

Activities for classroom use

CULTURAL NOTES

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



1. Read the cultural notes for the following places, then match each place to the people you would expect to find there.

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|----------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. Broadway | → | a. congressmen |
| 2. Wall Street | | b. actors |
| 3. Whitehall | | c. justices |
| 4. Fleet Street | | d. queen |
| 5. Buckingham Palace | | e. stockbrokers |
| 6. Fraternity House | | f. peers |
| 7. House of Commons | | g. students |
| 8. House of Lords | | h. civil servants |
| 9. Capitol | | i. journalists |
| 10. Supreme Court | | j. MPs |

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



2. Read the cultural notes for the words in bold and complete the sentences correctly.

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| 1. The Amish ... | 4. The English Heritage is... |
| a. are computer geeks | a. another name for the crown jewels |
| b. do not use electrical appliances | b. a collection of folk stories |
| c. often organize rock music festivals | c. a government organization that takes care of historical buildings and sites |
| 2. When you go to a summer camp ... | 5. A traditional Thanksgiving dinner includes... |
| a. you play a lot of outdoor sports | a. fish and chips |
| b. you help farmers in the fields | b. turkey, sweet potatoes and cranberry sauce |
| c. you stay in town and go to public parks | c. fried chicken and coke |
| 3. The Bank of England is sometimes referred to as... | 6. If you cross the Mason-Dixon Line ... |
| a. the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street | a. you score a try for Dixon rugby team |
| b. the Old Lady of Threadneedle Inn | b. you cross the Potomac River |
| c. the Old Wife of Mr Scrooge | c. you go from Pennsylvania to Maryland |

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



3. With the help of the dictionary, find the 7 pairs of British and American “cultural matches”, and write what each pair refers to.

Bank of England	Stars and Stripes	The City
Ivy League	Union Jack	Wall Street
Downing Street	Congress	God save the Queen
Star-spangled Banner	Federal Reserve Bank	
Parliament	White House	Oxbridge

GB	US	They both refer to...
<i>Bank of England</i>	<i>Federal Reserve Bank</i>	<i>the central bank</i>

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



4. Use the cultural notes to find out what each group of words refers to. For each group, find the “odd man out”.

	They all refer to	Odd man out
1. Lame duck, impeachment, Oval Office, State of the Union Address, mayor	<i>the President of the United States</i>	<i>mayor</i>
2. Prep school, college, sorority, charity, public school
3. Pilgrim Fathers, Cajun, Thirteen Colonies, Plymouth, November
4. Founding Fathers, 1789, amendments, 1948, Philadelphia
5. Academy Awards, Bonfire Night, Halloween, Labour Day, Thanksgiving
6. 4 th July, fireworks, pantomime, parade, flags