

Reading Comprehension · An e-mail about London

Uly is a London teenager who loves music, sport and travelling around his city on the Underground. Yesterday he sent an e-mail telling you about his wonderful city. Would you like to read it? First we are going to read it; then we are going to do some activities on his e-mail.

An e-mail about London

To: homeschoolingstudents@gmail.com

From: uly_ulondon@yahoo.uk

Subject: my city, London

Hi you all friends,

My name is Uly and I live in London. I am 16 years old and I love sport, music, and travelling around London on the Underground. My aim with this e-mail is to tell you many interesting facts about my city. I hope you like it.

London is the capital city of the United Kingdom and one of the most important and biggest cities in the world. It is also one of the oldest. The Romans founded London almost 2000 years ago by the river Thames. They named it Londinium. Today over 8,5 million people live in London and its population is growing very fast -10 million people are expected to live in the city in the year 2030.

what to do in London

In the 18th century Samuel Johnson, a very important Englishman, said "when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life". Nowadays when we speak about London, we think of **landmarks** and famous monuments like Big Ben, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, Westminster Abbey, Saint Paul's Cathedral or Buckingham Palace.



If you like to visit museums, you can see Egyptian **mummies** at the British Museum -the oldest museum in the world-; **wax models** at Madame Tussauds; beautiful paintings at the National Gallery; modern art at Tate Modern; dinosaur skeletons at the Natural History Museum; or old buses and **carriages** at London Transport Museum.

What about shopping? London is a **paradise** for shoppers. Oxford Street and Regent Street are two of the most popular **highstreets** in the city. There, you will find the latest fashion and music. There are

also lots of street markets across London: you should not **miss** Camden or Portobello. And, of course, a holiday in London is not complete if you do not visit the famous department store Harrods, which is known even overseas.

Are you a sport fanatic? There are wonderful sport **venues** and **facilities** all around the city. You can attend Arsenal, Tottenham or Chelsea's home football matches. Rugby, athletics, golf, cricket, and **rowing** are also very fun to practise and to watch. Whether you like tennis or you don't, you will love the **atmosphere** at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in July.

When you are tired and need a **rest**, you can enjoy and relax in wonderful parks like Hyde Park, Green Park, or Regent's Park, where you should visit its famous zoo and open-air theatre.

London has got an exciting **nightlife** too. Concerts, discos and clubs where to enjoy the best of British musicians and djs. Would you rather like a film or a play? If we speak about theatres and cinemas London is one of the top cities in the world. And do not forget to take a ride on the London Eye, the tallest wheel in Europe. The views from the top are amazing!

how to move around & where to stay



Travelling around London is easy and fast. There are different means of transport that take you to all the places of interest in the city. London has got the oldest Underground **railway** in the world. In London it is called the Tube.

You can also move around London by bus or taxi, on its famous red double-decker buses and black cabs. Or why don't you enjoy a trip on a boat down the river Thames? There are fast and frequent **waterbus** services. There are also public bicycles: the greenest way to get around. Londoners and visitors alike can even take a trip across the river on London's **cable car**. And remember, you will save money if you are a student or you buy an **Oyster card**.

If you travel to London without a lot of money, bed & breakfasts are the best and cheapest places to stay. They are not as expensive as hotels and their **prices** include both room and breakfast.

Well friends, I will keep in touch. Don't forget to follow me on Instagram or Twitter. My username is @uly_ulondon on both social networks.

Take care.

Uly

A. Which of the following buildings, monuments, and places of interest are in London? Tick them:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tower Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Eiffel Tower | <input type="checkbox"/> Coliseum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Empire State Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Hyde Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckingham Palace | <input type="checkbox"/> Big Ben | <input type="checkbox"/> Louvre Museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Square | <input type="checkbox"/> Prado Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Hollywood |

B. Are the statements below true or false? If you think they are false, say why:

- The Arabs founded London. They named it Londinium.
- The British Museum is the oldest museum in the world.
- The Wimbledon Tennis Championships are held every summer in London.
- In the streets of London you can see its famous yellow cabs.

C. Tick the right answers:

- London is in the southeast of England by the river:
 - Seine
 - Rhine
 - Thames
- One of the most famous department stores in London is:
 - Marks & Spencer
 - Harrods
 - C & A
- In London the Underground is also called:
 - Tube
 - Subway
 - Metro
- London's popular double-decker buses are:
 - red
 - green
 - yellow

D. Answer the following questions on Uly's e-mail:

- When was London founded?
- What was the city's name then?
- What did Samuel Johnson mean when he said "when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life"?
- How many people are expected to live in London in the year 2030?

Trip for Free
Because vs Because of
Because + clause
The National Gallery is so famous because it houses masterpieces by many renowned artists.
Because of + noun phrase
The National Gallery is so famous because of its masterpieces by many renowned artists.

- What does London Transport Museum showcase?
- What makes Regent's Park such a special place?
- If you decide to go out at nights, what can you do in London?
- The London Eye is one of the most popular tourist attractions in London. Why do you think it is called that?
- Why do you think bed & breakfasts are so popular for tourists?

E. Look at the pictures on pages 1 and 2. Who do you think the kid in the pictures is? What do you think he is doing? Write your ideas, in full sentences, on each picture:

- ✓ Make sure you use the information within Uly's e-mail when describing the pictures.
- ✓ You can start your sentences with: We can see... / The picture shows... / I think... / There is · are...
- ✓ If possible, use some of these phrases: in the foreground · background / at the top · bottom / on the left · right / in the middle / in the top · bottom left-hand · right-hand corner.
- ✓ **1st picture**
 - Introduction:

 - Description:

Trip for Free
To be about to + V-infinitive
It's a quarter to five. Hurry up! The Museum is about to close.

- ✓ **2nd picture**
 - Introduction:

 - Description:

Now I Know... · London

A. First choose three aspects that you have learnt with the activities on London and write sentences about them:

1. Now I know the following English words and phrases:

2. Now I know...

3. Now I know...

B. Next fill in the crossword below with words from Uly's e-mail. The following clues will help you find the answers:

A c r o s s

2. There are plenty of them over the river Thames.
3. A place where people meet to buy and sell goods.
4. Opposite of cheap.
5. It helps you save money when travelling around London.
6. The way of dressing that is popular at a certain time.
7. A piece of writing performed by actors in a theatre.
8. Incredible, unbelievable.
9. A famous building or monument in a city.
10. The first meal in the day.

D o w n

-What is the hidden word? Write a clue about it-

1.

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				3	-	-	-	-	-	-			
			4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
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9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
		10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		