



# Culture club *countries*



Teacher:  
MEDUEDEVA O.U.





# Great Britain





# *Buckingham palace – a famous British house.*

Buckingham palace is the Queen's official London home. It's in the center of London, and it's very popular with tourists.

It's over 300 years old, and it's very big! It's got 775 rooms. There are 240 bedrooms, and 78 bathrooms! It's also got a church, a swimming pool, and a cinema!

The Queen has got a private apartment with 12 rooms. When she's at home, there's a special flag called the Royal Standard on the roof.





There are special guards at Buckingham Palace called the Queen's Foot Guards!

They've got red jackets and big black hats. When the Queen is at home, there are 4 guards in front of the palace. When she isn't at home, there are 2 guards.

Every day in summer at 11:30 a.m. there's a ceremony in front of the palace called The Changing of the Guard.

A military band plays military music, and sometimes pop songs! On royal birthday. The band plays "Happy Birthday".

Buckingham Palace is open to visitors in August and September. There are over 300,000 visitors every year.





- Read the text and match the numbers 1 - 5 with the expressions (a - e).

1 775

2 240

3 78

4 11.30 a.m.

5 300,000

a bedrooms

b visitors every year

c rooms

d bathrooms

f The Changing of the Guard





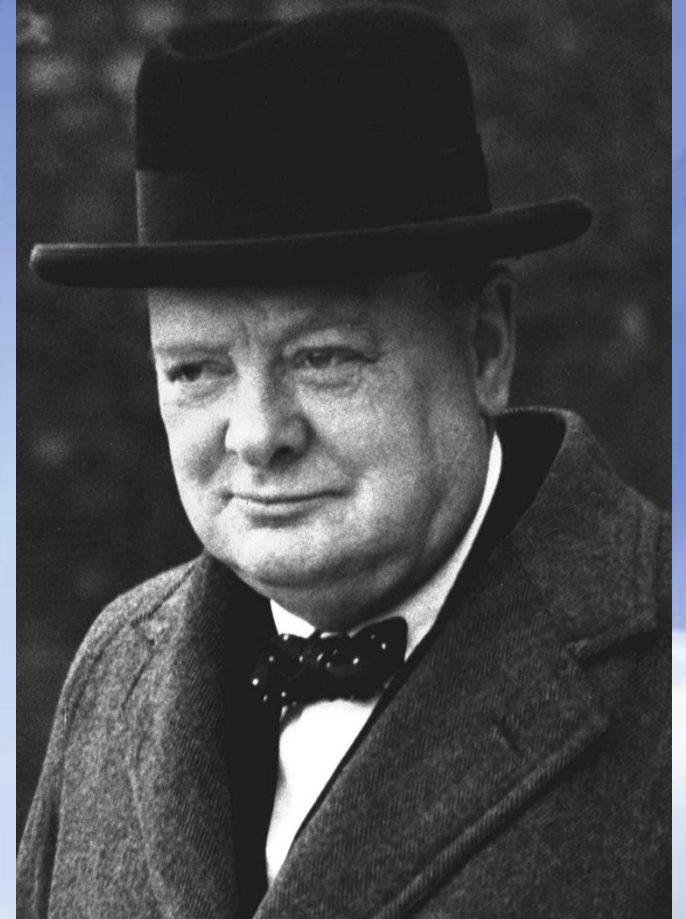
# The greatest brit



A few years ago, people in England voted for the greatest person of all time from their country. They were not just voting for the most famous person ever. They were voting for the people who had an impact on history. During this vote, anyone could add a person's name to list, so the final list of names was quite long. It included people who were famous and unknown, rich and poor, loved and hated. Before the final deadline, about one million people filled out this survey. The Brits on the final list included many people famous not only in England, but around the world as well. For example, Princess Diana, Tony Blair, John Lennon, and Shakespeare were four famous

Why do so many people think Churchill great? He led England as Prime Minister during World War II. During the war, Germany sent planes to bomb England, and at that time, many people were afraid Germany would win the war. But Churchill gave the people in England hope through his speeches. He also worked with Roosevelt in the United States and Stalin in Russia to win the war against Hitler, so he became an important man in world history as well.

Churchill is quite famous for things that he said and wrote. In fact, he won the Nobel Prize in literature for his writing. Some things Churchill said were humorous while other things were serious. Also some things he said have become common saying in English. For example, he was the first person to use the words the Iron Curtain to talk about Russia's control of Eastern Europe. Some of Churchill's





## Choose the best answer

1. What is the main idea of the reading?
  - a) Brits think Churchill was funny
  - b) Churchill was a great writer
  - c) Churchill did important things.
  - d) Everyone knows Churchill
2. Which is probably true about many of the people ranked high on the survey?
  - a) They are not living today
  - b) They are well-known around the world
  - c) Professors in England chose them
  - d) All of them lived during the 1900s
3. How many people voted for Churchill?
  - a) Less than 10 % of them
  - b) Around 75 % of them
  - c) About 40% of them
  - d) All of them



4. Which of the following facts Churchill is NOT found in the reading?

- a) He was a painter
- b) He was a politician
- c) He was a speaker
- d) He was a writer

5. According to the passage, who gave Churchill a prize?

- a) Roosevelt and Stalin
- b) Oxford University
- c) The queen of England
- d) An international committee





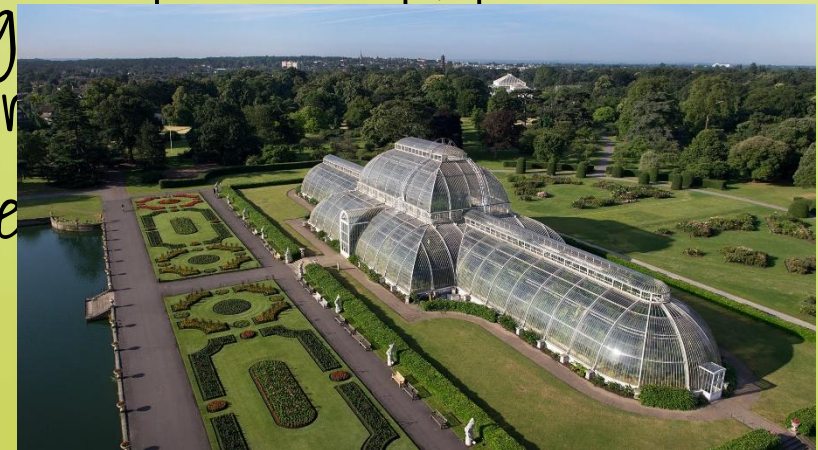
# THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Kew Gardens

Since the 18<sup>th</sup> century, botanists at Kew Gardens have collected hundreds of rare or unusual plants and trees from all over the world. The gardens cover 120 hectares along the River Thames in London's south - west suburbs.

visitors can see an amazing variety of plants, trees and flowers - in fact, it is still the world's largest collection. There are beautiful woodland and riverside walks, 26 different types of gardens and six greenhouses that provide controlled environments for plants from other parts of the world.

There are also a cafe, libraries and even an art gallery.





Special features included the Palm House (pictured below) with its enormous palm trees, and Evolution House, which has a series of displays showing the evolution of plant life on earth.

The royal Botanic Gardens is more than just a tourist attraction, though. Experts at Kew carry out important scientific research, run special education programmes, and help conservation project world - wide.







1) Read the text and explain the words in bold. In pairs, ask and answer comprehension questions.

- When did botanists at Kew Gardens start collecting unusual plants?
- In the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

2) Read again and highlight the information. Use this information to tell the class about the Royal Botanic Gardens.



# The USA





# *Christopher Columbus*

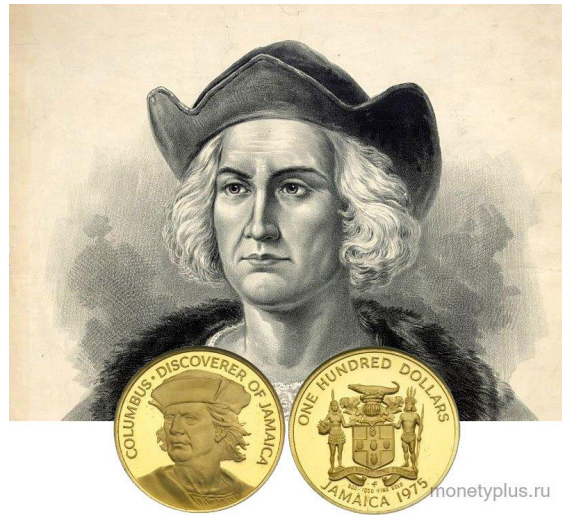
Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, Italy, in 1451. He was a sailor and an explorer, and his ambition was to travel west to Asia. In the 15th century, Asia was important for commerce, and a lot of sailors went there. They always sailed east, and their journey was long and dangerous. Columbus believed that the world was round, and that the short route to Asia was west.

In 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain gave Columbus money for his journey. Three ships, the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria, left Spain on 3rd August, 1492. The journey was very long,

but after two months, they arrived on an island in the Caribbean. Columbus and his sailors called the island San Salvador (Holy Saviour). Columbus thought he was in India, and that the people on the island were Indians. He returned to Spain a hero, and he brought gold, animals, and new plants to Europe.

Columbus's journey was important because he discovered the New World – the world of the Americas. Today, the US has a holiday on 12th October to celebrate Christopher Columbus's first journey to the New World. It's called Columbus Day.





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Read the text. Then complete the sentences with information from the text.

Christopher Columbus was born in **Genoa, Italy**.

- 1) He thought that it was possible to sail \_\_\_\_\_ from Europe to Asia
- 2) Columbus and his sailors travelled from Spain in \_\_\_\_\_ ships
- 3) After two months, they arrived on an island in the \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Columbus thought he was in \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) He brought back gold, animals, and new \_\_\_\_\_ to Europe
- 6) Today, people in the USA celebrate his life on \_\_\_\_\_.





# Mickey Mouse Quiz



Do the quiz about Mickey Mouse , then read the text.

## Mickey Mouse Quiz

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>1</b> Who created Mickey Mouse?            | <b>a</b> Joseph Barbera <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>b</b> Walt Disney <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>2</b> What was Mickey's original name?     | <b>a</b> Oswald <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>b</b> Mortimer <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| <b>3</b> When did he first star in a cartoon? | <b>a</b> 1928 <input type="checkbox"/>           | <b>b</b> 1950 <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| <b>4</b> What colour are Mickey's shorts?     | <b>a</b> yellow <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>b</b> red <input type="checkbox"/>         |
| <b>5</b> Who is Mickey's girlfriend?          | <b>a</b> Minnie <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>b</b> Millie <input type="checkbox"/>      |





# It all started with the mouse!

Today, the Walt Disney Company is very big, but in the 1920s, it was very small. That changed when Walt Disney created a little cartoon mouse. He called the mouse "Mortimer", but his wife didn't like the name, and she suggested "Mickey".

Mickey appeared in the cartoon, Plane Crazy in 1928. People liked the film, but the Hollywood film studios didn't want to buy it, because it was a silent film and the characters didn't talk in it. Soon Mickey started to talk in his cartoons, and he became a star. At first, Walt Disney, did the voices of Mickey and his girlfriend, Minnie.

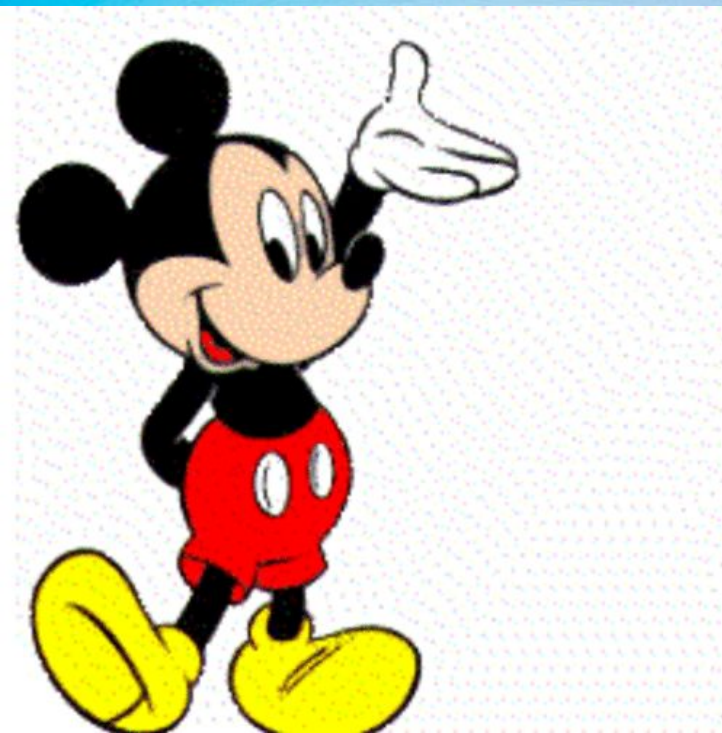




Mickey had a funny voice, and people loved it! They also loved his clothes: yellow shoes, red shorts and white gloves.

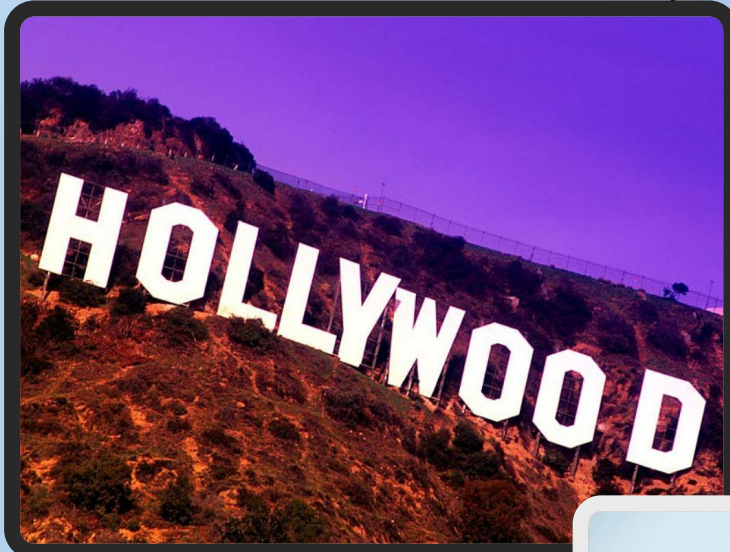
In 1955 he made a TV programme, The Mickey Club. It became a popular children's programme in America. It had news, cartoons, and music. Britney Spears, Justin Yimberlake and Christina Aguilera started their careers on the show.

Today, people still love Mickey Mouse. He's the symbol of the Walt Disney Company, because Walt Disney never forgot that " it all started with a mouse".





You are going to read an article about a tour of the west coast of the United States. For questions 1 to 8, choose from the places mentioned in the tour (A - D). The places may be chosen more than once. There is an example at the beginning.





A) San Francisco   B) Los Angeles   C) San Diego   D) Hawaii

The city is built on hills.	0	A
There is a famous theme park.	1	
It is very close to another country.	2	
The local food is delicious.	3	
	4	
Entertainers perform as you eat.	5	
	6	
You can see the homes of famous people.	7	
You can see interesting creatures under the sea.	8	





# *Pacific Paradise*

## *Tour*

The Pacific Paradise Tour took us to California, on the west coast of the United States, and to the Hawaiian islands in the Pacific Ocean. With beautiful countryside, exciting cities and fantastic beaches, this holiday had everything.

The first place we stopped at was *San Francisco*, in northern California. This city is famous for its cable cars - and it certainly needs them because San Francisco is extremely huge and has some very steep roads! By the sea, next to the fishing boats, there are the fish restaurants. Here we enjoyed watching the street actors and musicians as we ate delicious fresh fish. One thing we'll never forget is the Golden Gate bridge. Which is very big and beautiful.







The next city on the tour was *Los Angeles*. This city is very exciting and has some very famous attractions. The nearby beaches are long and sandy and the mountains outside the city are high and dry. We visited the beach where they were filming Baywatch. We also went to Disneyland where we saw E.T. and shook hands with Mickey Mouse. After that they took us to Hollywood to see the houses of the stars who have made a lot of films - and a lot of more.







The last place we visited in California was *San Diego*, a city with sun, sand, sea and all kinds of watersports. We went to the San Diego Zoo which is one of the world's largest zoos. We also visited Mexico, which is only a short drive away from San Diego.



Finally, we went to Hawaii. It's paradise! We sat on golden beaches with green palm trees and watched amazing red sunsets. We also saw colourful fish at Sea Life Park and went snorkelling in Hanauma Bay. In the evenings we enjoyed the lively clubs, bars and ice - cream parlours. Best of all, we ate fantastic Hawaiian food while watching Hawaiian people performing traditional Polynesian dances.

This holiday was fantastic. So when you have time, get on the first plans to west coast of the United States and have the time of your life!

