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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 30/06/13

## A visit to Edinburgh

Today, let's talk about a visit to Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland. It's a popular place to visit and many tourists do indeed visit the city and surrounding area in droves. Many Europeans fly in to Edinburgh Airport on budget airlines, together with people from all over the world.

Edinburgh Castle overlooks the city. Visitors who wish to visit the castle can see the former royal residence and its military barracks. It is also the birthplace of many Scottish Kings and Queens.

Every year for three weeks in August the city hosts three major events; the Edinburgh International Festival, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The latter is held at Edinburgh Castle. The arts festivals offer visitors opera, classical music, theatre, dance and visual art from all around the globe. The Fringe offers many alternative comedy artists, spoken word and children's shows.

Edinburgh is definitely the place to visit around Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). This three day event attracts visitors from around the globe who like to party! Watch out for the fireworks, pipers playing their bagpipes, haggis and party people!

Edinburgh has some fabulous restaurants and pubs. You can try a Scottish beer or maybe sample one or two world famous Scottish whiskies! Tourists like to buy shortbread or even a kilt! They might even buy a set of bagpipes!

Places to visit in Edinburgh include the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Scottish Parliament. There is also the university, the zoo and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art.

Visit Edinburgh this year and you'll find it an amazing city to look around. The people are friendly and you'll have an amazing experience.

### SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about Edinburgh. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) Name the festivals.
- 2) Explain what happens at each festival.
- 3) Where is Scotland?
- 4) What can you see at Edinburgh castle?
- 5) Name three things you can see in Edinburgh.

#### Student B questions

- 1) What is Hogmanay?
- 2) Where will you find haggis?
- 3) Tourists like to buy what?
- 4) Who visit in 'droves' and what does this mean?
- 5) Where will you have an amazing experience?

**Category: Scotland / Edinburgh / Places to Visit**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## A visit to Edinburgh! – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Edinburgh**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – think of three Scottish whiskies and three Scottish dishes you might eat.

Write them below.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three Scottish souvenirs and three places to visit in Edinburgh. Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – talk about the following:-

*The Edinburgh International Festival / The Edinburgh Festival Fringe / Hogmanay / The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo - 5 mins*

Use the internet to help you!

**The teacher** will choose some students to hear their discussions.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you been to Edinburgh?
- 3) Would you like to visit Edinburgh (again)?
- 4) Why is Edinburgh a popular place to visit?
- 5) Can you play the bagpipes?
- 6) What is Haggis?
- 7) Would you like to visit Edinburgh during Hogmanay? Explain.
- 8) Would you wear a kilt?
- 9) Have you ever tried eating Haggis?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the Radio Scotland studio. Today's interview is: 'A visit to Edinburgh'.

- 1) A tourist.
- 2) A Scottish taxi driver.
- 3) An Edinburgh hotel owner.
- 4) A Scottish person living in Edinburgh.

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs.* You are in a pub in Edinburgh. Start a conversation about: 'A weekend in Edinburgh! 5 mins.

### SPEAKING - GAME

*Groups – 20 things about Edinburgh. 5 mins.*

**The teacher** will choose some groups to hear their findings in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes – As a class.*

*Discuss the following...*

Edinburgh – Capital of Scotland

**The teacher** can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What Scottish food might you try if you visited Edinburgh?
- 3) Name three things Edinburgh is famous for.
- 4) What would you drink in Edinburgh?
- 5) How does Edinburgh differ from your town/city?
- 6) Would you like visit an alternative comedy show in Edinburgh?
- 7) What do you know about Edinburgh Castle
- 8) Will Scotland become independent?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

**GAP FILL: READING**

**A visit to Edinburgh**

Today, let's talk about a visit to Edinburgh, the capital of (1)\_\_. It's a popular place to visit and many tourists do indeed visit the city and surrounding area in (2)\_\_. Many Europeans fly in to Edinburgh Airport on (3)\_\_ airlines, together with people from all over the world.

Edinburgh Castle (4)\_\_ the city. Visitors who wish to visit the castle can see the former royal residence and its military barracks. It is also the (5)\_\_ of many Scottish Kings and Queens.

Every year for three weeks in August the city hosts three major events; the Edinburgh International (6)\_\_, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The latter is held at Edinburgh Castle. The arts festivals offer visitors opera, classical music, (7)\_\_, dance and visual art from all around the globe. The Fringe offers many (8)\_\_ comedy artists, spoken word and children's shows.

**alternative / Scotland / festival / birthplace / droves / budget / theatre / overlooks**

Edinburgh is definitely the place to visit around (1)\_\_ (New Year's Eve). This three day (2)\_\_ attracts visitors from around the globe who like to party! Watch out for the fireworks, (3)\_\_ playing their bagpipes, haggis and party people!

Edinburgh has some fabulous restaurants and pubs. You can try a Scottish beer or maybe sample one or two world famous Scottish (4)\_\_! Tourists like to buy shortbread or even a (5)\_\_! They might even buy a set of (6)\_\_!

Places to visit in Edinburgh include the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Scottish Parliament. There is also the university, the (7)\_\_ and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. Visit Edinburgh this year and you'll find it an amazing city to look around. The people are (8)\_\_ and you'll have an amazing experience.

**bagpipes / friendly / whiskies / pipers / Hogmanay / zoo / event / kilt**

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**A visit to Edinburgh**

Today, let's talk about a visit to Edinburgh, the capital (1)\_\_ Scotland. It's (2)\_\_ popular place to visit and many tourists do indeed visit the city and surrounding area in droves. Many Europeans fly in to Edinburgh Airport (3)\_\_ budget airlines, together with people from all over the world.

Edinburgh Castle overlooks the city. Visitors (4)\_\_ wish to visit the castle (5)\_\_ see the former royal residence and its military barracks. It is also the birthplace of many Scottish Kings and Queens.

Every year (6)\_\_ three weeks (7)\_\_ August the city hosts three major events; the Edinburgh International Festival, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The latter is held (8)\_\_ Edinburgh Castle. The arts festivals offer visitors opera, classical music, theatre, dance and visual art from all around the globe. The Fringe offers many alternative comedy artists, spoken word and children's shows.

**at / for / in / of / on / who / a / can**

Edinburgh is definitely the place to visit around Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). This three day event attracts visitors (1)\_\_ around the globe who like to party! Watch out for the fireworks, pipers playing (2)\_\_ bagpipes, haggis and party people!

Edinburgh has (3)\_\_ fabulous restaurants and pubs. You can try a Scottish beer or maybe sample one or two world famous Scottish whiskies! Tourists like to buy shortbread or (4)\_\_ a kilt! They (5)\_\_ even buy a set of bagpipes!

Places to visit in Edinburgh include the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Scottish Parliament. (6)\_\_ is (7)\_\_ the university, the zoo and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. Visit Edinburgh (8)\_\_ year and you'll find it an amazing city to look around. The people are friendly and you'll have an amazing experience.

**this / some / might / there / from / even / their / also**

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

### A visit to Edinburgh

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_, the capital of Scotland. It's a popular place to visit and many tourists do indeed visit the city and surrounding area in droves. Many Europeans fly in to Edinburgh Airport on budget airlines, together with people from \_\_\_\_\_. Edinburgh Castle overlooks the city. Visitors who wish to visit the castle can see the former royal residence and its military barracks. It is also the birthplace of many Scottish \_\_\_\_\_.

Every year for three weeks in August the city hosts three major events; the Edinburgh International Festival, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The latter is held at Edinburgh Castle. The arts festivals offer visitors opera, classical music, theatre, dance and visual art from all around the globe. \_\_\_\_\_ alternative comedy artists, spoken word and children's shows.

Edinburgh is definitely \_\_\_\_\_ around Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). This three day event attracts visitors from around the globe who like to party! Watch out \_\_\_\_\_, pipers playing their bagpipes, haggis and party people!

Edinburgh has some fabulous \_\_\_\_\_. You can try a Scottish beer or maybe sample one or two world famous Scottish whiskies! Tourists like to buy shortbread or even a kilt! They might even buy a set of bagpipes!

\_\_\_\_\_ Edinburgh include the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Scottish Parliament. There is also the university, the zoo and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. Visit Edinburgh this year and you'll find it an amazing city to look around. The people are friendly and you'll have an \_\_\_\_\_.

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## WRITING/SPELLING

### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) On the board** - In pairs/small groups – 20 things about Scotland. 5 mins.

*The teacher will choose some groups to hear their findings in front of the class.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Edinburgh \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Scotland \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Haggis \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Edinburgh**. Your email can be read out in class.

### GAP FILL READING

- 1) Scotland
- 2) droves
- 3) budget
- 4) overlooks
- 5) birthplace
- 6) festival
- 7) theatre
- 8) alternative

### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) Edinburgh
- 2) military
- 3) Scotland
- 4) budget
- 5) indeed
- 6) together
- 7) famous
- 8) former
- 9) festival
- 10) definitely

### ANSWERS

- 1) Hogmanay
- 2) event
- 3) pipers
- 4) whiskies
- 5) kilt
- 6) bagpipes
- 7) zoo
- 8) friendly

### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) alternative
- 12) Hogmanay
- 13) bagpipes
- 14) haggis
- 15) botanical
- 16) experience
- 17) university
- 18) parliament
- 19) whiskies
- 20) fringe

A visit to Edinburgh! – *30<sup>th</sup> June 2013*