

Reading test

1. Read the text and complete the gaps (1-5) with missing parts (A-E).

If you travel around the world, you will learn that every country has different customs. 1_____ If you visit Thailand in April, you will see the Songkran celebrations – and you might get very wet! Songkran is the Thai New Year, and it is traditional to throw buckets of water at passers-by on the street! 2_____

Different countries have different laws, so you have to be careful. Of course, stealing and murder are illegal everywhere, but some laws are surprising. In England, if you buy a stamp with the Queen's head on it, you must make sure you stick it on your letter the right way up. It is illegal to stick the stamp on a letter upside-down. 3_____

4_____ As time passes, they are not important any more, but they have not been changed. For example, did you know that it is illegal to wear a top hat in the city of London? And in the seventeenth century Oliver Cromwell banned eating mince pies on Christmas Day. Mince pies are a traditional Christmas treat, so millions of people in the UK break that law every Christmas. 5_____ Since 1965 over 2,000 old laws have been changed, but there are thousands more – so be careful!

- A It shows that you do not respect the Queen.
- B It is what makes travelling so interesting!
- C Many laws in England were made centuries ago.
- D If you did that in London, you might get arrested!
- E There are hundreds of laws like this, which seem stupid to us now.

2. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1 Songkran is an annual festival in Thailand. _____
- 2 You mustn't use stamps with the Queen's head on them. _____
- 3 Some laws are old-fashioned and out-of-date. _____
- 4 Many people commit a crime at Christmas. _____
- 5 All the silly laws have been changed. _____

3. Answer the questions to the text:

- 1 What is the Songkran? What do people do on this day?

- 2 Why is it illegal to stick the stamp on a letter upside-down in England?

- 3 What else is forbidden in England?

- 4 Why many of laws need to be changed?

