

Spot on facts

COMPREHENSION 1 Create a timeline of British history with the information given. ...

LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG

1301	English King Edward I makes his Welsh-born son Prince of Wales.
1535	English King Henry III brings Ireland under English control.
1542	Wales is fully annexed by England.
1600	The East India Company is founded to import spices to Britain.
1603	Queen Elizabeth I dies without an heir; King James I becomes king of England and Scotland.
1607	The first permanent English colony is founded in Jamestown in North America.
1624	The first settlements in the Caribbean are founded; sugar plantations are set up.
1672	The Royal Africa Company is founded; posts are set up on the West African coast from which slaves are brought to the Caribbean (the triangular trade starts).
1707	Scotland becomes part of the union of Great Britain; the parliament stays in London.
1770	James Cook lands in Australia and makes it a British colony.
1776	The thirteen colonies in America declare their independence.
1781	The steam engine is invented in Britain; machines and locomotives now speed up manufacturing and transport; the Industrial Revolution takes off.
1783	The British lose the American War of Independence and the thirteen colonies.
1801	The union between Ireland and Great Britain comes into effect, the United Kingdom is born.
1857	<i>After a rebellion in India is crushed, the British government takes complete control of India. Queen Victoria becomes Empress of India, and India is now called the British Raj.</i>
1919–1921	Irish War of Independence.
1942	The welfare state is created.
1947	India becomes independent, three new states are born: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh (1971).
1973	The Irish parliament is dissolved.
1973	The UK joins the European Union.
1985	<i>Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (the 'Iron Lady') ends the miners' strike; mines in Wales and in the North of England shut down leading to mass unemployment in some regions.</i>
1993	The anti-European party UKIP is founded.
1998	<i>Wales and Scotland are granted their own lawmaking bodies, the Welsh assembly in Cardiff and the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. As part of peace talks in Northern Ireland, the Northern Ireland Assembly is set up in Belfast.</i>
2002	The euro is introduced in the EU; Great Britain retains the pound.
2008	<i>A severe global financial crisis affects London's financial sector badly.</i>
2014	<i>A Scottish referendum on independence is defeated.</i>

SPEAKING **2** a) Research one of these topics ... b) Research the most recent ... → S32LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG a) Individual answers expected. (Advanced texts are in *italics*.)

Texts	Research topics
How British do you feel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspects of Scottish history (e.g. Mary Queen of Scots, Bonnie Prince Charlie, Glencoe Massacre) The attempts to eradicate the Welsh language Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland
The British Empire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pomp and circumstance of the British Empire The British Empire and race Empire Windrush and its consequences
Britain and the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Britain and Europe during World War II Britain and the USA – A special relationship Britain and the Commonwealth
London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London's traffic problems The problem of affordable housing in London
<i>The North and the South</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The North in the heyday of the Industrial Revolution</i> <i>Mine closures and the dire consequences for the North</i> <i>Regeneration in the North</i>
<i>The Royals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Crises in the monarchy (e.g. abdication of Edward VIII, 'annus horribilis', death of Princess Diana)</i> <i>Queen Elizabeth II – An example of untiring public service?</i>
<i>Welfare recipients</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The creation of the British welfare state</i> <i>Margaret Thatcher and the consequences for the welfare state</i>
<i>Growing up in Hackney</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Gangs in London</i> <i>The growing gap between rich and poor in London</i> <i>London riots 2011</i>
<i>City Boy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The global financial crisis starting in 2007: consequences for London</i>

b) 2014: greater autonomy for large cities, i.e. London; English votes for English laws; more autonomy for the other parts of the UK besides Scotland etc.

Spot on language

1 In newspaper articles journalists frequently report what other people ...

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG
- Jahmal said he had been trying to get a job for over two years.
 - A black youth said that if you went through proper channels, people didn't really listen to you.
 - A parent said that even university graduates might not get a job in the end.
 - A youth worker said there had to be more opportunities for kids.
 - A school leaver said he wanted to get a job abroad so he wouldn't be staying in the UK when he left uni.
 - The opposition spokeswoman said they would be asking a question on that in Parliament in two days.
 - A teacher told him not to give up and to try to work that little bit harder.

2 If as a writer you don't want to name your source or if the witness or ...

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG
- They are rumoured to have booked their tickets online during study session.
 - They are said to have been fed up with the awful weather.

3. They are presumed to have boarded the early morning flight to the Dominican Republic.
4. They are believed to have been very excited when they checked into their suite on the top floor.
5. They are reported to have had a romantic dinner by the beach.
6. They are expected to continue their schooling elsewhere.

3 In order to appear objective it may be important to make use of adverbs ...

LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG London is **relatively** huge and houses or apartments in the city are **somewhat** expensive. The city needs to reform its public transport system **to some extent**. The congestion, the noise, the crime – Londoners have to pay a **comparatively** high price for living in the capital. Some economists are **a bit** concerned for the prosperity of other parts of Britain. In a **partially** competitive global economy British politicians cannot neglect the provinces.

4 Participle constructions are very common in German newspapers and ...

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG**
1. A study published by the university of Leeds in May ...
 2. The main suspect arrested a year ago ...
 3. A part of East London marked by violence and crime ...
 4. A measure severely criticised by the Opposition ...

5 Your class has an email project with a British school on ... → S26.1

LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG Aspects to consider	Model
beginning of email	Hi (name of partner)
British partner's question	You wanted to know whether Germans would like to have a king or queen too.
answer to the question above: one sentence addressed to a British partner	Since I don't really know what Germans as a whole think about that question, I did some research and came across an interesting article. The journalist claimed that Germans really love the Royals for several reasons:
mediation of newspaper article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Queen serves as a national symbol of identity. Germans might have local symbols (e.g. Cologne Cathedral), but they don't have a similar institution that unites us nationally. • Germans love fairy tales, and most of the stories about the Royal Family are like fairy tales. • Germans admire the Royals and the British aristocracy for their style, their privileges, their manners or mannerisms and their self-discipline. The journalist claims that our own aristocracy is no real match. • Germans love the pomp and ritual surrounding Royal weddings and Royal funerals, the carriages, the soldiers, the uniforms, the kilts. We have traditional celebrations (at Carnival and during Oktoberfest), but they lack the grandeur of Royal celebrations. • Germans love the romance surrounding Kate and William's relationship, even if they are well aware that it comes at a high price (e.g. constant media attention).
personal opinion	My own opinion is that there is a great deal of interest in the Royals, but that we have lived in a democracy for so many years now that we wouldn't really want a king or queen any more.
conclusion of email	I hope this answers your question. If there is anything else you would like to know, please ask. Yours (your name)

Spot on vocabulary

1 Use synonyms from the word-field 'say' to summarise what somebody ...

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG**
1. declare/admit, state/mention
 2. argues/asserts, stresses/specifies
 3. observes/hints, complains/points out
 4. claim/emphasise, argue/maintain

2 Rewrite the following sentences by using the verbs below.

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG** (Solutions in bold face.)
1. The black teenager **denied** having thrown stones at the police.
 2. A Welshman said the government in London **disregarded** their interests in Wales.
 3. At first the BBC **declined** to move departments out of London.
 4. One Scottish lady **rejected** the move for independence.
 5. In recent years the European Union has **come under attack** in Britain.

3 a) Study the vocab sheet 'Spot on ... b) Use the following expressions ...

- LÖSUNGSVORSCHLAG**
- a) Britain **underwent** major changes after the Empire went into **decline**. Due to its close **ties** with its former colonies, it introduced **measures** to attract immigrants. They were **granted** the same rights as Britons, including **welfare** and other social **benefits**. This, however, **provoked** resistance and **fuelled** heated debates among politicians. The **influx** of immigrants was **perceived** as very negative by parts of British society.
- b) Both the capital and the seat of government of the United Kingdom are in London, which is part of England. A lot of government departments and government agencies are there too. In recent years Scotland and Wales have been granted their own assemblies, but not complete sovereignty, a development called devolution. In Ireland there has long been a movement for home rule.

4 Study the vocab sheets again and correct the eight mistakes in the ...

- LÖSUNG** The Prime Minister said that he was **committ**ed to the EU and that European history and British history were **insepar**able. He was also concerned because he felt **prosperity** was **at** stake for all of Europe. The European Union for him was a **means** to an end, not an end **in** itself. In his opinion the British had always had an independent frame of **mind**, so it was no wonder that the majority drifted **towards** exit.