

TRANSCRIPTS

(Spot Dictation and Questions)

Unit 1 Table Tennis

Spot Dictation >>

The first games of table tennis were played by British soldiers in about 1880. It wasn't until fifty years later, however, that the game was played with the kind of paddle and balls that we use today. The first World Table Tennis Championship was not held until 1927 in London.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Who was the first British man to name table tennis "ping pong?"
2. When was the first World Table Tennis Championship?
3. What did soldiers use as a net in the late nineteenth century?
4. When did Asians start winning ping pong championships?
5. What US company sold an indoor table tennis kit?

Unit 2 The Hamburger

Spot Dictation >>

Hamburgers are made from ground meat and onions. They do not contain ham. Healthy hamburgers are made from lean ground meat shaped into patties. The patties are then grilled and often eaten with fresh toppings inside wholegrain buns.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What kind of meat is used in a hamburger?
2. What is mixed with the meat in a hamburger?

3. How is a hamburger cooked?
4. How do different people like their meat cooked?
5. What is unhealthy to eat?

Unit 3 The United Kingdom

Spot Dictation >>

Another name for the United Kingdom is Great Britain. The people who are from there are English, Scottish, Welsh and some are Irish. Almost everyone speaks English, but some people also speak their own language. The United Kingdom has a king or a queen, or sometimes both. It is also divided into counties.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What is another name for Great Britain?
2. What are the main parts of the United Kingdom?
3. What do most people speak in the United Kingdom?
4. What is the United Kingdom divided into?
5. What kind of place is the United Kingdom?

Unit 4 Charles Dickens

Spot Dictation >>

Charles Dickens was born in England in the early nineteenth century. He came from a poor family and never forgot his childhood. He wrote many wonderful books that people still read today. They are full of

interesting people. He described life as it was for both rich and poor people in England during his lifetime.

Questions to Answers >>

1. In which century was Dickens born?
2. What kind of family did Dickens come from?
3. What are his books full of?
4. Where do Dickens's stories take place?
5. What kind of people did Dickens write about?

Unit 5 The Bicycle

Spot Dictation >>

The first bicycle did not have a front wheel that could be steered. It also did not have pedals or gears. The front wheel was larger than the rear wheel. The modern bicycle was not really invented until toward the end of the nineteenth century.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Where do many people still ride bicycles?
2. In which country was Kirkpatrick Macmillan from?
3. Why do we remember Karl von Drais?
4. In what way are the wheels of modern bicycles different from those of the early bicycles?
5. In what way is a bicycle made for women different from other bicycles?

Unit 6 Chocolate

Spot Dictation >>

The first European to taste chocolate was the Spanish general, Cortez, who took the cocoa bean back to Europe, where it soon became a popular drink. Chocolate is now

known worldwide as a popular ingredient in cakes, candy, puddings, and also as a drink.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Who was the first European to taste chocolate?
2. What kind of tree is the cocoa tree?
3. What was Montezuma?
4. What is sometimes used as an ingredient in cakes and puddings?
5. What nationality was Cortez?

Unit 7 Elvis Presley

Spot Dictation >>

Elvis Presley was one of the most popular singers of all time. His music is still widely played all over the world. Some people do not believe that he died in 1977. There are also people who like his style of singing so much that they impersonate him.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Who was one of the most popular singers of all time?
2. What do some people not believe?
3. When did Elvis die?
4. What do some of Elvis's fans do?
5. How do we know Elvis is still very popular?

Unit 8 Dreams

Spot Dictation >>

Everyone has dreams even though we may or may not remember them. Some of our dreams are nightmares and can be very frightening. There are books about the interpretation of dreams, but the meaning of every dream is probably special to the life of the person who dreams it.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What have people written books about?
2. What kind of dreams are frightening?
3. Do most people remember all their dreams?
4. In what way are our dreams special to us?
5. What did Freud think about dreams?

Unit 9 Healthy Eating

Spot Dictation >>

Traditional Japanese diets, which are low in fat, sugar, and salt, are much healthier than many American diets. A healthy diet is high in fiber and contains plenty of fish, fresh fruit, and vegetables.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Why is a traditional Japanese diet healthy?
2. What is wrong with some American diets?
3. What are some dairy foods?
4. What is a typical snack food?
5. Why are some young people overweight?

Unit 10 Endangered Species

Spot Dictation >>

Many mammals, birds, fish, and insects are endangered because of human and natural activities. We have either hunted them almost to extinction or destroyed their habitats with our cities and towns. Some species are also dying out because of climate changes or because of disease.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What is an endangered species?
2. What is a species' habitat?
3. Why are some species hunted?

4. What are four species that are endangered?
5. Will many species one day disappear?

Unit 11 Traveling

Spot Dictation >>

It is difficult for travelers to find places that are not the same. At one time, every major city had its own character, but nowadays most big cities look the same. Even the people who live in these cities look very similar because they wear the same kinds of clothes.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What is hard to find nowadays?
2. What did every major city have at one time?
3. Why do most people now look the same?
4. What are the names of a restaurant and a hotel chain?
5. Do people still wear traditional clothing?

Unit 12 London

Spot Dictation >>

The capital of the United Kingdom is London, which is really many cities joined together. London is especially important as it is the financial center of Great Britain, the home of the royal family, and the location of the Houses of Parliament. The first underground railway was built in London and nicknamed "the tube."

Questions to Answers >>

1. Is London one city or more than one?
2. Where are some famous people buried?
3. Where do people come from to visit London?

4. What is another name for the United Kingdom?
5. What is an important bridge in London?

Unit 13 Tobacco

Spot Dictation >>

Since tobacco was brought into Europe in the fifteenth century, it has become a very popular plant. Tobacco has a long history of being used for different things. People all over the world have smoked, chewed, and sniffed it. However, because it can cause illness, fewer people use tobacco now than in the past.

Questions to Answers >>

1. When was tobacco brought to Europe?
2. How have people used tobacco?
3. What are many people addicted to?
4. What can tobacco use cause?
5. Why do fewer people use tobacco now than in the past?

Unit 14 The Olympic Games

Spot Dictation >>

The Olympic Games have been around for thousands of years. They were first held in Greece but are now held every four years in a different country. At one time, only Greek men could take part, but now male and female athletes from many countries take part.

Questions to Answers >>

1. Where were the Olympic Games first held?
2. How long have the Olympic Games been around for?

3. How often are the Olympic Games now held?
4. What kind of Olympic Games are there?
5. Where do the athletes come from who take part in the Olympic Games?

Unit 15 Abalone

Spot Dictation >>

When it is properly prepared, abalone is delicious. Because the demand for abalone is greater than the supply, it is very expensive. The most famous abalone chef is Yeung Koon Yat. He has become very wealthy from preparing and selling it in his restaurants.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What is abalone?
2. Where does abalone come from?
3. What is Yeung Koon Yat famous for?
4. Why is abalone not easy to find?
5. What has Yeung Koon Yat won?

Unit 16 The Loch Ness Monster

Spot Dictation >>

Many people believe that there is a large, prehistoric monster living in Loch Ness in Scotland. Thousands of people visit the lake every year, and many say that they have seen the monster swimming there. However, no one has been able to catch it or take a good photograph of it. Therefore, no one really knows if it actually exists.

Questions to Answers >>

1. When was the monster seen for the first time?
2. What do some people say the monster is like?

3. What have some scientists used to find the monster?
4. Why is the monster important to the town of Inverness?
5. Why is the monster still a mystery?

Unit 17 The Guitar

Spot Dictation >>

Although the guitar is a very old instrument, it has not always been as widely used in popular music as it is nowadays. Even though there are similar instruments, such as the lute and the sitar, the guitar is more widely known today due to the different forms of musical styles it accompanies.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What are some types of music?
2. When did the Beatles and similar groups make the guitar popular?
3. What is another plucked string instrument from India?
4. Does the guitar make a harsh sound?
5. What was a popular English and European instrument?

Unit 18 Queen Mary 2

Spot Dictation >>

The QM2 is about seventy-two meters high and 345 meters long. She weighs approximately 150,000 tons. Her top speed is around thirty knots, which is about fifty kilometers an hour. The QM2 is the largest and most expensive ocean liner ever built. It is also known as a cruise ship, which takes passengers on luxury transatlantic holidays.

Questions to Answers >>

1. When did the QM2 first sail from Southampton?
2. How high is the QM2?
3. The QM2 took over for which ship?
4. How fast can the QM2 go?
5. What is the QM2 like?

Unit 19 Computer Viruses

Spot Dictation >>

A computer virus is something that spreads quickly from one computer to another. It can spread by email or the Internet. It can cause problems for the computer, such as destroying important data or threatening the normal operation of a computer program.

Questions to Answers >>

1. What can a virus cause?
2. What can fight computer viruses?
3. Who designs computer viruses?
4. How can a computer virus spread?
5. What kind of disease can a computer virus cause?

Unit 20 Madame Tussaud's

Spot Dictation >>

Madame Tussaud's is the name of a very famous waxworks museum in London, England. The museum was first opened in Paris in 1770 by Dr. Curtius, who made models of people out of wax. Madame Tussaud knew him because when she was a girl, her mother was his housekeeper.

Questions to Answers >>

1. When was Madame Tussaud born?
2. When did Marie and her mother move to Paris?
3. When did Marie inherit the waxworks museum?
4. When did Madame Tussaud travel around Britain?
5. When did Madame Tussaud die?