

1. London Tour

On May 31st, 1669, the London diarist Samuel Pepys wrote his last entry and on May 26th, 1703 he died. More than 150 years later, in 1859, Big Ben (the famous bell in the tower next to the Houses of Parliament) started operating. This week's worksheet was just crying out to be about London. Enjoy the tour. There is one page to print. Click here to get your copy.

<http://www.insideout.net/warehouse/worksheets/may/IO098S-londontour.pdf>

Level

Pre-Intermediate and upwards

How to use the lesson

1. Divide the class into pairs or small groups and give one worksheet to each student in the class.
2. Ask students to work together to decide which of the statements are true and which are false. As an option, offer bonus points for groups who can correct the wrong answers.
3. When the students have finished reading the statements and have decided on their answers, check through the answers in open class, awarding a point for a correct answer (and bonus points for corrections if you've asked your students to make them). The group or pair of students with most points are the winners.

As a follow-up to the worksheet, your students may like to find out more about the places mentioned, by trying some online London quizzes or a London Webquest. If so, they may find the links below useful.

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.aboutbritain.com/>

Click on the names of London locations in the right-hand column

<http://www.onestopenglish.com/Culture/Web-Quest/webquestlon.htm>

Check out the London webquest on the best ELT site around

Here is a selection of links to London quizzes

<http://www.hatchend.harrow.sch.uk/quiz/londonquiz.html>

http://users.pandora.be/christiaan.bosmans/advanced/london_mcquiz.htm

<http://www.dulwichdynamo.homechoice.co.uk/multichoice5.html>

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Answers and commentary

1. **False.** The Romans built a bridge close to the current London Bridge in 43 AD and established a military garrison at the port of Londinium (the Celts referred to the area as Londonion and so the Romans made the name more Latin sounding).
2. **False.** Tower Bridge (which was built in the latter part of the nineteenth century) can open but London Bridge (which is only 30 years old) cannot. The last London Bridge (1825-1970) was sold to Lake Havasu City in the United States in 1970.
3. **True.** Starting in a bakery in Pudding Lane, it destroyed the London that Shakespeare had known, wiping out 87 churches (including St. Paul's Cathedral) and more than 13,000 houses, although only six people are known to have been killed. At least it ended the Great Plague which had killed 17,500 people, 20% of the population of London.
4. **True.** Work was started in 1675 and the new cathedral was completed in 1710.
5. **True.** However, the Tower has had a number of additions and adjustments throughout the centuries.
6. **False.** The guards of the Tower are called Beefeaters, or Yeoman Warders.
7. **True.** There have to be at least six ravens to ensure the future of the monarchy. Today there are seven. Their names are: Hardey, Thor, Odin, Gwyllum, Cedric, Hugine and Munin.
8. **True.** Arsenal's to the north, West Ham is to the east and Chelsea is to the south-west of the city centre.
9. **False.** The statue is that of Horatio Nelson, Lord Admiral of the Fleet, who defeated Napoleon's forces at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.
10. **True.**
11. **False.** The London Eye is a large ferris wheel which sits on the banks of the River Thames, opposite the Houses of Parliament. The London Eye opened in 2000. The London Planetarium (next door to Madame Tussaud's and part of the same company) is where you can learn all about the universe.
12. **False.** The London Underground (1860 onwards) is nicknamed the *Tube*.
13. **True.** Since 1727 this has been the official residence of the Prime Minister.
14. **True.**
15. **True.** Since 1837 this has been the official London residence of Britain's sovereigns.
16. **False.** The clock tower next to the Houses of Parliament is called St Stephen's Tower. It is the bell inside it that is named Big Ben, not the clock tower. Two months after the bell had been installed, in 1859, the bell cracked. The sound we hear today is the same cracked bell.
17. **True.**
18. **True.** St Paul's Cathedral sits in the heart of the City.
19. **False.** The River Thames flows into the North Sea. The Channel (English) or La Manche (French) is the stretch of water that divides England from France.
20. **True.** Until 1974, this was one of London's largest fruit and vegetable markets.