

Snapshots of Britain

A The world... at home

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Rédiger des phrases correctes – Le groupe verbal → p. 170

Write an e-mail to ask for information.

1. There's a whole range of "Multikulti" music festivals to go to which bring the world to Britain. Read about two of them.

South Asia: London Mela

The cream of South Asian music and culture! One of the biggest celebrations of Asian music and culture in Europe! The musical line-up will include Asian pop to Muslim



hip-hop, Bhangra and Bollywood hits as well as respected Indian classical musicians. Away from the music there will be stalls selling traditional food and crafts, traditional dance displays, and circus acts.

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Latin America: Carnaval de Pueblo

Latino spirit comes to South London this summer in the shape of Carnaval de Pueblo – Europe's largest outdoor Latin American event. Ok, so it

may not have the guaranteed sun or beach, but it will have the dancers, drumming and Brazilian party vibe. Music will range from reggae to samba and Latin hip-hop on several stages, and you can sample regionally-themed food and drink.



2. You hesitate about which one to go to. You write an e-mail to a friend living in Britain to ask for information (place, date, times, cost, where to stay) and to find out if he/she can help you to make your choice. (150 words)

Here are a few hints:

- a. You are writing to a friend, so keep the style informal.
- b. Make short sentences.
- c. Be careful of word order when asking questions.

B The monarchy: what Britain really wants

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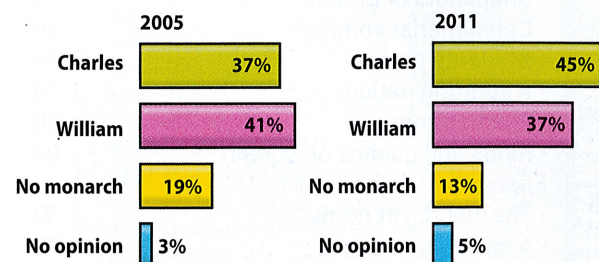
Write a report using quantifiers and comparatives.

1. Study the graphs.
2. Write a report about the attitudes of British people towards the monarchy. (100 words)

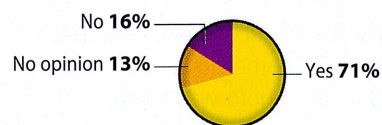
Here are a few hints:

- a. Use quantifiers (*much, most, few, etc.*) to write about tendencies rather than giving exact figures.
- b. Use comparatives to underline differences.
- c. Make whole sentences and introduce link words whenever possible.

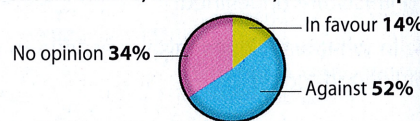
Who would you prefer to succeed the Queen as monarch: Charles, the Queen's eldest son, or William, Charles's son?



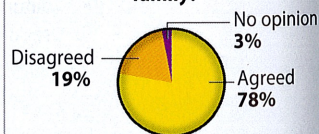
Should the monarch be allowed to marry a Catholic?



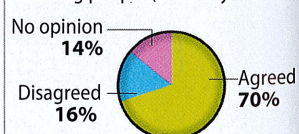
Should Camilla, Charles's wife, be crowned queen?



Should Britain still have a royal family?



Young people (18 – 24 years old)



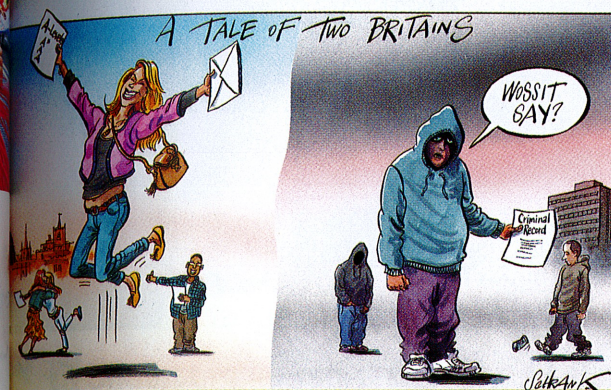
(Sources: BBC, 2007, The Daily Mail, 2010, and Prospect magazine, 2011)

C Education: two Britains

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Faire des phrases complexes → p. 170

Write an article using link words with well-structured paragraphs.

1. Analyse the cartoon. Do you think its message is fair?
2. Read the information about education in Britain given in the box opposite.



Education in England and Wales: a few facts

- **Ages 5-16:** compulsory schooling.
- **2008:** The Education and Skills Act raising the school-leaving age (17 in 2013, 18 in 2015).
- **90%** of pupils in state-run non selective schools.
- **7%** of pupils in privately-run independent schools or public schools. (Cost of public school education: £15,000–£30,000 a year.)
- **50%** of 'A' levels taken by pupils from public schools given top marks.
- **20%** of 'A' levels taken by pupils from state schools given top marks.
- **Top universities** require excellent 'A' level results.
- **Top university graduates:** top positions in society.
- **Less than 5%** of students from poor neighbourhoods at Britain's top 20 universities.
- **10%** of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds left university after 1 year.
- **2011:** Almost 1 million 16 to 24-year-olds classified as "Neets" – not in employment, education or training. 10% of young people leave school with no qualifications.

3. Use the facts given to write an article about education in Britain. Conclude by making one or two remarks about what struck you most. (200 words)

Here are a few hints:

- a. Concentrate on changes and differences to avoid a list of statistics.
- b. Make complete sentences using link words.
- c. Conclude with your own remarks.

toolbox

Nouns

- info
- tip: *tuyou*
- feature /'fi:tʃə/: *caractéristique*
- tendency = *trend*

Adjectives & adverbs

- reticent (about sth)
- disadvantaged = *underprivileged*
- highly = *very*
- notable: *remarquable*

Verbs & expressions

- make up one's mind = *decide*
- reach: *atteindre*
- attend (school): *aller à*
- tend to V: *avoir tendance à*

Webquest

London's changing skyline



1 New buildings have appeared or are appearing all over London. Browse the web to find out more about London's changing skyline (names of buildings, locations, heights, controversial projects...). Give an oral account of your research.

2 Which of these buildings do you prefer? Who was the architect responsible for the project? Has the building got a nickname? What is the building used for?

Imagine the postcard you write to your parents with this building on it explaining your choice.

Web resources

- www-the-shard.com/overview/
- www.stratalondon.com
- www.30stmaryaxe.co.uk/