



SECRETARIA DE EDUCACION DISTRITAL

Colegio Nacional Nicolás Esquerri IED

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ENGLISH DAY ACTIVITIES – CICLO V

Names:

Grade: _____ Date: _____

WORK IN GROUP: Three people.

Read the text and make the exercises.

LANGUAGES

How many languages can you speak? British people are generally not very good language learners. In a recent survey, 62 per cent of the population only speak English! If you're reading this, then you're probably studying English. Maybe you speak a couple of other languages too. What are the British like when it comes to learning languages?

Statistics

Brits are famous for not speaking foreign languages. According to a survey published by the European Commission, this bad reputation is totally justified. The results of the survey state that the British are officially the worst language learners in Europe! Let's look at some statistics:

- 62 per cent of people surveyed can't speak any other language apart from English.
- 38 per cent of Britons speak at least one foreign language, 18 per cent speak two and only 6 per cent of the population speak three or more.
- The European Union average showed that 56 per cent speak at least one foreign language, 28 percent speak at least two and 11 per cent speak three or more. The survey confirmed that English was the most widely-spoken foreign language. 51 per cent of EU citizens can have a conversation in English.

School

Learning a foreign language is not a popular option at school in Britain. In UK schools it is common for children to start studying a foreign language at the age of 11 and many students give up languages completely at 14. So why don't young people continue with languages at school? Research suggests that students think that it is more difficult to get good grades in languages than in other subjects such as science or history. The British government is now looking at different ways to improve language learning at school. One idea is to start much younger; there are plans to introduce foreign languages from the age of five.

English is a West Germanic language originating in England, and the first language for most people in Australia, Canada, the Commonwealth Caribbean, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America (also commonly known as the Anglosphere). It is used extensively as a second language and as an official language throughout the world, especially in Commonwealth countries such as India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and South Africa, and in many international organizations.

Modern English is sometimes described as the global lingua franca. English is the dominant international language in communications, science, business, aviation, entertainment, radio and diplomacy. The influence of the British Empire is the primary reason for the initial spread of the language far beyond the British Isles. Following World War II, the growing economic and cultural influence of the United States has significantly accelerated the spread of the language. On an average school day approximately one billion people are learning English in one form or another.

A working knowledge of English is required in certain fields, professions, and occupations. As a result, over a billion people speak English at least at a basic level. English is one of six official languages of the United Nations.

Taken from: British Council readings and saber ingles.

Exercise:

1. The results of the survey state that the British are officially _____

2. The survey confirmed that English was _____

3. Why is the British government looking to improve language learning at school?

4. Why do you consider important to learn English? Write five reasons:

5. Write seven countries in which English is the first language:

Look at the pictures: compare Picture A with Picture B, mark out and write eight differences behind this sheet. Then create three conversations of some situations: Write seven questions and answers for each conversation.

20 Spot the differences

Picture A



Picture B

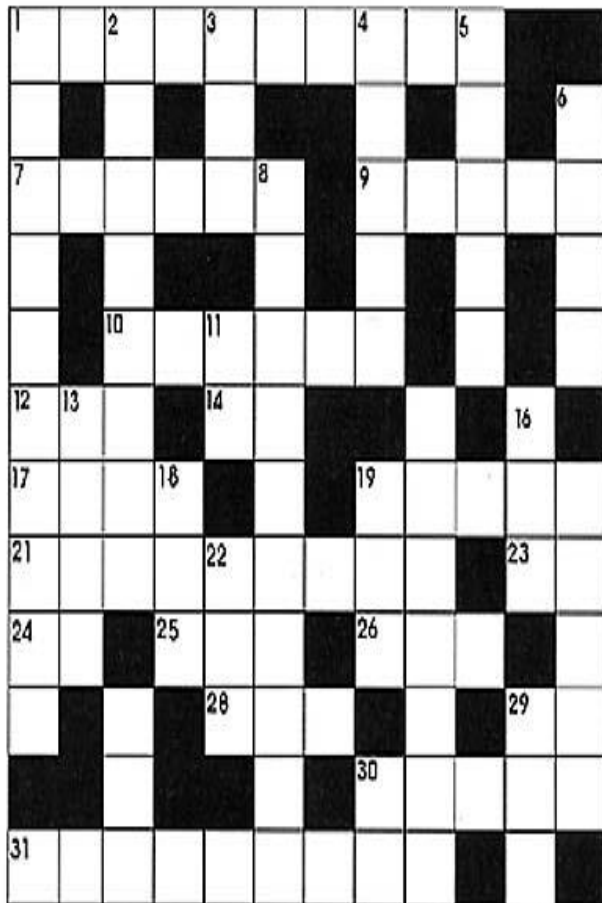


On the Road Crossword

Expand your vocabulary - a thematic Crossword for students of English as a foreign language, or English as a second language. Most of the answers to the crossword have something to do with road travel.

Vocabulary

parkinglot	liter	route	road
roundabout	go	dip	gauge
pedestrian	radar	truck	no
van	way	age	wont
caravan	danger	tar	top
indicator	ice	road	reduce
direction	cut	trunk	do
ringroad	two	row	pub
skid	on		



CLUES DOWN

1. Person on foot.
2. Road avoiding a city centre (4,4)
3. Something to be careful of in winter.
4. Metric volume of petrol used in Britain.
5. In Britain it's a lorry, in the USA it's.... 6. What you can do on 3, if you're not careful.

CLUES ACROSS

1. A car park in American English (7,3)
7. What is often designated by a red flashing light.
9. The English say "boot", but the Americans call it a
10. _____ speed when approaching a bend.
12. Number of headlamps on most cars.
14. Before moving, you must turn _____ the engine.
17. Where cars drive.
19. System used to detect speeding vehicles.
21. Flashing light that shows a car is turning.
23. A double yellow line in Britain means "____ parking".
24. You must stop ____ red lights
25. Don't go here if you're driving !
26. I'm lost. What's the _____ to London?
28. On most cars, fifth gear is called _____ gear.
30. Found on your instrument panel, e.g. for petrol.
31. The way in which one is travelling; the way to a place.

8. Intersection with circular movement of traffic.

11. Half of DOOR
13. If your battery's flat, your car _____ start.
15. Trailer for living in.
16. Between a car and a lorry.