

# Exploring British Culture

Multi-level activities about life in the UK

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## Map of the book

### Organisation of the units

Theme	Unit	Topic	Type of Activity	Level
<b>1 The United Kingdom today</b>	1.1	In the UK	Listening and matching activity	Elem to Pre-int
	1.2	What do you know about the UK?	Communicative quiz	Intermediate
	1.3	A view of the UK	Listening and information exchange	Advanced
<b>2 A look at the United Kingdom</b>	2.1	British capital cities	Discussion and matching activity	Elem to Pre-int
	2.2	A profile of London	Reading and information gap fill	Intermediate
	2.3	Regions and counties of the UK	Reading and listening for information	Advanced
<b>3 People in the UK</b>	3.1	Who lives in the UK?	Reading and listening activity	Elem to Pre-int
	3.2	British men and women	Listening, information gap fill and discussion	Intermediate
	3.3	Minority groups in Britain	Listening, reading and discussion	Advanced
<b>4 How the UK is governed</b>	4.1	A guide to the British government	Matching activity and Information search	Elem to Pre-int
	4.2	Everyday politics	Reading and information search	Intermediate
	4.3	How the government works	Reading, listening and discussion	Advanced
<b>5 Society, family and class</b>	5.1	The Royal Family	Listening and information search	Elem to Pre-int
	5.2	British families	Reading, listening, gap fill and discussion	Intermediate
	5.3	The British class system	Listening for information and discussion	Advanced
<b>6 Food</b>	6.1	What's on the menu?	Listening and matching activity	Elem to Pre-int
	6.2	The story of British food	Listening for information and discussion	Intermediate
	6.3	21st-century food in Britain	Reading for information and discussion	Advanced
<b>7 Money and work</b>	7.1	The British money system	Reading, listening and information search	Elem to Pre-int
	7.2	The cost of living	Reading comprehension and discussion	Intermediate
	7.3	High finance	Reading for information and discussion	Advanced
<b>8 Celebrations, beliefs and values</b>	8.1	British celebrations	Reading and information exchange	Elem to Pre-int
	8.2	Religious and non-religious festivals	Reading and information exchange	Intermediate
	8.3	Attitudes and values	Reading, gap fill and discussion	Advanced
<b>9 British history</b>	9.1	British history chart	Reading and matching activity	Elem to Pre-int
	9.2	A date with British history	Reading, listening and information search	Intermediate
	9.3	People who changed British history	Listening, information search and debate	Advanced

## Map of the book

Theme	Unit	Topic	Type of Activity	Level
<b>10 Health and welfare</b>	<b>10.1</b>	The National Health Service	Reading and information search	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>10.2</b>	British charities	Matching activity and discussion	Intermediate
	<b>10.3</b>	The welfare state	Reading gap fill, listening and discussion	Advanced
<b>11 Leisure time</b>	<b>11.1</b>	How the British relax	Listening for information and discussion	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>11.2</b>	Some British pastimes	Reading and information exchange	Intermediate
	<b>11.3</b>	Taking time out	Listening for information and discussion	Advanced
<b>12 The media and communication</b>	<b>12.1</b>	News in the UK	Reading and information search	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>12.2</b>	In the news	Reading, listening and discussion	Intermediate
	<b>12.3</b>	The BBC	Listening quiz and discussion	Advanced
<b>13 Education and learning</b>	<b>13.1</b>	The learning journey	Listening and reading, gap fill	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>13.2</b>	Education in the UK	Reading and matching activity	Intermediate
	<b>13.3</b>	Learning for life	Information exchange and word game	Advanced
<b>14 Creative arts and culture</b>	<b>14.1</b>	Local arts and crafts	Reading, information search and discussion	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>14.2</b>	British creative arts	Listening, matching and reading activity	Intermediate
	<b>14.3</b>	British artistic achievement	Reading, listening and discussion	Advanced
<b>15 Housing and the local community</b>	<b>15.1</b>	Where people live	Listening and information gathering	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>15.2</b>	Home sweet home	Reading and discussion	Intermediate
	<b>15.3</b>	British housing issues	Reading and discussion	Advanced
<b>16 British legal system</b>	<b>16.1</b>	People in the law	Reading and information search	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>16.2</b>	Law in the UK	Reading and discussion	Intermediate
	<b>16.3</b>	Legal concerns	Listening for information and discussion	Advanced
<b>17 Wild Britain</b>	<b>17.1</b>	The countryside and the seasons	Listening for information	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>17.2</b>	The town and the countryside	Listening and discussion	Intermediate
	<b>17.3</b>	UK country matters	Reading, gap fill and discussion	Advanced
<b>18 21st Century Britain</b>	<b>18.1</b>	Britain and the rest of the world	Reading and matching activity	Elem to Pre-int
	<b>18.2</b>	The journey to the 21st Century	Information exchange and listening	Intermediate
	<b>18.3</b>	Values and visions	Reading and information exchange	Advanced

# Introduction

## Who is *Exploring British Culture* for?

*Exploring British Culture* has been written for teachers of EFL, ESL and ESOL and of English for Academic Purposes in schools and colleges throughout the world. It contains photocopiable materials for the classroom which can be used to support British Culture, British Citizenship and General English courses. These activities provide self-contained lessons for the busy teacher aimed at learners undertaking courses from Elementary to Advanced levels.

## How is *Exploring British Culture* organised?

The activity book is divided into 18 units, exploring key aspects of life in the UK. Each unit contains three lessons of topic-based material of differing levels. The first is aimed at Elementary to Pre-intermediate learners, the second at Intermediate learners and the third at Advanced learners. For example:

Unit 3: People in the UK

3.1: Who lives in the UK? (Elementary to Pre-intermediate)

3.2: British men and women (Intermediate)

3.3: Minority groups in Britain (Advanced)

The map of the book provides a clear guide to the 18 units and 54 lessons and includes references to activity types, skills practised and level. The audio script is located at the back of the book.

## What topics are covered in the units?

The topics have been carefully chosen to reflect key aspects of British culture. They include: the geography of Britain and the structure of British society; the people who live in the UK, their views, attitudes and cultural identities; British government, history, law, finances, education, housing, health and social welfare; British social and cultural activities, beliefs and values; the creative arts and media; 21st Century Britain and its future.

## How is each unit organised?

Each unit consists of a lesson on two facing pages with step-by-step teachers' notes on the left side and a photocopiable worksheet on the right side. Each lesson aims to provide around 45–60 minutes of teaching, plus a lesson warmer and an extension activity.

The teachers' notes include:

- **Information panel**

This describes the type of activity and skills practised, the aims of the unit, the level or levels covered in the unit, a list of vocabulary that may require pre-knowledge or pre-teaching and the preparation required prior to delivery of the lesson.

- **Warmer**

This aims to get the learners thinking about the theme, introduce or elicit required lexis around the unit topic and prepare learners for the main activity.

- **Teaching procedures**

These offer clear guidance on the teaching and delivery of the lesson. Some lessons include a choice of delivery options with procedures supporting differentiation within learner groups or classrooms.

- **Extension activity**

These tasks suggest a range of ways to further develop the theme. They offer skills development in the form of interviews, role-plays, discussion, presentations and debates and other communicative activities. Online research and writing activities are developed in the contexts of British culture books, wall charts, class blogs and videos and radio programmes. Ideas on language and lexis development are offered as well as pronunciation practice, comprehension of register and effective communication techniques.

The worksheets include:

- **Factual information** on aspects of British culture within the unit theme, at the appropriate levels for the groups.
- **Authentic materials** from interviews, articles, books, reports and with information up to date at the time of publishing
- **Instructions** to learners on how to undertake tasks and to teachers when doing cut-out activities.

### **How will *Exploring British Culture* help students?**

These materials offer a unique opportunity for teachers to deliver high quality, relevant and stimulating materials on all aspects of British cultural life to a range of learners within their classrooms. In addition, learners are offered opportunities to reflect on, and express, their views of historic and modern Britain.

Learners are also given the chance to explore their own cultural and social practices and make comparisons with the habits of their everyday lives. It is hoped these activities will encourage greater understanding of the wide range of values, beliefs and concerns held by people in the UK. It will try to identify/explain how British people live their lives and how British society works. We hope you will enjoy using these materials.

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