Modern Britain

Pre-session webquest

Language

How many languages are spoken in London every day?

What are the top three languages spoken in Britain after English?

Find three English words that have come from other languages and write them below. Write the language they come from next to it.

Politics

What was Brexit?

Find and read one article that says Brexit was a good idea and one that says it was a bad idea. Write two arguments for it and two arguments against it below.

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What do you think? Was Brexit a good idea or a bad idea? Give reasons for your answer.

Culture

Music: Google "UK Singles Chart" and look at the top ten songs. Find one by a British artist (it's best if you don't already know them) and listen to the song. Write the name of the song and who it's by. Do you like it? Why/not?

Cinema: Google "British Films 2016". Choose one and watch the trailer on Youtube. Do you think you would like to see this film? Why/not?

Sport: Google "British Sports" and read about at least three. Which would you most like to play? Which would you least like to play? Why?

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Post-session comprehension

The Monarchy

Give two reasons **for** keeping the royal family and two reasons **against** it.

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What is your opinion? Should Britain keep the royal family? Why/not?

Scotland

If you were Scottish, would you want to stay in the UK or become an independent country? Why/not?

Multicultural Britain

Name three contributions that foreign-born people have made to Britain. Which do you think is the most important contribution? Why?

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Culture

What is "grime"? What is the closest thing to grime in your country? Do you like it? Why/not?

Do you know any British celebrities? Who is your favourite? What do you like about them?

What did Leicester City football team do in 2016? Why was this so amazing?

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Reading comprehension (higher)

Read the article below and answer the questions.

This weekend, there is a sporting event taking place in London that thousands of people will be watching, although you might not guess which kind of sport it is!
It's not a football match, it's not a tennis tournament... No, this weekend, finals are taking place of the UK's main eSports competition. But what are eSports and why have they become such a big deal?

"eSports" is the short name for electronic sports. Just like football players play football, eSports players play computer games against each other - just like you might do in your bedroom with your friends. The difference between you playing video games with your mates and these competitive eSports players is that many fans all over the world usually watch them play, and they might even get paid for doing it.

People playing computer games against each other is nothing new - gamers have been doing this for over 30 years. Around the year 2000, computers became cheaper and the internet became faster, which made it much easier for more people to get involved with computer gaming.
It also became easier to connect with gamers around the world, so people could play against each other - and watch others. Now, players have become so skilled - and gained so many millions of fans - that computer gaming has become organised, competitive and professional.

Not everyone agrees that computer gaming should be considered to be a sport. Some people think that sport should involve being more physically active. But others think that although it may not be as physically athletic as tennis or rugby, the skill involved means it can be considered a sport.

Playing computer games for your job might sound like a dream come true - and to many people it will be! But don't be fooled, the best eSports players have to put in a lot of hard work and training. Some players might train for up to 14 hours a day to make sure they have extremely quick reflexes and reactions.

There is no doubt that eSports are on the rise. "Traditional" sports clubs, like Premier League football teams, are starting to buy eSports players to represent them in competitions. As technology improves, eSports will continue to grow. Could it be bigger than football one day? Only time will tell.

1. What are two differences between playing eSports and playing games at home?

2. What was the effect of increased internet speed on competitive gaming?

3. Why do some people not consider eSports to be true sports?

4. What are two qualities that make a good eSport player?

Discussion question:

5. Talk with a partner. Do you think eSports count as "real" sports? Why/not?

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Reading comprehension (lower)

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