



READING

1. You will read six monologs. Choose from the list A-G a sentence that describes each speaker. Use letters only once. There is an extra letter which you don't need to use.

1. I love exploring historical sites and ancient buildings when nobody else is around. That way, I have time to imagine what took place over the years, picture the people who walked the courtyards and corridors and wonder what I would have done had I stood beside them. For me, it's a link back into the past that brings history alive.

2. And in the same way do I like to look at a calendar to find out what happened today or this month in history. For longer than I can remember, October 14th stood for 1066 and the Battle of Hastings and August 22nd marked the end of the Wars of the Roses, just as May 8th commemorates the end of World War II or December 24th marks the birth of Jesus Christ.

3. My husband proposed to me under the statue of Eros in the middle of Piccadilly Circus. He had suggested a walk through the darkening streets in spite of my protests that we both needed to be up early, and finally he led me to the steps of the statue. He proposed on one knee. It was, in my view, the most perfect proposal ever. So I loved Eros and old Piccadilly. I was, in fact, not far off loving the whole of London.

4. London, after the small town in Yorkshire I left, feels vast, complex and impenetrable. I have not so far waned to it. But there is an hour when I find London lovable: the hour when the working day is over, pub windows are warm and jewel-like, streets thrum with life and the heavens turn indigo above this extremely crowded old city.

5. Before visiting London, I'd read a lot about the English, their national character, temper, customs. I'd read that transport in the capital is in a sorry state: the world's oldest tube is widely regarded as over-priced, inefficient and in need of extensive repair; above ground, Londoners are not much better off. Not a single bit of information I got, proved to be true when using buses and the tube. The traffic flow in London and surroundings is very well planned.

6. At last I got the visa at the British Embassy. Now I was to work out the plan of my future excursions and trips in order not to lose a minute of my visit. The plan included the usual sights in London the famous Roman town of Bath, and the 'place in nowhere' - Stonehenge, and at last, Kew Botanic Gardens. And all that was to be done within eight days. My friends were not sure that I could do it without a guide. All I had instead of a guide was historical knowledge of this country and its monarchy, geographical information, a very good map of London and an ability to orient myself in this city. And it proved to be quite enough.

- A. I find London attractive when it is about twilight.
- B. Sometimes I fancy that I am taking part in the momentous event in the past.
- C. I used buses at rush hour, but there were no traffic jams.
- D. I like to work out what took place on this or that day in history.
- E. I have a special place in London.
- F. Don't believe all the information you are told about the country before you visit.
- G. My friends were doubtful about my intentions.

1	2	3	4	5	6

2. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences A-G the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence which you don't need to use.

“SORRY, MY FAULT”

There are some people who just cannot admit - or even see - that they may possibly be at fault. In England, however, most people have moral courage and they have learnt the formula: “I’m sorry, it’s my fault.” They insist upon it. (1) _____ Once in North London, I saw two cars collide and smash up each other’s wings. Both drivers jumped out of their cars, shouting, “Sorry, it’s my fault!” Neither of them even looked at the smashed wings and broken lamps, but a sharp quarrel ensued as to whose fault it actually was. Each claimed absolute and exclusive responsibility for himself.

These magic words, “Sorry, it’s my fault”, are really abused.

(2) _____ He arrives at his office half an hour late. He does not tell tales about traffic jams and trains being late, even if one of these was, in fact, the sole reason for his delay. He says: “Sorry, it is my fault. I overslept.”

Of course, it is manly, decent and right to take the blame if you have committed a mistake. But many people seem to think that it is even more manly and decent if you are as innocent as a newborn lamb. (3) _____

Criticism is silenced. One cannot quarrel with a man who says it is his fault, insists upon this and proclaims it with pride.

(4) _____ Many types of religion teach us that we may do as we like and get away with it provided that on certain days or occasions we duly and sincerely repent. (5) _____ You may be a more decent chap now than you were in the past; but you cannot be a more decent man in the past than you really were. (6) _____ You may call your wife a silly cow on Tuesday and the only treasure in your lonely life on Wednesday. But you cannot explain to her on Wednesday that, when you called her a silly cow the day before, you really meant to say she was the only treasure in your lonely life. You may try, of course, but only eighty per cent of women will believe you!

In saying all this, I do not wish to hurt anybody’s religious feelings. If I have, I am very sorry. My fault.

By George Mikes

- A. The idea is this: what can people do to such a decent, straightforward, open-hearted chap who always declares that everything is his fault?
- B. I think religion is to a great extent to blame for this.
- C. Nothing that was said can be unsaid, nothing that lies been done can be undone.
- D. You must not argue and say that it was your fault, because they get very angry.
- E. Sinners find the formula, “I’m sorry, my fault”, extremely convenient.
- F. I believe that a man can improve retrospectively.
- G. It shows that you are not only a human - well, you commit mistakes - but also courageous and honest.

1	2	3	4	5	6

3. Match words and phrases from list A with words and phrases from list B that have a similar meaning.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p><i>A.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to admit 2. to be at fault (with) 3. to collide 4. to abuse 5. to get away with 6. provided that 7. to ensue 8. to repent | <p><i>B.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. to clash b. to feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one’s wrong doing or sin c. to go unpunished d. to make a bad use of (to misuse) e. to confess, to acknowledge f. on condition that g. to be wrong h. to issue, to follow |
|--|---|

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

4. Circle the correct answer to the following question:

According to George Mikes, what can be said ironically about most people in England?

- A. They cannot see that they may possibly be at fault.
- B. They can see but cannot accept that they may possibly be wrong.
- C. They usually have sharp quarrels claiming absolute innocence for themselves.
- D. They insist upon absolute and exclusive responsibility for themselves.

USE OF ENGLISH

- 5. Use the word given in capitals to form a word or a proper tense of a verb that fits in the sentence. Who was the real St. George and what did he do to become England's patron saint?**

St. George was a (1) _____ (BRAVERY) Roman soldier who protested against the Romans' torture of Christians and died for his (2) _____ (BELIEVE). The (3) _____ (POPULAR) of St. George in England stems from the time of the early Crusades when it (4) _____ (SAY) that the Normans saw him in a (5) _____ (VISIBLE) and were (6) _____ (VICTORY) in battle.

One of the best-known stories about Saint George is his fight with a dragon. But it is highly (7) _____ (LIKELY) that he ever fought a dragon, and even (8) _____ (MUCH) unlikely that he ever actually visited England. Despite this, St. George (9) _____ (KNOW) throughout the world as the dragon-slaying patron saint of England.

- 6. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each space. Use only one word in each space.**

Dover is one of (1) _____ most ancient ports – a Roman port 2,000 years (2) _____. Right above the harbour, on a cliff, stands Dover Castle called “The Key of England”.

The Key of England! Look at it, visitor, look at (3) _____ massive form, dark against the pale-blue sky. It is a key indeed, keeping watch over (4) _____ narrowest part of the Straits of Dover. Inside the thick walls of the castle you (5) _____ find another ancient building, about one thousand years older (6) _____. The Key: it is the Pharos, the first Roman lighthouse in Britain (7) _____ the Romans built to guide their ships (8) _____ the sea. For 2,000 years its light (9) _____ shone - and (10) _____ still shining – for thousands of ships (11) _____ on the Channel.

- 7. Use the word given in capitals to form a word or a proper tense of a verb that fits in the sentence.**

It is hard to convince (1) _____ (FOREIGN) that England is not always or most of the year in the grip of a thick blanket of fog. It is true that fogs are (2) _____ (FREQUENCY), but not to the extent that some believe. Nowadays English homes (3) _____ (HEAT) by gas or electricity, or have central heating, and (4) _____ (THESE) that burn coal in open fires, must use the (5) _____ (SMOKE) kind. So when there is fog, it is not made (6) _____ (THICK) by smoke,

and clears away much more (7) _____ (QUICK). Only rarely is the mist so thick that all traffic comes to a standstill. Such fogs, called “pea-soupers”, are very bad for the lungs.

8. Use the word given in capitals to form a word or a proper tense of a verb that fits in the sentence.

The river Thames (1) _____ (FREEZE) hard many times. The (2) _____ (ONE) recorded freeze was in 1150. But during the seventeenth century, Londoners regularly took part in Frost Fairs on the Thames. In December 1634, the river (3) _____ (USE) as a big market place: temporary shops (4) _____ (OPEN); people drove their (5) _____ (CARRY) across and oxen (6) _____ (ROAST) in the open air.

9. Complete the text using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

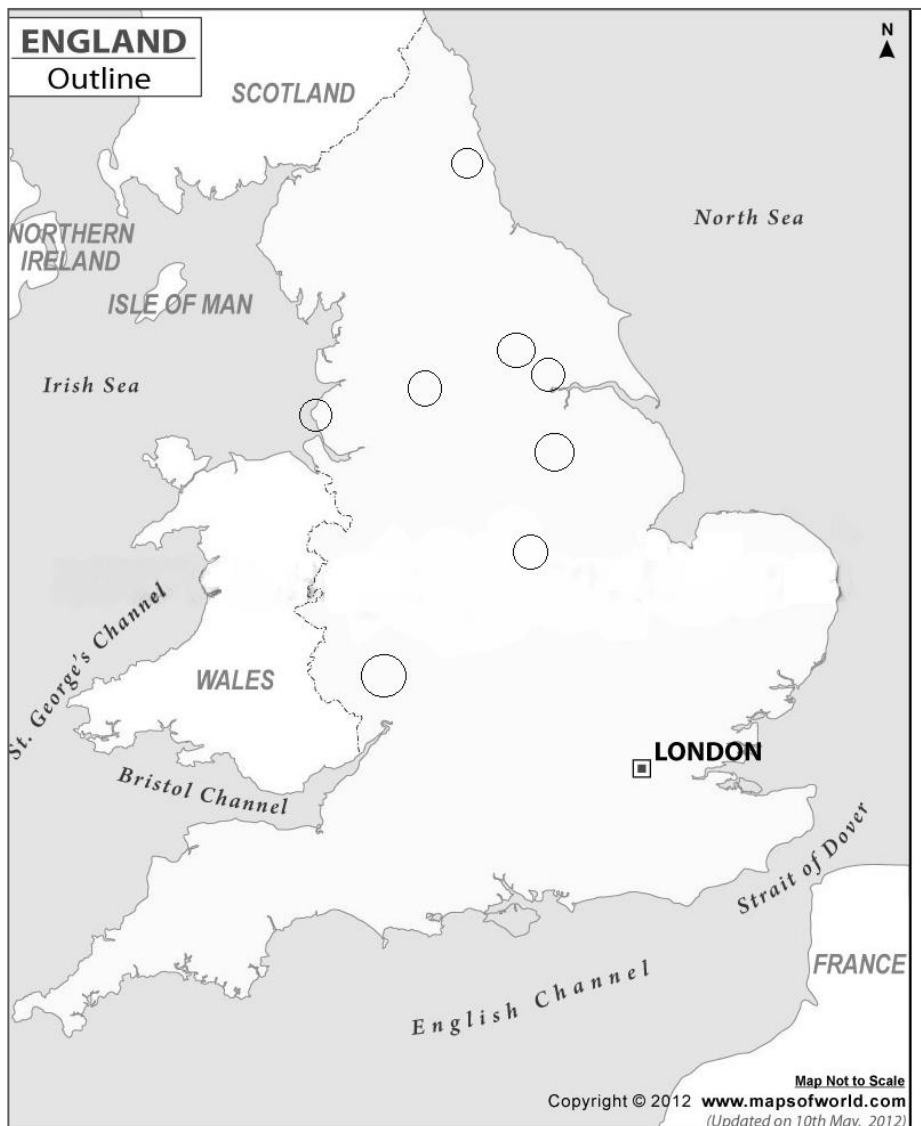
When darkness fell over the hills of Sussex on 14 October, 1066, only few people had an idea of what (1) _____ (HAPPEN). But today every schoolchild in England (2) _____ (KNOW) that on that day the famous battle of Hastings (3) _____ (TAKE) place. In this battle the last Anglo – Danish king (4) _____ (DEFEAT) by a Norman invader, Duke William. Soon after the victory, William the Conqueror (5) _____ (CROWN) as William I. The new king (6) _____ (BRING) a new law and a new language. Most of the old Anglo-Danish aristocracy (7) _____ (REPRESS). William I wanted to know all about his new country. He ordered his servants (8) _____ (COUNT) all the population of England, their houses, castles and (9) _____ (MEASURE) their land. Later on this information (10) _____ (WRITE) down in the famous Domesday Book.

ATTRACTIONS AND GEOGRAPHY.

10. Match the attractions to the city. Write the letter opposite the city name.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------|---|
| 1. Liverpool | _____ | A. Bishops' House, Weston Park Museum, The Crucible Theatre |
| 2. Birmingham | _____ | B. Henry Moore Statue, Royal Armouries Museum, Thwaite Mills Watermill Museum, Phoenix dance Theatre |
| 3. Manchester | _____ | C. Mill Volvo Tyne Theatre, Statue of Angel of the North, The King Edward VII Bridge, Benwell Nature Park |
| 4. Sheffield | _____ | D. Wool Exchange, Alhambra Theatre, Balling Hall, Lister Park |
| 5. Leeds | _____ | E. The John Rylands Library, National Football Museum, Etihad Stadium, Gorton Monastery |
| 6. Newcastle-upon-Tyne | _____ | F. Aston Hall, Cadbery World, Cannon Hill Park, Sarehalle Mill |
| 7. Bradford | _____ | G. Wollaton Hall and Park, Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, St. Mary's Church, City of Caves |
| 8. Nottingham | _____ | H. Albert Dock, The Beatles, Mertesysid Marritime Museum, William Brown Street |

11. Find the above cities in the map and put the numbers of the city. (ONLY NUMBER)



KEY:

READING

1. 1-B; 2-D; 3-E; 4-A; 5-F; 6-G.

2. 1-D; 2-A; 3-G; 4-B; 5-F; 6-C.

3. 1-e; 2-g; 3-a; 4-d; 5-c; 6-f; 7-h; 8-b.

4. D.

USE OF ENGLISH

5. 1-brave; 2-belive; 3-popularity; 4-is said; 5-vision; 6-victorious; 7-unlikely; 8-more; 9-is known.

6. 1-the; 2-old; 3-its; 4-the; 5-will; 6-than; 7-which; 8-across; 9-has; 10-is; 11-sailing.

7. 1- foreigners; 2-frequent; 3-are heated; 4-those; 5-smokeless; 6-thicker; 7-quickly.

8. 1-has frozen; 2-first; 3-was used; 4-were opened; 5-carriages; 6-were roasted.

9. 1-had happened; 2-knows; 3-took; 4-was defeated; 5-was crowned; 6-brought;

ATTRACTIONS AND GEOGRAPHY

10. 1 – H, 2 – F, 3 – E, 4 – A, 5 – B, 6 – C, 7 – D, 8 – G

11.

