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Get to Know: England

How much do you know about England's culture and history? You might have heard about kings and queens, musicians and poets, lifts and lorries, but do you really know the history behind England's impact on the world? Set off on a webquest to explore England and find out!

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Find It!

Find the answers to the questions below by using the "Search" tool to search key words. Since this activity is about England, you can start by searching the key word "England."

England has a long history of change. At one time, it was a separate country. Today it is one of the four political divisions that make up the nation called the United Kingdom (also known as the U.K. or Britain for short). Let's learn more about about England and its place in the United Kingdom.

Write the answer below the question or circle the correct multiple-choice selection.

1. Including England, what are the four political divisions in the United Kingdom?
2. Which of the political divisions in the United Kingdom are located on the island of Great Britain? (Hint: For this question you may want to use either map located within article.)
3. How much of the island of Great Britain does England cover?

a. about one-fifth	c. about three-fifths
b. about two-fifths	d. about four-fifths
4. The monarch acts as official head of state, but the person who actually leads the government is called the _____.

Bonus question: Who is serving as the current monarch of England? _____.



5. The nation's main lawmaking body is called _____.
6. What event that began in England led huge numbers of people to begin moving from the countryside to towns starting in the mid-1800's?
7. Today, most of England's population lives in urban areas. The largest metropolitan area in England, and one of the largest such areas in the world, is _____.
8. Can you speak (British) English?

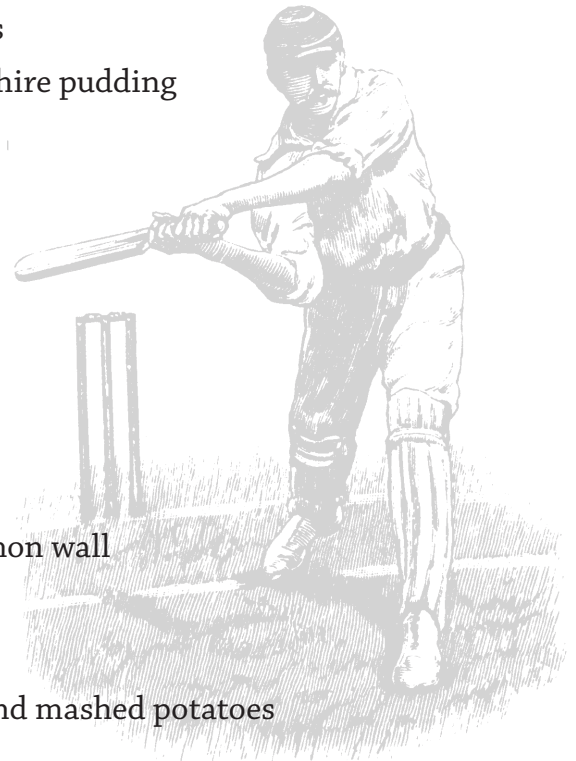
The list below contains some terms related to life and recreation in England. Write each word in the space in front of its correct definition.

biscuits	lifts	shepherd's pie
comprehensive	lorries	terraced houses
cricket	public school	trucks
football	semidetached houses	Yorkshire pudding

British English

American English

_____	elevators
_____	cookies
_____	trucks
_____	railroad freight cars
_____	two houses sharing a common wall
_____	identical houses in a row
_____	casserole of ground meat and mashed potatoes
_____	batter cake baked in meat fat, often served with beef
_____	soccer
_____	game played by two teams using bats and a ball
_____	a private school
_____	a type of high school, combining grammar, secondary- modern, and technical school education



9. What are England's most famous universities?
10. What mountain system, flanked with coal deposits, is often called the backbone of England?
11. In which geographical region can most of England's farmable land, industry, and people can be found?
 - a. the Pennines
 - b. the Southwest Peninsula
 - c. the English Lowlands

Map It!

Click on the link to “Images, Videos, and Audios” at the top of the screen in the “England” article. Use the maps labeled “England cities” and “England counties” to fill in the blanks and answer the following questions.

Use the circled letters to spell out the hidden word: .

12. The Channel separates England from France.
13. upon Tyne is a large city in northern England on the River Tyne.
14. Which major industrial city is farther south, Birmingham or Manchester?
15. Which city, Liverpool or Plymouth, is a major port on the River Mersey, near the Irish Sea?
16. London, the capital city, lies along the banks of the longest river located entirely within England,
the River .
17. The northernmost county in England is .
18. The westernmost point in England is called , .

13. _____ upon Tyne is a large city in northern England on the River Tyne.

14. Which major industrial city is farther south, Birmingham or Manchester?

15. Which city, Liverpool or Plymouth, is a major port on the River Mersey, near the Irish Sea?

16. London, the capital city, lies along the banks of the longest river located entirely within England, the River .

17. The northernmost county in England is _____.

18. The westernmost point in England is called _____, _____.

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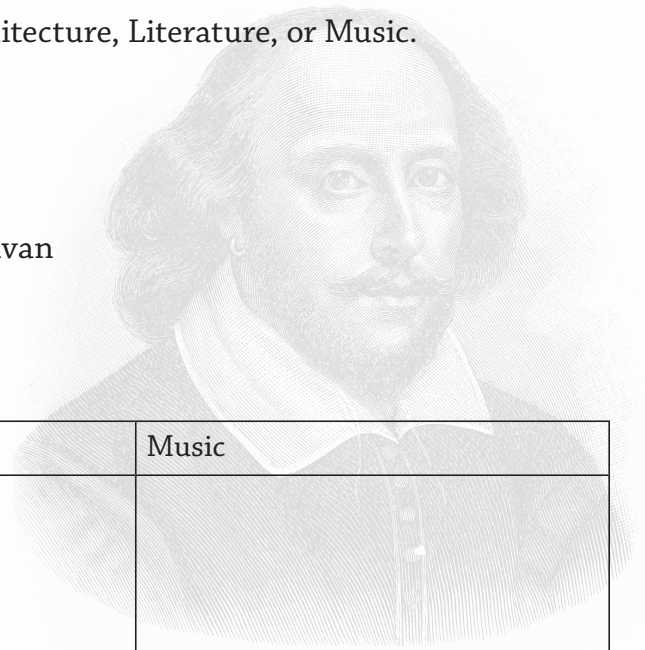
Find It!

19. Service industries employ about 85% of English workers. England's most important service industries include _____ and _____.
20. In the years following the Industrial Revolution, many of England's factories were located near coal fields. What has happened to coal output, and why did this occur?

England has been the home of many famous people in the arts. Only a few of them are listed below.

21. Place each name in the correct category: Art and Architecture, Literature, or Music.

the Beatles	Henry Purcell
Geoffrey Chaucer	the Rolling Stones
John Constable	William Shakespeare
Charles Dickens	Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan
Thomas Gainsborough	Josiah Wedgwood
Sir William S. Gilbert	Sir Christopher Wren



Art & Architecture	Literature	Music

.....

The History of England (to 1707)

(Hint: For this question, please return to the "England" article.)

22. What empire was England part of from the A.D. 40's to the 400's?
23. Roman soldiers left England in the early 400's to help defend Rome from invaders. With the Romans gone, what groups invaded England?

24. What is the meaning of the Anglo-Saxon words from which the name “England” comes?
25. During the late 800’s, what English ruler resisted attacks by Danish Viking (the Danes) invaders who had overwhelmed northern England, forcing the invaders to settle north of the River Thames?
- a. Alfred the Great
 - b. Edward the Confessor
 - c. William the Conqueror
26. What ruler of the region of Normandy in France claimed to be the promised heir to the throne after the death of a childless English king? This man conquered England in 1066.
- a. Alfred the Great
 - b. Edward the Confessor
 - c. William the Conqueror
27. A. What does the English system of law called “common law” mean?”
- B. What actions by Henry II in the 1100’s helped to establish it?
28. In 1215, a group of barons rebelled and forced King John of England to agree to a settlement known as Magna Carta. What did Magna Carta say about the power of English kings?

29. How did Edward I influence the future of:

Parliament:

Wales:

Scotland:



.....
During the late Middle Ages, England experienced two lengthy conflicts, the Hundred Years' War and the War of the Roses.

30. Pretend you are writing a history of medieval England with a chapter on each of these wars. The following names, dates, and descriptions will be in your book.

Write "100" in front of the ones that belong in the Hundred Years' War chapter.

Write "Roses" in front of the ones that belong in Wars of the Roses chapter.

_____ 1137-1453

_____ 1455-c.1485

_____ a struggle for the throne between the House (family) of Lancaster and the House of York

_____ a series of conflicts between England and France

_____ the Battle of Agincourt

_____ the Black Prince

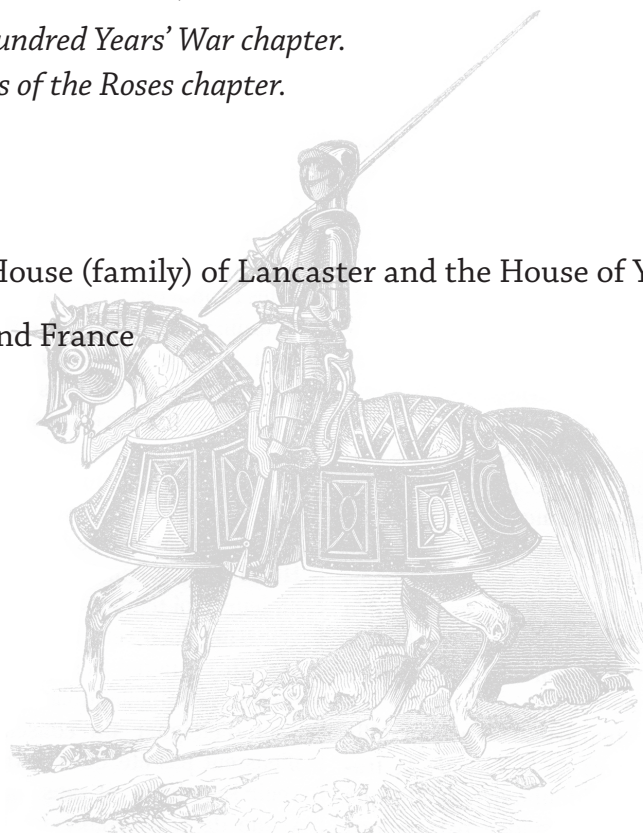
_____ the Battle of Bosworth Field

_____ Henry Tudor

_____ Henry V

_____ Joan of Arc

_____ Richard III



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For each of the next four questions, three answer choices are true. Find and circle the letter of the event that did NOT happen during each ruler's reign.

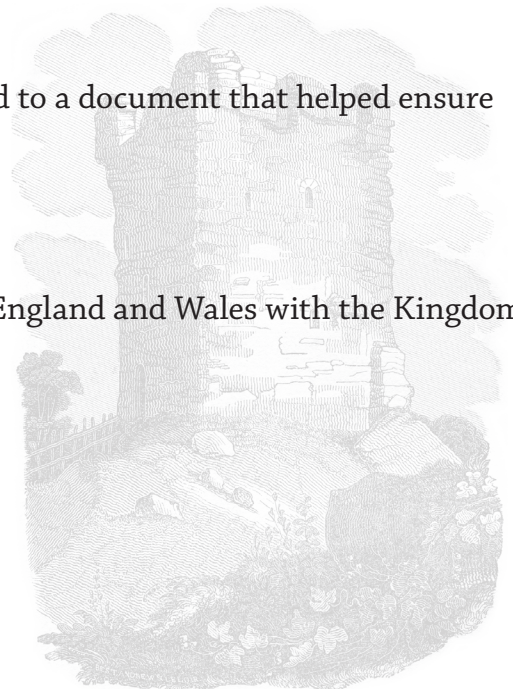
31. Henry VIII, all are true except:

- a. William Shakespeare began writing plays.
- b. The king married six times.
- c. Parliament declared the king, rather than the pope, the head of the church in England.
- d. The English Parliament joined England and Wales under one system of government.

32. Elizabeth I, all are true except:

- a. Mary, Elizabeth's half sister, had reestablished Roman Catholicism as the official church, but Elizabeth now reestablished the Church of England.
- b. Elizabeth, the queen of England, inherited the Scottish throne, so England and Scotland became two nations with the same monarch.
- c. England won a great sea battle against the Armada, an invasion fleet sent by Spain.
- d. England experienced what historians call its Golden Age.

33. James I, all are true except:
- a. James, king of Scotland, inherited the English throne, so England and Scotland became two nations with the same monarch.
 - b. Merchants formed the East India Company, a great trading company.
 - c. The king quarreled frequently with Parliament.
 - d. English colonists founded the Jamestown and Plymouth settlements in America.
34. Charles I, all are true except:
- a. Charles agreed to a Petition of Right, which limited royal power, but then the king tried to avoid calling Parliament into session.
 - b. Civil war broke out when Parliament tried to limit Charles's power.
 - c. The Scots ultimately saved Charles from the English Parliament's army.
 - d. The English Parliament set up a special court that condemned Charles to death.
35. The Commonwealth of England was a _____ led by Oliver Cromwell in the mid-1600's.
36. What did the new Parliament elected in 1660 restore?
37. In the Glorious Revolution of 1688, who did the leading politicians in England invite to become dual rulers of the kingdom?
38. The dual rulers did not receive the throne until they agreed to a document that helped ensure the people's basic civil rights. What was that document?
39. In 1707, the Act of Union formally joined the Kingdom of England and Wales with the Kingdom of Scotland to form what?



Teacher Page

Answers:

1. England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales
2. England, Scotland, and Wales
3. c. about three-fifths
4. The monarch acts as official head of state, but the person who actually leads the government is called the prime minister. Bonus: the current monarch is Queen Elizabeth II.
5. The nation's chief lawmaking body is called Parliament.
6. the Industrial Revolution
7. Today, most of England's population lives in urban areas. The largest metropolitan area in England, and one of the largest such areas in the world, is Greater London.
8. lifts: elevators
biscuits: cookies
lorries: trucks
trucks: railroad freight cars
semidetached houses: two houses sharing a common wall
terraced houses: identical houses in a row
shepherd's pie: casserole of ground meat and mashed potatoes
Yorkshire pudding: batter cake baked in meat fat, often served with beef
football: soccer
cricket: game played by two teams using bats and a ball
public school: a private school
comprehensive: a type of high school, combining grammar, secondary-modern, and technical school education
9. Cambridge University and Oxford University
10. The Pennines, also known as the Pennine Chain or the Pennine Hills
11. c. the English Lowlands

Map It!

The circled letters spell: E N G L A N D.

12. The **E** N G L I S H Channel separates England from France.
13. **N** E W C A S T L E upon Tyne is a large city in northern England on the River Tyne.
14. Which major industrial city is farther south, Birmingham or Manchester? B I R M I N **G** H A M
15. Which city, Liverpool or Plymouth, is a major port on the River Mersey, near the Irish Sea?
L I V E R P O O L
16. London, the capital city, lies along the banks of the longest river located entirely within England, the River T H **A** M E S.
17. The northernmost county in England is **N** O R T H U M B E R L A N D.
18. The westernmost point in England is called L A N D' S E N **D**.
19. Service industries employ about 85% of English workers. England's most important service industries include banking and insurance.
20. For many years, almost all of England's factories were built near coal fields, close to their source of power. Today, electricity, oil, and gas are being used more and more. As a result, many new industries have developed around London and in the southeastern section of England, where there is little coal.

21.

Art & Architecture	Literature	Music
John Constable Thomas Gainsborough Josiah Wedgwood Sir Christopher Wren	Geoffrey Chaucer Charles Dickens William Shakespeare Sir William S. Gilbert* *alternatively, may also be in "Music" column	the Beatles Sir William S. Gilbert* Henry Purcell the Rolling Stones Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan *alternatively, may also be in "Literature" column

22. the Roman Empire
23. The Picts from Scotland, the Scots from Ireland, and seafaring Germanic tribes, especially the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes.
24. The name "England" comes from the Anglo-Saxon words meaning the "Angle folk" or "land of the Angles."
25. a. Alfred the Great
26. c. William the Conqueror (The childless English king was Edward the Confessor.)

27. A. "Common law" referred to law that applied equally anywhere in England.
B. Henry II sent judges to all parts of England to administer the same laws throughout the land. The judges' decisions became the basis for the English system of common law.
28. It placed the king under English law and limited his power.
29. Parliament: Like earlier kings, Edward called meetings of leading nobles and church leaders to discuss government problems. But Edward enlarged the meetings to include knights from the shires, less important church leaders, and representatives of the towns. In 1297, Edward agreed not to collect certain taxes without getting the consent of the realm through Parliament.
- Wales: Edward I brought Wales under English control. His army conquered the Welsh in 1283 after killing their leader, the Prince of Wales, late in 1282. In 1284, Edward issued the Statute of Rhuddlan, which reorganized Welsh lands and placed them under the control of the king and English nobles. In 1301, Edward gave the title Prince of Wales to his son. Since then, nearly all male heirs to the throne have received that title.
- Scotland: Edward I tried to conquer Scotland. In 1296, he invaded the country and proclaimed himself king of Scotland. But the Scots rebelled, eventually defeating the English in 1314, during the reign of Edward I's son.
30. 100: 1137-1453
Roses: 1455-c.1485
Roses: a struggle for the throne between the House (family) of Lancaster and the House of York
100: a series of conflicts between England and France
100: the Battle of Agincourt
100: the Black Prince
Roses: the Battle of Bosworth Field
Roses: Henry Tudor
100: Henry V
100: Joan of Arc
Roses: Richard III
31. a. William Shakespeare began writing plays. (That was during the reign of Elizabeth I.)
32. b. Elizabeth, the queen of England, inherited the Scottish throne, so England and Scotland became two nations with the same monarch.
(King James VI of Scotland inherited the English throne to also become James I of England.)

33. b. Merchants formed the East India Company, a great trading company.
(This was during Elizabeth I's reign.)
34. c. The Scots ultimately saved Charles from the English Parliament's army.

(Actually, Charles surrendered to Scottish troops in 1646, but the next year, they turned him over to the English Parliament.)
35. The Commonwealth of England was a republic led by Oliver Cromwell in the mid-1600's.
36. the monarchy
37. They invited Mary, the daughter of the English king James II, and her husband, William of Orange, to become joint rulers of England.
38. the Bill of Rights
39. The Act of Union formed a "united kingdom of Great Britain."

Extension Activities 1, 2, & 3: Answers will vary.