

Cool Britannia

10 Famous Men and Women

Ex.1 Vocabulary

In groups of 3 discuss the meaning of the words below. Try to guess how these words or phrases can be related to famous people in Great Britain.

- literature
- struggle
- all rounder
- hilarious
- memorable
- quote
- fame
- to put money into something
- to get involved
- to release (a song)
- to sow the seeds (of doubt)
- violent
- reign
- (religious) turmoil
- suffragette movement
- eventually
- to pave the way
- burning ambition
- to deserve
- to be awarded
- MBE (*Member of the Order of the British Empire*)
- to reject
- a publisher

Ex.2 Reading

Read the texts and try to guess who the texts are talking about.

PHOTOCOPIABLE

Opracowanie: Magdalena Fijałkowska, Amelia Anson

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5 FAMOUS MEN

- 1) _____ Without a shadow of a doubt one of the most famous men from England's history, and has made literature what it is today! Also hated by 14 year olds across the country, as they all must struggle through his texts for their exams!
- 2) _____, what a guy! He was hardworking, led Britain through WW2, and was a general all rounder - the only British Prime Minister to win a Nobel Prize for Literature. A lot of modern day politicians could learn a lesson! Moreover, he was meant to be hilarious, and has a few memorable quotes. Definitely on my "If I could invite anyone to a dinner party" list!
- 3) _____ He may be a footballer that gets paid too much, but he's worked hard to make the English get back into sport! When I was younger, it was hard to get involved in sports, especially being a girl (though I did manage to be the only girl on the football team!), but David Beckham has used his fame to try make others, and the government, put money back into sport.
- 4) _____ He was a member of the Beatles, one of the greatest music bands of all time! Everyone in England knows every single song they released, and they make everyone happy all the time!
- 5) _____ A scientist who created the theory of evolution, changing the thoughts of the people and sowing the seed of doubt about religion. This began debates about science versus religion.

5 FAMOUS WOMEN

- 1) _____ - after the bloody violent reign of Henry VIII and Mary I, came Queen Elizabeth, bringing peace and stability to a country that was in religious turmoil. A great feminist image before her time;- she even lead the Spanish Armada to victory!
- 2) _____ started the suffragette movement in Britain, which eventually paved the way for women getting the vote in Britain. Yet again, a great feminist and role model, whose goals were reached through her burning ambition!
- 3) _____, you either love her or you hate her! But as Britain's first female Prime Minister, she definitely deserves a place on this list!
- 4) _____ is a female runner from England, and has been awarded an MBE, as well as reaching the world record time for the London Marathon.
- 5) _____ is, famously, the author of the Harry Potter books. Her first book was rejected by many publishers.

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Teacher's Notes

Follow the exercises.

The answers are:

1. William Shakespeare
2. Winston Churchill
3. David Beckham
4. John Lennon
5. Charles Darwin
1. Queen Elizabeth
2. Emmeline Pankhurst
3. Margaret Thatcher
4. Paula Radcliffe
5. J.K. Rowling

For homework you may ask students to write a short text about a famous Polish man or woman. In the next lesson students can read their texts to the others without giving away who it is, and the other students will have to guess.

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