Yeoman Warders

The **Tower of London**, officially **His Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress of the Tower of London**, is a historic castle located on the north bank of the River Thames in central London, England. The guards of the Tower of London are called Yeoman Warders. In principle, they are responsible for looking after any prisoners in the Tower and safeguarding the British Crown Jewelers. However, in practice they act as tour guides and answer tourists' numerous questions. They are also a tourist attraction themselves. There are currently 37 Yeomen Warders at the Tower.

Yeoman Warders have been in service at the Tower of London since 1485, when the corps was formed by King Henry VII, but actually their origins date back even further. Yeoman Warders have been in service at the Tower of London since 1485, when the corps were formed by King Henry VII, but actually their origins date back even further. In order to serve as a Yeoman Warder nowadays, an applicant must have 22 years of service in the British armed forces, along with awards for distinction and good conduct. The applicant should also be between 40 and 55 years old on appointment. A potential Yeoman Warder should have a good memory to be able to remember the numerous facts from the history of the Tower.

Although the correct term is Yeoman Warder, most people know the members of the famous guard by their nickname — Beefeater. The origin of the nickname Beefeater is not clear. Some historians believe that the original Warders got some meat as part of their payment. Others suggest that they had the privilege of eating beef from the Royal Kitchen.

However, nowadays the only creatures at the Tower with a steady diet of beef are the ravens, who serve as a symbol of the British monarchy. According to legend, if the ravens leave the Tower, the monarchy will fall. That's why one Yeoman Warder, the Ravenmaster, is responsible for the ravens.

The Ravenmaster takes good care of the birds. The ravens are fed nuts, berries, fruit, meat, and blood-soaked biscuits. In the evening, the Ravenmaster whistles a special tone to call the ravens to bed — they are put into spacious cages to protect them from foxes. Every three weeks he trims the feathers on their right wings to prevent them from flying away.

Traditionally, Yeoman Warders had only been men. The first female Yeoman Warder (Beefeater) started her work at the Tower of London in 2007 — breaking over 500 years of male-only Beefeater history. Moira Cameron of Argyll, Scotland passed all the tests and is now the only woman Yeoman Warder. Other women have applied for the job, but Moira is the only successful lady so far!

The job of Yeoman Warder has its bonuses, of course. Yeomen Warders have the unique privilege of being able to live in the Tower! A portion of their salaries is given over as rent and many of the apartments in the Tower date from the 13th century. Although an interesting place to live, the wife of one Beefeater says it's impossible to order a pizza there. Nobody ever believes that people could live in the Tower!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

13. Yeoman Warders are not allowed to talk to students.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

14. All the Yeoman Warders have served to the British army.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

15. There are different opinions about the origin of the word Beefeater.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

16. The Ravenmaster buys the meat for the ravens by himself .

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

17. The Ravens of the Tower eat nothing but meat.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

18. Moira Cameron is the only woman who has aver applied for the job of Beefeaters.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

19. Yeoman Warders have the right to live in the Tower Of London.

1) True
2) False
3) Not stated

LIVEWORKSHEETS

GRAMMAR

20	It was unexpected news. The family gathered over their evening meal to discuss it. "John was a nice boy," the father said, "He was a bit wild sometimes, but he _____a good heart.	**HAVE**
21	He left for America right before is _____ birthday.	**EIGHTEEN**
22	And I _____ him since then." Katie knew that John was her father's older brother. According to a family legend, he had dug for gold in Alaska, had made a fortune but soon lost all his money, and became a sailor.	**NOT SEE**
23	Katie was about to say that she _____ to meet her Uncle John very much. But she looked at her parents and said nothing.	**WANT**
24	Everyone _____ that John had died somewhere at sea.	**THINK**
25	But here was a telegram and it rea ear brother I'm coming this weekend." The telegram _____ "John."	**SIGN**
26	"Do you think you will be able to recognise _____?" - the mother broke the silence.	**HE**
27	"More than forty years have passed. He could have changed out of recognition. Now anyone can pretend that he is your brother. If I were you, I _____ his story somehow."	**CHECK**
28	The father nodded. "It's _____ than you think. There is something about this house that only my real brother and I know."	**EASY**

WF

29	Travelling is my passion. I enjoy seeing new places. ..... , I've been to Moscow. My friends were surprised that I chose the winter season for my trip.	**RECENT**
30	According to them, it's almost ..... to survive in Russia in winter. They were mistaken of course!	**POSSIBLE**
31	Moscow covered with snow is an absolutely ..... and bright place.	**CHARM**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

32	Everything is decorated with ..... lights.	**COLOUR**
33	I stayed in a hotel near Gorky Park which is a nice place for ..... . Amazing in winter, Gorky Park turns into a huge skating rink and I often went ice skating. I couldn't skate well.	**ENTERTAIN**
34	I was just a ..... but I quickly improved. Probably it was the music, lights and people's smiles around that gave me inspiration.	**BEGIN**

29	Like most old cities, Moscow, the capital of Russia, stands on a river. It is wide and ..... and it is called the Moskva River.	**PEACE**
30	Unlike the city's name, the English equivalent of the river's name kept its original pronunciation. In English, it sounds the same as it sounds in	**RUSSIA**
31	Of course, the Moskva River is ..... important for the city.	**EXTREME**
32	It supplies Moscow with drinking water as well as water for ..... use. The river is an efficient transportation system as it is navigable all year round.	**INDUSTRY**
33	Along with that, the riverside makes a very ..... place where the citizens enjoy spending their weekends.	**ATTRACT**
34	Many of them say that it's ..... to find a better place for a family outing.	**POSSIBLE**

LIVEWORKSHEETS