

## Scotland

### Pre-session webquest

#### People

Who were... William Wallace?

Robert Burns?

Kirkpatrick Macmillan?

#### What are...

Highland dress?

The Stone of Scone?

Hadrian's Wall?

#### Independence

Find two articles, one for and one against Scottish independence. What are the three main points of each?

For

- 
- 
- 

Against

- 
- 
- 

What do you think? Should Scotland become independent from the UK?

## Scotland

### Post-session comprehension

#### Traditional Dress

Label the parts of Scottish dress:

- Sgian-dubh
- Ghillie Brogues
- Sporrin
- Tartan Kilt



#### Highland Games

As well as the “heavy events”, name two other parts of the Highland Games

- 
- 

What is the aim of the “caber toss”?

- To throw the stick as high as possible
- To make the stick land at “12 o’clock”
- To make the stick turn 360 degrees

#### Cuisine

What type of food should you read a poem to on Burns’ Night?

- Haggis
- Irn Bru
- Neeps and Tatties

#### Inventions

Which of these was not a Scottish invention?

- Television
- The lightbulb
- The telephone
- Antibiotics

## Scotland

### Reading comprehension (higher)

#### Read the article below and answer the questions.

He's always the first to arrive in the morning – and the last to leave.

He's always picked to answer the teacher's questions and he's always – without fail – top of the class.

Aron Anderson is the only pupil at Skerries Community School, on the tiny Scottish island of Out Skerries. During the school day he has two classrooms, a craft room, music room and a library all to himself. And at break, he has the entire playground with its slides, swings and basketball court. One problem, of course, is that although he loves football, there are no other pupils for him to play with.

Last week Aron told us that, although sometimes he wished there were more children nearby, he had plenty to keep him busy and definitely wouldn't want to leave the island. He said: 'It is quite weird sometimes – not having anyone else at school. But I like this island. I can ride around and explore on my bike; in summer I can swim in the sea and jump off the pier.'

Until the beginning of the new school year there were other pupils at the primary, and Aron's mother Denise is concerned that he may become lonely. She says: 'This is going to be his first winter as the only pupil so it's hard to tell how it will be for him. I do feel sorry for Aron being all by himself at school – but he really is happy. Spending a lot of time with adults has made him quite grown-up, but he does enjoy trips to the mainland to meet other children.'

The island of Out Skerries, which has a population of 70 and covers only two square miles, is one of the most eastern of the Shetland Isles. The nearest town is the Shetland capital of Lerwick, which is two-and-a-half hours away by ferry. The island is 805 miles north of London and 386 miles north of Edinburgh.

All the older pupils who were at the school now go to highschool on the mainland, meaning they only return home for holidays and weekends – if the weather is good enough.

A typical day begins with a two-minute cycle ride from home to the school, a single-storey modern building on top of a hill that, like most things on Out Skerries, overlooks the sea. There is no register, but at the school gates he is welcomed by his teacher, Jean Harlow. In class he learns maths, English, science, cookery and crafts. Without any other classmates, PE lessons are a non-starter. Instead, Aron and his teacher go for a mile-long walk every day – picking up interesting objects as they go. On one occasion, Mrs Harlow made Aron his very own obstacle course in the school playground – which she joined in with to keep him company. Aron almost never gets into trouble at school – although he said: 'I sometimes get told off for daydreaming.'

In recent years the island has seen the closure of its secondary school and salmon farm – prompting many families to leave.

Mum Denise said: ‘I just wish we could go back ten years. There were lots of children – and the older children used to help the younger ones at school. It would be lovely to have some more families here. And if any did decide to come, there is already a ten-year-old here for their children to play with.’

1. Was Aron always the only pupil at his school?
2. What are the differences between Aron’s school and yours?
3. How does Aron feel about his situation?
4. Would you like to be the only pupil at your school? What do you think would be better or worse than it is now?



## Scotland

### Reading comprehension (lower)

**Read the article below and answer the questions.**

He's always the first to arrive in the morning – and the last to leave.

The teacher always chooses him to answer questions and he's the best in his school.

Aron Anderson is the only pupil at Skerries Community School, on the tiny Scottish island of Out Skerries. He has the entire playground to himself, with its slides, swings and basketball court. But one problem is that although he loves football, there are no other pupils to play with.

Last week Aron said that, although sometimes he wishes there were more children, he has a lot to do and definitely wouldn't want to leave the island. He said: ‘It is quite strange sometimes – not having anyone else at school. But I like this island. I can ride and explore on my bike and in summer I can swim in the sea.

Until this year there were other pupils at the school, and Aron's mother Denise is worried that he might become lonely. She says: ‘This is his first winter as the only pupil so it's hard to know what it will be like. I do feel bad for Aron – but he really is happy. He spends a lot of time with adults, but he also enjoys trips to the mainland to meet other children.’

The island, which has 70 people and is two miles big, is one of the Shetland Isles. The nearest town is the Shetland capital of Lerwick, which is two-and-a-half hours away by boat. The island is 805 miles north of London and 386 miles north of Edinburgh.

All the older pupils who were at the school now go to highschool in Lerwick, meaning they only come home for holidays and weekends – if the weather is good enough.

A typical day begins with a two-minute bicycle ride from home to the school, a small, modern building on top of a hill next to the sea. At the school gates he is welcomed by his teacher, Jean Harlow. In class he learns maths, English, science, cookery and art. Aron doesn't have PE lessons. Instead, he and his teacher go for a long walk every day – picking up interesting objects as they go. Once, Mrs Harlow made Aron his very own obstacle course in the school playground – which she joined in with to keep him company.

Aron rarely gets into trouble at school – although he said: ‘I sometimes get told off for daydreaming.’

1. Was Aron always the only pupil at his school?
2. What are the differences between Aron's school and yours?
3. How does Aron feel about his situation?
4. Would you like to be the only pupil at your school? What do you think would be better or worse than it is now?