion of AD 43 led by the Roman Emperor Claudius. Archaeologists now believe that Londinium was founded as a civilian settlement or *civitas* by AD 50. A wooden drain by the side of the main Roman road excavated at No 1 Poultry has been dated by dendrochronology to 47 which is likely to be the foundation date.

Prior to the arrival of the Roman Legions, the area was almost certainly lightly rolling open countryside traversed by streams such as Walbrook. Londinium was established at the point where the Thames was narrow enough to build a bridge, but deep enough to handle sea going marine vessels. Remains of a massive Roman pier base for a bridge were found in 1981, close to the modern London Bridge.

It was traditionally thought that Londinium started as a civilian settlement, although there is also slight evidence that there was a Roman fortress. However, archaeological excavation (undertaken by the Department of Urban Archaeology of the Museum of London, now called MOLAS) since the 1970s has failed to unearth any convincing traces of military occupation on the site, so many archeologists now believe that Londinium was the product of private enterprise. Its site on a busy river-crossing made it a perfect place for traders from across the Roman Empire to set up business.

The name *Londinium* is thought to be pre-Roman (and possibly pre-Celtic) in origin, although there has been no consensus on what it means. It was common practice for Romans to adopt native names for new settlements. A common theory is that it derives from a hypothetical Celtic placename, *Londinion* which was

probably derived from the personal name *Londinos*, from the word *lond*, meaning 'wild'.

A theory proposed by Richard Coates, which does not have widespread acceptance, suggests that the name derives from a Celticized Old European river-name forming part of the oldest stratum of European toponymy, in the sense established by Hans Krahe; Coates suggested a derivation from a pre-Celtic *Plowonida* — from two roots, *plew* and *nejd*, possibly meaning "the flowing river" or "the wide flowing river". Therefore, *Londinium* would mean "the settlement on the wide river". He suggests that the river was called the Thames upriver where it was narrower, and *Plowonida* downriver, where it was too wide to ford.

Inscriptions and graffiti found by archaeologists confirm that Latin was the official language. It has been implied that many of the local people spoke the Celtic language termed Brythonic by modern scholars, and *Lingua Gallica* (Gaulish) by the Romans; this language is ancestral to Welsh, Cornish and Breton.

During the second century Londinium was at its height. Emperor Hadrian visited in 122, and probably as one result a number of impressive public buildings were constructed. At some point soon afterward, a major fire destroyed much of the city. Archeologists have discovered significant amounts of burnt debris from this period, although there is no mention of a fire by any classical writers.

London appears to have recovered, however, and by about 140 Londinium had reached its estimated population height of around 45,000 to 60,000 inhabitants. By the middle of the century Londinium boasted major public buildings, including the largest basilica north of the Alps, a governor's palace, temples, bath houses and a large fort for the city garrison.

Excavations during the 1980s uncovered a large Roman port complex near the present-day London Bridge as well as on the other side of the river at Southwark, confirming that, during this period, Londinium would have been an important commercial and trading centre.

In the second half of the second century Londinium appears to have shrunk in both size and population. The cause is unknown, but plague is considered a likely culprit, as it is known that between AD 165 and 190 the so-called Antonine Plague severely affected Western Europe. Another explanation put forward is that Emperor Hadrian's decision not to extend the empire any further may have caused London merchants to lose valuable contracts, causing the economy to slump.

Although Londinium remained important for the rest of the Roman period, it appears to have never fully recovered from this slump, as archeologists have found that much of the city after this date was covered in dark earth, which remained undisturbed for centuries.



Bronze head of Hadrian, found in London

5. Many years ago the Scottish soldiers were called “women from the hell” by the Germanic tribes. Why were they named so?

The kilt is a knee-length pleated tartan skirt worn by men.



The **history of the kilt** stretches back to at least the end of the 16th century. Although the kilt is an item of traditional Scottish highland dress, the nationalism of that tradition is relatively recent. It was only with the Romantic Revival of the

early 19th century that the highland kilt was adopted by Lowlanders and the Scottish Diaspora as a symbol of national identity¹. People from other countries with Celtic connections, some Irish, Cornish, Welsh and Manx, have also adopted tartan kilts in recent times, although to a lesser degree. Similar clothing had long been abandoned by related cultures such as Gauls, and Scandinavians.

The kilt first appeared as the **great kilt**, a full length garment whose upper half could be worn as a cloak draped over the shoulder, or brought up over head as a cloak. The **small kilt** or **walking kilt** (similar to the 'modern' kilt) did not develop until the late 17th or early 18th century, and is essentially the bottom half of the great kilt¹.

The word *kilt* comes from the Scots word *kilt* meaning to tuck up the clothes around the body. The Scots word derives from the Old Norse *kjalta*, from Norse settlers who wore a similar, non-tartan pleated garment.

- ***The British Wonders***

1. It consists of two circles of huge stone blocks. Inside these are two groups of stones in the shape of a horseshoes. No written record exists of the origins of these features and they have always been surrounded by mystery.

Stonehenge



At one time, people thought that Stonehenge was a Druid temple. Scientists think that the early inhabitants of Britain were sun worshippers and they built Stonehenge in honour of the god.

The first academic effort to survey and understand the monument was made around 1640 by John Aubrey. He declared Stonehenge the work of Druids. This view was greatly popularised by William Stukeley. Aubrey also contributed the first measured drawings of the site, which permitted greater analysis of its form and significance. From this work, he was able to demonstrate an astronomical or calendrical role in the stones' placement. The architect John Wood was to undertake the first truly accurate survey of Stonehenge in 1740. However Wood's interpretation of the monument as a place of pagan ritual was vehemently attacked by Stukeley who saw the druids not as pagans, but as biblical patriarchs.

2. It is a mass of stone columns standing very near together. The tops of the columns form stepping stones leading from the cliff foot and disappearing under the sea.

The Giant's Causeway



This wonder is situated in Ireland. Visitors in modern times have been told that the Causeway is a strange geological feature – the result of volcanic actions.

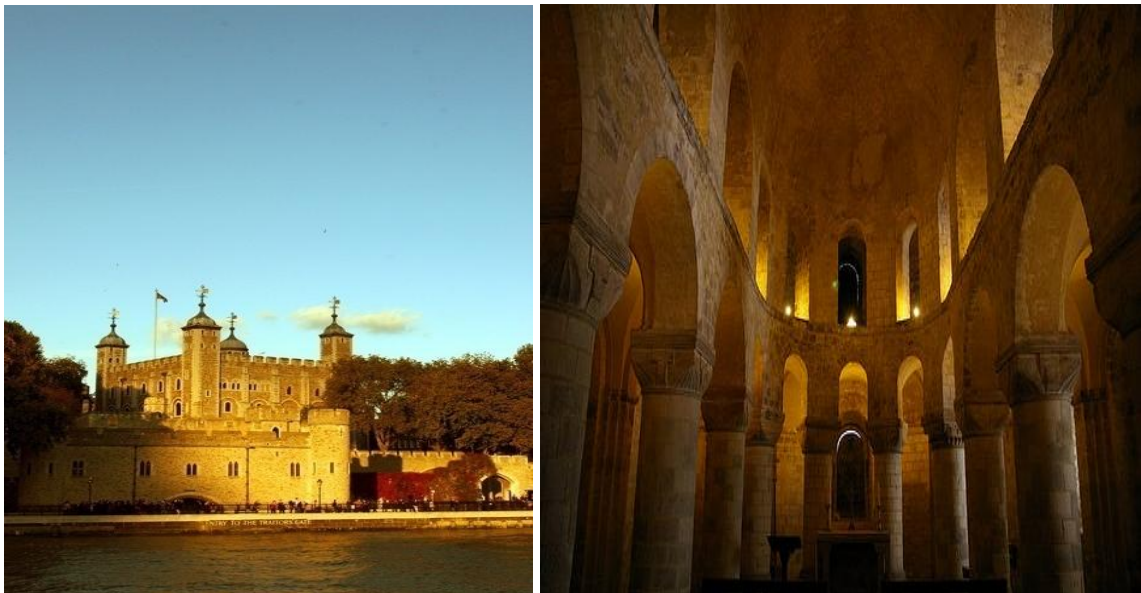
The **Giant's Causeway** (or Irish: *Clochán na bhFómharach*) is an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns, the result of an ancient volcanic eruption. It is located in County Antrim, on the northeast coast of Northern Ireland, about two miles (3 km) north of the town of Bushmills. It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1986, and a National Nature Reserve in 1987 by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland. In a 2005 poll of *Radio Times* readers, the Giant's Causeway was named as the fourth greatest natural wonder in the United Kingdom. The tops of the columns form stepping stones that lead from the cliff

foot and disappear under the sea. Most of the columns are hexagonal, although there are also some with four, five, seven and eight sides. The tallest are about 12 metres (36 ft) high, and the solidified lava in the cliffs is 28 metres thick in places.

The Giant's Causeway is today owned and managed by the National Trust and it is the most popular tourist attraction in Northern Ireland.

3. People say it is the key to London it was founded by William the Conqueror. It was begun with the air of protecting Londoners from invasions by the river Thames.

The Tower of London.



Norman chapel inside the White Tower

It was built in 1087. since then it has served as a fortress, a palace, a state prison and a royal treasury, now it is a museum.

At the centre of the Tower of London stands the Norman White Tower built in 1078 by William the Conqueror (reigned 1066-87) inside the southeast angle of the city walls, adjacent to the Thames. This was as much to protect the Normans from the people of the City of London as to protect London from outside invaders. William appointed Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester, as the architect. Fine Caen stone, imported from France, was used for the corners of the building and as door and window dressings, though Kentish ragstone was used for the bulk of the edifice. According to legend the mortar used in its construction was tempered by the blood of beasts. Another legend ascribed the Tower not to William but to the Romans. William Shakespeare in his play Richard III stated that it was built by Julius Caesar.

The White Tower is 90 feet (27 m) high and the walls vary from 15 feet (4.5 m) thick at the base to almost 11 feet (3.3 m) in the upper parts. Above the battlements rise four turrets; three of them are square, but the one on the northeast is circular, in order to accommodate a spiral staircase. This turret was briefly used as the first royal observatory in the reign of Charles II. Completing the defences to the south of the Tower was the bailey.

In the 1190s, King Richard the Lionheart (reigned 1189-99) enclosed the White Tower with a curtain wall, and had a moat dug around it filled with water from the Thames. Richard utilised the pre-existing Roman city wall, to the east, as part of the circuit. Part of the wall he built was incorporated into the later circuit wall of Henry III and is still extant, running between the Bloody Tower and the Bell Tower, the latter of which also dates to his reign. In 1240 Henry III had the exterior of the building whitewashed, which is how it got its name.

4. What do you think the great glory of Westminster is?

Westminster Abbey



Since the coronations in 1066 of both King Harold and William the Conqueror, all English and British monarchs (except Edward V and Edward VIII, who did not

have coronations) have been crowned in the Abbey. Henry III was unable to be crowned in London when he first came to the throne because Prince Louis of France had taken control of the city, and so the king was crowned in Gloucester Cathedral. However, this coronation was deemed by the Pope to be improper, and a further coronation was held in the Abbey on 17 May 1220. Lady Jane Grey, whose reign lasted just nine days and was of doubtful legality, was also never crowned. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the traditional cleric in the coronation ceremony.

King Edward's Chair (or St Edward's Chair), the throne on which British sovereigns are seated at the moment of coronation, is housed within the Abbey and has been used at every coronation since 1308; from 1301 to 1996 (except for a short time in 1950 when it was temporarily stolen by Scottish nationalists), the chair also housed the Stone of Scone upon which the kings of Scotland are crowned, but pending another coronation the Stone is now kept in Scotland.

5. It is called after the Roman emperor Hadrian who built it nearly two thousand years ago to keep back the Picts.

Hadrian's Wall



Hadrian's Wall was built following a visit by Roman Emperor Hadrian (AD 76–138) in AD 122. Hadrian was experiencing military difficulties in Roman Britain and from the peoples of various conquered lands across the Empire, including Egypt, Judea, Libya, Mauretania, and many of the peoples conquered by his predecessor Trajan, so he was keen to impose order. However the construction of such an impressive wall was probably also a symbol of Roman power, both in occupied Britain and in Rome.

Frontiers in the early empire were largely based on natural features or fortified zones with a heavy military presence. Military roads often marked the border, with forts and signal towers spread along them, and it was not until the reign of Domitian that the first solid frontier was constructed, in Germania Superior, using a simple fence. Hadrian expanded this idea, redesigning the German border by ordering a continuous timber palisade supported by forts behind it. Although such defences would not have held back any concerted invasion effort, they did physically mark the edge of Roman territory and went some way to providing a degree of control over who crossed the border and where. The wall was constructed primarily to prevent entrance by small bands of raiders or unwanted immigration from the north, not as a fighting line for a major invasion. The wall would have made cattle-raiding across the frontier extremely difficult.

Hadrian reduced Roman military presence in the territory of the Brigantes, who lived between the rivers Tyne and Humber, and concentrated on building a more solid linear fortification to the north of them. This was intended to replace the Stanegate road which is generally thought to have served as the *limes* (the boundary of the Roman Empire) until then.

- ***The British Animals***

1. What do the British say when it is raining hard?
It is raining cats and dogs.



In distant times, people thought that witches could turn themselves into cats and ride across stormy skies on their broomsticks, cats were thought to be a big influence on the weather. The dog was the servant of the Norse storm god,

Odin, and represented the wind. Cats and dogs from that time have meant the wind and the rain.

2. What bronze animals look from Nelson's column in Trafalgar square?
Four bronze lions.



Trafalgar Square, set in central London, is one of Britain's great tourist attractions. A visit to the capital would be incomplete without going to marvel at Nelson's Column and the four giant lions at its base, or to admire the lovely splashing fountains and to feed the pigeons, who have made their home here. Built to commemorate Admiral Nelson, the square was named after the Spanish Cape Trafalgar where his last battle was won.

The square consists of a large central area surrounded by roadways on three sides, and stairs leading to the National Gallery on the other. The roads which cross the square form part of the A4 road, and prior to 2003, the square was surrounded by a one-way traffic system. Underpasses attached to Charing Cross tube station allow pedestrians to avoid traffic. Recent works have reduced the width of the roads and closed the northern side of the square to traffic.

Nelson's Column is in the centre of the square, surrounded by fountains designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens in 1939 (replacing two earlier fountains of Peterhead granite, now at the Wascana Centre and Confederation Park in Canada) and four huge bronze lions sculpted by Sir Edwin Landseer; the metal used is said to have been recycled from the cannon of the French fleet. The column is topped by a statue of Horatio Nelson, the admiral who commanded the British Fleet at Trafalgar.

Ten frames of Trafalgar Square shot by Wordsworth Donisthorpe in 1890

The fountains are memorials to Lord Jellicoe (western side) and Lord Beatty (eastern side), Jellicoe being the Senior Officer.

On the north side of the square is the National Gallery and to its east St Martin-in-the-Fields church. The square adjoins The Mall *via* Admiralty Arch to the southwest. To the south is Whitehall, to the east Strand and South Africa House, to the north Charing Cross Road and on the west side Canada House.

At the corners of the square are four plinths; the two northern ones were intended for equestrian statues, and thus are wider than the two southern. Three of them hold statues: George IV (northeast, 1840s), Henry Havelock (southeast, 1861, by William Behnes), and Sir Charles James Napier (southwest, 1855). Former Mayor of London Ken Livingstone controversially expressed a desire to see the two generals replaced with statues "ordinary Londoners would know".

3. What is one of the modest and best known monuments in Scotland which is devoted to a dog?

This is a monument to a dog called Bobby.



The dog belonged to John Gray. When he died Bobby lived near his grave for twenty-six years. Later Bobby was buried near his master and his statue in the Old Town has become a symbol of devotion.

4. Inside the monument there is a marble statue of the writer and of his favourite dog. What monument is it?

The Scott Monument.



This is a monument to Sir Walter Scott which is situated in the New Town in Edinburgh. They call it a poem of stone.

5. What can you see on the Welsh national flag?

The red dragon.



The national flag of Wales is The Red Dragon (Welsh: Y Ddraig Goch). It consists of a red dragon, passant, on a green and white field. As with any heraldic charge, the exact representation of the dragon is not standardised and many different interpretations exist. The flag was granted official status in 1959, but the red dragon itself has been associated with Wales for centuries. The Welsh Flag is the only flag of the constituent countries of the UK not to be used in the Union Jack.

- ***These Remarkable Dates and Numbers***

1. In 1675 Sir Christopher Wren started on his greatest work. For 35 year the building went on. Wren was an old man before it was finished. What did Sir Christopher Wren built?

St Paul's Cathedral.



Everybody coming to London for the first time wants to see St. Paul's Cathedral. This is the third cathedral with this name which London has had. The two others were burnt down, the first in 1086 and the second in 1666.

Christopher Wren was an architect who had already built many buildings. Now, in 1675, he started on his greatest work. For 35 years the building of St. Paul's Cathedral went on, and Wren was an old man before it was finished.

From far away you can see the huge dome with a golden ball and cross on the top. The inside of the cathedral is very beautiful. After looking around, you can climb 263 steps to the Whispering Gallery, above the library, which runs round the dome. It is called this because if someone whispers close to the wall on one side, a person with an ear close to the wall on the other side can hear what is said. Then, if you climb another 118 steps, you will be able to stand outside the dome and look over London.

But not only can you climb up, you can also go down underneath the cathedral, into the crypt. Here are buried many great men, including Christopher Wren himself, Nelson and

2. There is a number in the name of Shakespeare's play.

Twelfth Night

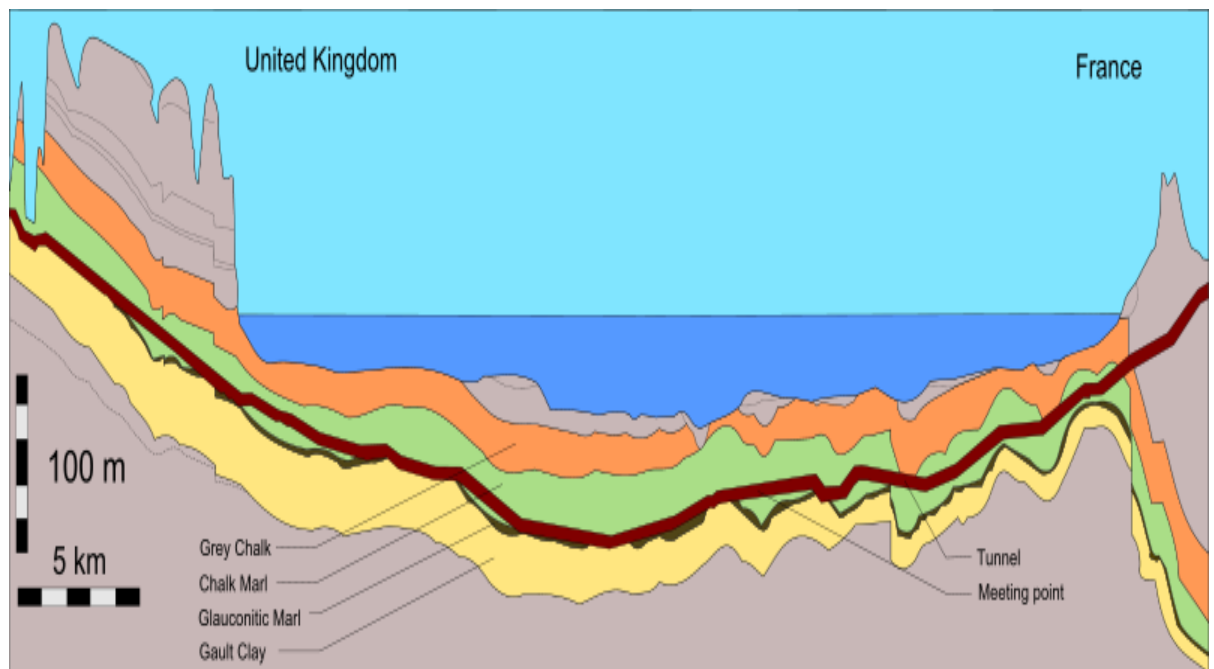


3. It is 31 miles long, 24 miles of which under the bottom of the sea. Shuttle trains take cars and their passengers at the entrance of the tunnel at Folkston, England and carry them through the tunnel up to the terminal near Calair, France. And vice versa, if they start in France.

The Channel Tunnel



The building of the tunnel was begun in the 1980s and was successfully completed in 1991. The Channel Tunnel has finally linked Britain and France.



Geological profile along the tunnel as constructed. For the majority of its length the tunnel bores through a chalk marl stratum (layer).

4. There are about ninety Universities in Britain. What is the biggest one?
What are the oldest ones?

London University



The University of London is a federation of 19 self-governing Colleges of outstanding reputation, and a number of acclaimed central academic Institutes and activities.

Through its member institutions, the University of London offers almost every subject covered in any university curriculum, delivering huge flexibility and choice to its students.

Oxford University



Oxford University was founded in the middle of the 12th century. Nowadays outstanding scientists work in numerous colleges of the University, teaching and doing research work in different fields of science.

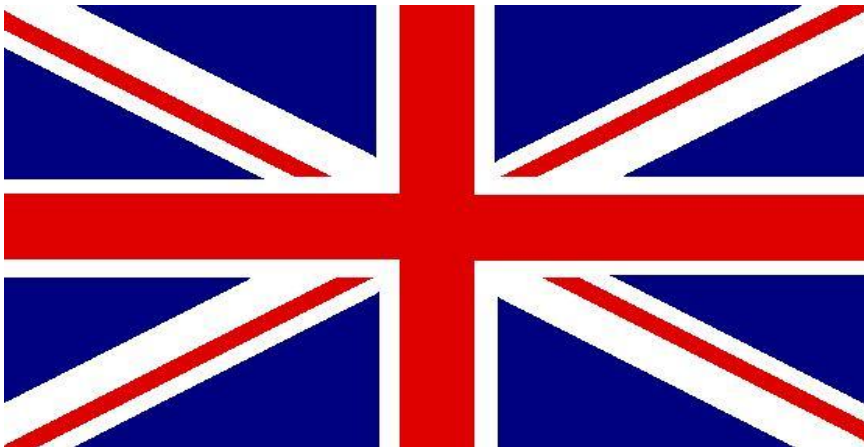
Cambridge University



Cambridge University is the second oldest university of Britain, was founded in the 13th century. Today there are more than twenty colleges in Cambridge University.

5. What is the national flag of the UK?

The Union Jack.



The national flag of Great Britain is made up of three flags (the crosses of Saints George, Andrew and Patrick) representing England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Union Jack is waved or flown on patriotic occasions.

- ***The British Scenery***

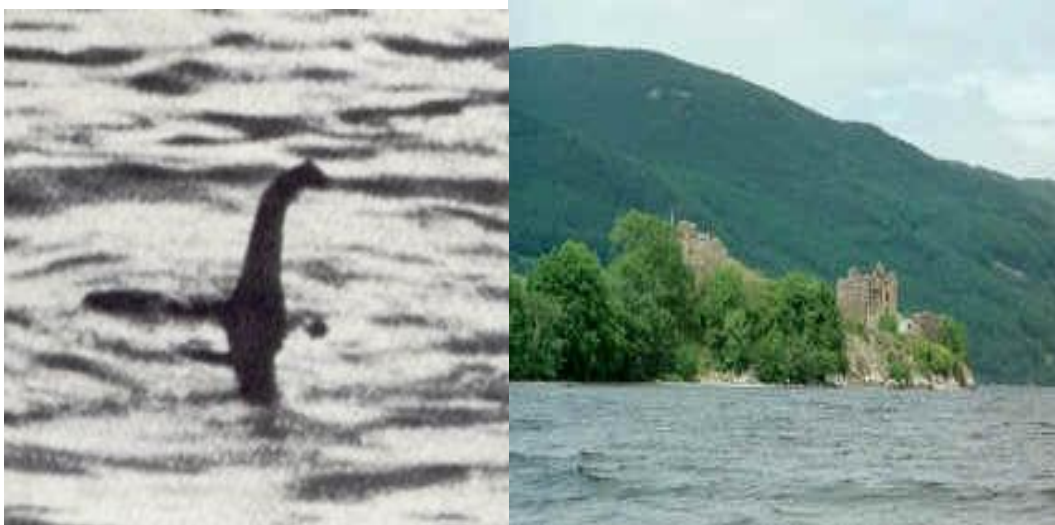
1. Some admiring visitors called it “a paradise of mountains scenery and magical light”.

The Lake District



It is a mountainous area in the north-west of England, and it has some of England's most beautiful scenery. The Lake District is a National Park, which means that special care is taken to make sure that the beauty of the countryside is not spoilt.

2. A large prehistoric creature is said to be living in the deep waters of the lake, but as yet, in spite of various "sightings", not scientifically proved to exist. What is the popular name of the monster? What is the name of the lake?
Loch Ness



Loch Ness is a long lake in northern Scotland. It extends for 23 miles and in places is over 700 feet in depth. It is probably Britain's best Known lake, because of the so-called Loch Ness monster.

3. What is the highest mountain on the British Isles? Ben Nevis



Ben Nevis is about 1,342m. in the Grampian Mountains.

Ben Nevis's popularity, climate and complex topography contribute to a high number of mountain rescue incidents. In 1999, for example, there were 41 rescues and four fatalities on the mountain. Some accidents arise over difficulties in navigating to or from the summit, especially in poor visibility. The problem stems from the fact that the summit plateau is roughly kidney-shaped, and surrounded by cliffs on three sides; the danger is particularly accentuated when the main path is obscured by snow. Two precise compass bearings taken in succession are necessary to navigate from the summit cairn to the west flank, from where a descent can be made on the Pony Track in relative safety.

4. A roman name for the northern part of the island of Britain, comprising present-day Scotland.

Caledonia



The name Caledonia is often used in literature to mean Scotland

The name *Caledonia* derives from the Latin name of an area corresponding to modern Scotland, and used as a poetic name for Scotland under the influence of Neo-Classicism.

5. What place in London has a big variety of animals?

London Zoo



London Zoo is said to be one of the oldest and most famous Zoological Gardens in the world. The name “zoo” was first used here. London Zoo, situated in Regent’s Park was founded in 1826 to demonstrate animal life and increase the knowledge of it. Since that time the scientists working in the Zoo have made a lot of new discoveries about the animals and the world around us.

- *These Mysterious Words*

1. She was called “Bloody Marry” for some cruel actions.

Marry, the Scottish Queen



Marry the Catholic daughter of Catherine Aragon and Henry VIII. During her reign she burnt Protestants. Three hundred people died in this way. For these mass executions she was called “Bloody Marry”.

2. You have heard the song “My bonnie Lies Over the Ocean”. What does the word “Bonnie” mean? Bonnie” means “good-looking”.

This song is about Scotland’s national hero – Prince Charles Edward Stewart.



“My bonnie Lies Over the Ocean” is known all over the world. It is a song about Prince Charles Edward Stewart who was known as Bonnie Prince Charles because he was young and good-looking. He was also Scotland’s national hero who was fought against the English in the 18th century trying to make Scotland independent, but Charlie’s army was defeated.

3. The adjective “cleanest” describes one of the British countries. What country is it?

Northern Ireland



There is an old Irish saying that Ireland must be the cleanest place in the world, because God washes it every day. Ireland is also called the Emerald Isle because of its beautiful green fields.

4. Liverpool, “Love me Do”, Lennon. What associations have you got with these words?

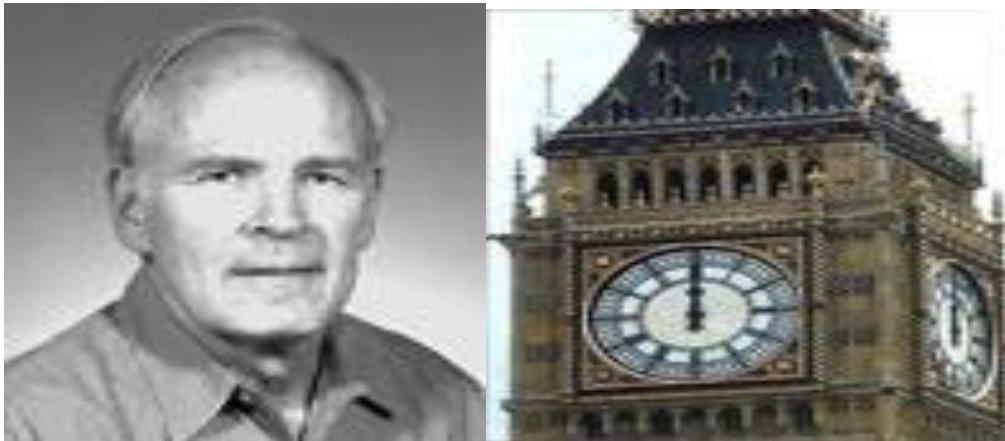
The Beatles.



In October 1962, when the first single record, “Love me Do”, by an unknown group from Liverpool entered the British Top Thirty, the Beatles became nationally famous in England. The famous four who recorded that song were John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, who became the most successful pop group the world has ever known.

5. The word “big” made this man known. The famous clock got the name after him. What is the name of the clock?

Big Ben



He was a supervisor in the Houses of Parliament. As he was very tall and stout he was called Big Ben. His nickname became the name of the clock..

- ***The British Symbols***

1. What are the national symbols of Wales?

The leek and the daffodil.



St David is the patron saint of Wales. He was a monk who lived on bread, water, herbs and leek and died on March 1, 589 AD. The leek became the national emblem for Wales and medieval soldiers used to wear leeks as they rode to battle. The daffodil is also a Welsh emblem because its Welsh name is translated as a type of leek.

2. What holiday does the song “Jingle, Belles!” symbolize?

Christmas



Christmas is the greatest holiday which is celebrated on the 25th of December in Great Britain. People spend time at home with their families, eat special food and drink a lot. Houses are decorated with lights and branches of needle-leaf trees.

3. What is the national symbol of Scotland?

Thistle



There is a curious legend. In very ancient times the Vikings once landed somewhere on the east coast of Scotland, with the intention of plundering and settling in the country. The Scots assembled with their arms and took their stations behind the River Tay. As they arrived late in the day, weary and tired, they pitched their camp and rested, not expecting the enemy. The Vikings intended to take Scots by surprise. To this end, they took off their shoes so as to make the least noise possible. But one of the Vikings stepped on a thistle. The sudden and sharp pain caused him to shriek. The alarm was given to the Scots' camp. The Vikings were put to fight, and as an acknowledgement for the timely and unexpected help from the thistle, the Scots took it as their national emblem.

4. What is a heraldic sign of the British crown?

The lion and Unicorn



The lion, the “King of beasts”, is thought of as brave and frightening and has been used as symbol of national strength and of the British monarchy for many centuries. It is also used to represent Britain. People sometimes also mention the idea from the Bible that one day the lion will be down with the lamb, that is there will be peace and happiness. The Unicorn is a mythical animal that looks like a horse with alone straight horn growing from its forehead. It has appeared on the Scottish and British royal coat of arms for many centuries and is a symbol of purity.

5. You have heard the sounds of the national Scottish instrument. What is it?

The bagpipe.



- ***The National Food***

1. “Welsh rabbit” doesn’t mean any breed of rabbit. What is it?

A sandwich with cheese.



Welsh rabbit is a savour dish consisting of melted cheese, sometimes with milk added, on hot toast. Originally “Welsh rabbit”, although never containing rabbit meat.

2. This vegetable is very popular at Halloween.

The pumpkin.



Halloween was first celebrated many centuries ago in Ireland and Scotland by Celtic priests called Druids. They observed the end of autumn and the beginning of winter. The druids thought that Halloween was the night when the witches came out. As they were afraid of the witches they put on different clothes and painted their faces to deceive the evil spirits. They also placed food and small gifts near the door of the houses for the witches.

3. This food is the national dish which the Scots have at a proper Burns Supper.

Haggis.



This dish is made of a sheep's stomach stuffed with the lungs, the heart and various other parts of the insides of the sheep minced and mixed up with oatmeal and boiled. The haggis is carried into the dinning- room behind a piper wearing traditional dress. The arrival of the haggis is usually heralded by the music of bagpipes.

4. It is a traditional Easter pastime which still flourishes in northern England and Scotland.

Egg-rolling



Egg rolling, or an Easter egg roll is a traditional game played with eggs at Easter. Different nations have different versions of the game, usually played with hard-boiled, decorated eggs.

5. In England on Shrove Tuesday, people race with them. What food is so popular on Shrove Tuesday?

Pancakes.



The race is run from the Market Place to a point midway down Church Lane - a distance of 415 yards. For the race they must wear the traditional costume of the housewife, including a skirt, apron and head covering, though they need not be married. At the start the Starter will order competitors: "Toss your pancakes - Are you ready?" and then give the starting signal. The winner is required to toss her pancake again at the finish.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giant's_Causeway

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theories_about_Stonehenge

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tower_of_London

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Caledonia