

Mid-term examination

Module: British & American culture and Society

Duration: 90 minutes

A. British Culture

I. Read through the questions, and decide which you think is correct. There is only one correct answer for each question: (10 points)

1. Which exam do school students in England and Wales take at the age of 16?
 - a. Bachelor of Arts
 - b. GCSE
 - c. AS levels
 - d. SAT
2. Which of the below is NOT usually a type of fee-paying school?
 - a. State School
 - b. Private School
 - c. Public School
 - d. Boarding School
3. Who or what in the United Kingdom is said to “reign but not rule?”
 - a. The Prime Minister
 - b. The Queen
 - c. The Houses of Parliament
 - d. The City of London (London’s financial centre)
4. When is Guy Fawkes Night celebrated?
 - a. 2 November
 - b. September
 - c. 31 October
 - d. 5 November
5. What is the national flower of England?
 - a. shamrock
 - b. thistle
 - c. daffodil
 - d. the Red Rose
6. Britain’s oldest university is
 - a. Cambridge
 - b. Oxford
 - c. London University
 - d. Kingston University
7. What are England, Wales and Scotland, together with small adjacent islands, collectively known as?
 - a. The United Kingdom
 - b. The British Isles
 - c. Great Britain
 - d. Britain

8. Haggis is a food of
 - a. Scotland
 - b. Wales
 - c. England
 - d. Northern Ireland
9. Loch Ness is in
 - a. Scotland
 - b. Wales
 - c. Northern Ireland
 - d. England
10. The highest mountain is
 - a. Ben Nevis
 - b. Snowdon
 - c. Ben Macdui
 - d. Catbells

II. The following statement regarding some aspects of British culture. Read and decide whether they are True (T) or False (F). (10 points)

	True	False
1. Rugby is British most traditional and national sport.		
2. The power of Parliament lies in the House of Commons.		
3. Public schools are fee-paying schools.		
4. Tea is the most popular drink in the UK.		
5. Men in Scotland wear kilts		
6. Fish and chips is British national food.		
7. London is the capital of England.		
8. Thames is the longest river in the UK.		
9. The UK flag is called Old Glory.		
10. John Bull is a symbol of the UK.		

III. Complete the gaps in the text with the correct verb tense using the words in the table below. (20 points)

become	call	decide	elect	form
hold	register	represent	resign	vote

General elections in the United Kingdom

In a general election, every area in the country votes for one Member of Parliament (MP) to (1)them in the House of Commons. There are 650 geographical areas, called constituencies. To be eligible to (2) In a general election you must be (3).....to vote and aged 18 or over.

Each eligible voter has one vote in their local constituency, and the candidate with the most votes (4) the MP for that area. This voting system is (5)..... “first past the post”. Usually the political party with the most MPs then (6) the government – though if there is no overall winner, a hung parliament may result. Two or more parties with a combined majority of MPs may (7) a coalition government.

There has to be a general election at least every five years. The Prime Minister (8)..... when to call an election. The last general election was (9) on 6 May 2010.

If an MP dies or (10) between elections, there is a by-election in their constituency.