

READING COMPREHENSION

The Queen's castles

Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain has got lots of homes. When she is in London, she lives at Buckingham Palace, but did you know she has got two castles, too?

Windsor Castle



Balmoral Castle



William the Conqueror invaded England in 1066. Then he was the King of England. He constructed a wooden castle near London. Now there is a stone castle there. It is called Windsor Castle. Windsor Castle is very big. It has got about 1,000 rooms.

Windsor Castle is very popular with tourists. Every year, more than 1,000,000 people visit the castle.

Queen Victoria visited Balmoral in Scotland in 1842. She loved it. There was a house there but Queen Victoria and her husband wanted a castle. They constructed Balmoral Castle. Now it is the private home of Queen Elizabeth II and her family. They live there from August to October.

About 85,000 tourists visit Balmoral every year, but they can't visit the castle in August, September or October because that's when the Queen is there.

The Royal Standard

When the Queen is at home at Buckingham Palace, or in one of her castles, you can see this flag. It is called the Royal Standard. It is red, blue and yellow. On the flag there are seven lions and a yellow harp.



Glossary



invade (verb)



wooden (adjective)
= made of wood



private = used only
by a particular
person or group



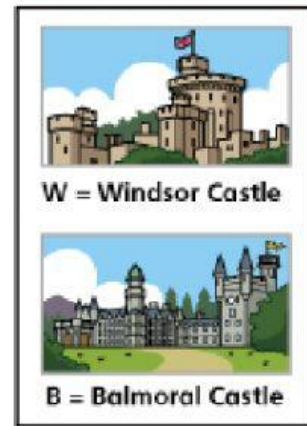
harp

1,000 = one
thousand

1,000,000 =
one million

2 Read the sentences and write W or B.

- 1 It is near London. W
- 2 It is in Scotland. _____
- 3 It is a private home. _____
- 4 More than one million people visit it every year. _____
- 5 About eighty-five thousand people visit it every year. _____
- 6 You can't visit it in September. _____
- 7 It is about one hundred and seventy years old. _____
- 8 It is about one thousand years old. _____



3 Look at the picture and read. Write T (true) or F (false).



- 1 A boy has got a wooden train. T
- 2 A man is playing a harp. _____
- 3 There is a picture of a lion on the girl's bag. _____
- 4 A tourist is taking a photo of some flowers. _____
- 5 There is a blue and white flag. _____
- 6 There are three houses next to the castle. _____

Do you know about any castle in your country? Find out about one and write information about it:

_____ Castle:

It's in _____.
