

# ENGLISH CULTURE

England is in the southern part of Great Britain and is the largest country in the UK. The capital of England is London, which is also the capital city of the UK. It stands on the River Thames. The official language is English.



St. George's **Cross** is the national flag of England, and the red rose is the national symbol.



You can find **sausages**, **bacon**, **eggs**, **fried bread**, **beans** and **black pudding** in an English breakfast.



Many people drink several cups of tea everyday, usually with milk. Tea time is usually at 5 pm.



The most popular sports in England are football, rugby and **cricket**.



English people love music. In summer you can go to music festivals such as Glastonbury, Leeds or Reading.

International english groups and singers are the Beatles, Coldplay, One Direction, Ed Sheeran or Adele.

## Portsmouth

Portsmouth is in the south east of England. It was a very important naval port for centuries. HMS Warrior and the Spinnaker Tower are two of the Portsmouth's main attractions.



### Manchester

This city is 260 km northwest of London. It has two famous football teams: Manchester United and Manchester city.



### Liverpool

It is located in the north west of the country. Liverpool was the port of registry of the RMS Titanic, which sank in the Atlantic ocean in 1912. It's most famous as the birthplace of the Beatles.

### Cambridge and Oxford

They are the most famous university cities in England. The University and its colleges are well known for rowing competitions.



### Brighton

It is situated on the southern coast of England. In the 1800s, King George IV constructed the Royal Pavilion to be its seaside resort.



1 Write true or False.

England is in the north part of Great Britain.

false

London is the capital of England and of the UK.

True

English breakfast includes eggs, beans and fried bread, among others.

True



English people prefer to have fizzy drinks at 5 pm.

false

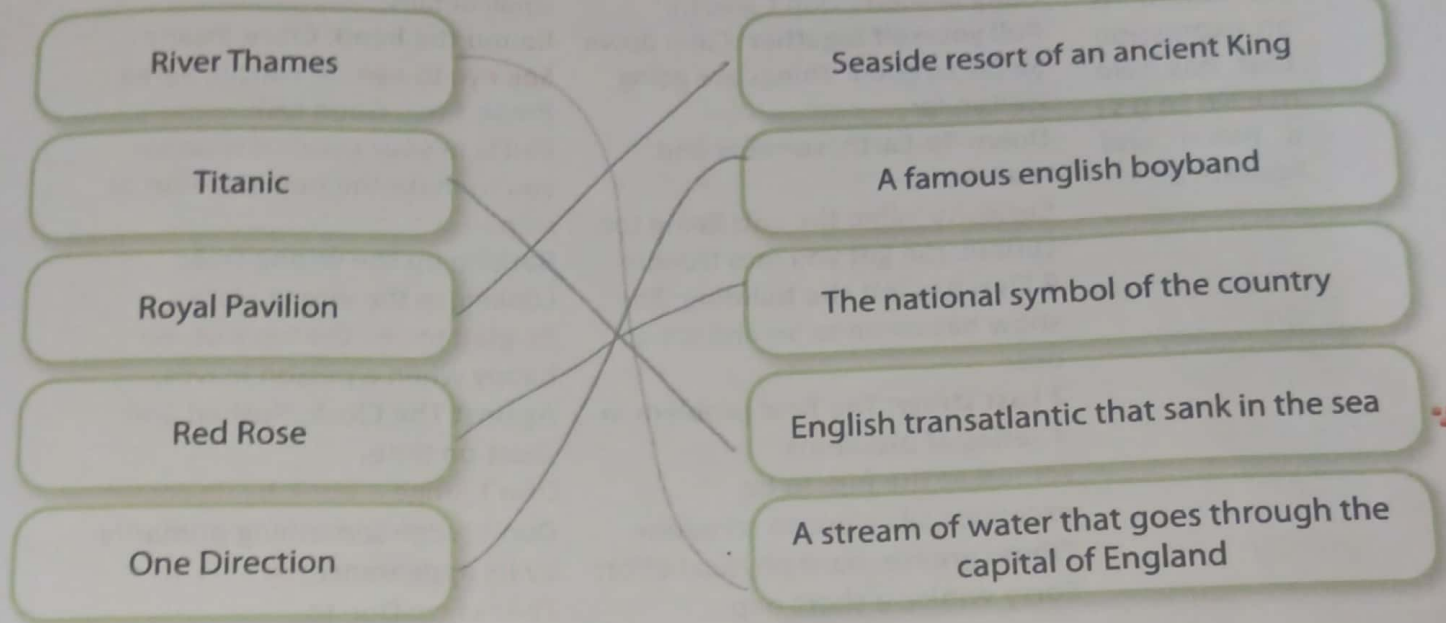
Glastonbury is one famous music group of England.

false

Rugby and cricket are not played by English people.

false

2 Match.



3 Complete the following sentences with the words given.

cross  
Leeds

teams  
tea

sausages  
tourists

English  
Spinnaker Tower

- a Leeds is the place where a famous music festival in summer take place.
- b A lot of tourists usually go to this city and enjoy their time there.
- c English people take tea with milk in the afternoon, but in there are sausages and eggs in their breakfast.
- d Manchester United is a famous football teams
- e English is the language they speak in England.
- f St. George's cross is the national flag of England.
- g You can find the attraction Spinnaker tower in the city of Portsmouth.

## IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

An idiom is an expression that has two meanings; a literal and figurative.

**Blind date:** A date where the two people have never met before

**Get along with:** To have a good relationship with someone

**Kick The Bucket:** Die

**Oddball:** a **weirdo** or a strange person

**Knee Jerk Reaction:** A quick and automatic response

**Hang in there:** Don't give up

**Pull yourself together:** Calm down

**So far so good:** Things are going well so far

**Down-To-Earth:** sensible and realistic

**Curiosity killed the cat:** Being too curious can get you into trouble

**9 Elvis has left the building:** The show has come to an end It's all over

**2 Last straw:** The final problem in a series of problems

**Joined at the hip:** to be exceptionally close to someone

**Elbow grease:** hard physical effort

**Forty winks:** a short nap

**Barrel of laugh:** someone who is very funny

**Old as the hills:** some who is very old

**In the doghouse:** To have some unhappy with you

**Up for grabs:** Available for anyone

**Split hairs:** Argue or worry about small details

**Round the bend:** Crazy, insane

**See eye to eye:** To concur, agree

**Break a leg:** Good luck

**Ball is in your court:** It is up to you to make the next decision or step

**Barking up the wrong tree:** Looking in the wrong place.

**Be glad to see the back of:** Be happy when a person leaves.

**Against The Clock:** Rushed and short on time.

**Don't judge a book by its cover:** Don't judge something primarily by its appearance.

**Thanks to:** Due to

<https://englishgrammarhere.com/>



1 Fill in the blanks with the idiomatic expressions above (don't forget to conjugate verbs if necessary):

- a As soon as Ashley saw the new puppy that her parents had bought for her birthday oddball with it.
- b Our parents taught us to Thanks to before getting dressed and brushing our teeth.
- c "I wouldn't see eye to eye the teacher taking your homework late. She never accepts late work." Bruce eventually pulled himself together the death of his wife.
- d "That party kept me awake all night last night!" Heather complained.
- e "Really? I didn't hear a thing. I was forty winks!" said Will.



- f After Leslie finished baking the cookies, the kids ate all of them against the clock
- g "Where have you been, young lady!" Mary's mom yelled at her. "You were supposed to be home an hour ago! You're in the doghouse now!"
- h The party was no longer a surprise, because one of Matt's friends blabbed about it to him the day before.
- i She wanted to go to bed early, but she was against the clock with homework.
- j "Can we dash to earth?" Erin said. "I really don't feel like talking about this right now."

**2** Match the following idiomatic expressions to their meanings:

s.th : something    s.one : someone

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. to bank on (s.th/s.one) <u>e</u>      | a. in trouble; in a difficult situation  |
| 2. dead to the world <u>f</u>            | b. very busy; overwhelmed with work  |
| 3. in hot water <u>a</u>                 | c. to tell a secret  |
| 4. to come to terms with (s.th) <u>h</u> | d. to stop talking/discussing s.th   |
| 5. drop the subject <u>d</u>             | e. to rely or depend on s.th/s.one; to expect s.th/s.one   |
| 6. to fall in love <u>i</u>              | f. sleeping deeply   |
| 7. swamped <u>b</u>                      | g. very quickly  |
| 8. in the blink of an eye <u>g</u>       | h. to slowly accept a sad situation  |
| 9. to make (s.one's) bed <u>j</u>        | i. to begin to feel attracted to s.one/s.th; to begin to love s.one                                      |
| 10. to spill the beans <u>c</u>          | j. to rearrange the covers, pillows, and blankets on a bed to the condition it was in before it was used |

**3** Write the meaning of each idiom given below

- a A picture paints a thousand words one single image can convey a story
- b Apple of my eye someone whom you cherish above all others
- c Back seat driver someone who gives unwanted advice
- d Back to the basics to return to a simpler way of doing something
- e Bad hair day a day on which everything seems to go wrong
- f Back to square one to start over his idea didn't work
- g Ball and chain something that limits one's freedom or ability to
- h Beeswax is a nickname for New York City
- i Big Apple to not interfere in someone else's affairs
- j Blind leading the blind someone who isn't sure about how to

# TENSE REVIEW



1 Fill in the blanks with a suitable form of the verb.

present simple  
present continuous

past simple  
past continuous

present perfect  
simple future

- a Andy is tired because he works (WORK) 7 days a week.
- b By 1960 most of the Britain's old colonies became (BECOME) independent.
- c David broke his leg when he was skiing (SKI) last week.
- d have you had (HAVE) a nice time in Rome during your last holiday?
- e have you finished (FINISH) your homework yet?
- f He has worked (WORK) at his computer for the last 6 hours.
- g For how long has she had (HAVE) her car?
- h How many people died (DIE) in the fire yesterday?
- i I don't know (NOT/KNOW) much about art, but I like some artists.
- j I waited (WAIT) for ages. At last, the bus arrived.
- k I received (RECEIVE) a postcard from Jane yesterday.
- l Tom and Sam will play (play) soccer next Sunday.
- m I never have been (NEVER/BE) sailing, what is it like?
- n She is riding (RIDE) her bike in the park at the moment.
- o It was raining (RAIN) when I got up.
- p Janet started (START) a new job last September.
- q Nelly is having (HAVE) a great time in N. Y. at the moment.
- r She was cooking dinner when we arrived (ARRIVE)
- a She will come back (COME BACK) from the cruise in a week.
- s My friends will be (BE) free for most of the evening.
- t The children were tired because they \_\_\_\_\_ (SWIM) all afternoon.
- v We usually spend (USUALLY/SPEND) Xmas with grandma.
- w He doesn't like (NOT/LIKE) carrots.
- x Did you visit (VISIT) Alice yesterday?
- y will Luis come (COME) to the party tonight?
- z do your mom usually pick (USUALLY/PICK) you up at sc

El mejor legado de una persona son sus buenas acciones.

Gandhi

## vocabulary

Cross: cruzar

Sausages: salchichas

cricket: cricket

birthplace: lugar de nacimiento

rowing: remo

weirdo: weirdo

meanings: significados

appearance: apariencia