

Events in London – July to September

Today's English lesson focuses on some events happening in London.

July – In the first week of July London sees the final week of *Wimbledon*. The famous annual lawn tennis championship is the world's premier tennis tournament. First started in 1877 the event plays host to all the top international tennis players at the All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon. Next July London will host the *Pride Parade*. The event on the 7th July promotes gay, lesbian and transsexual issues.

Summer – Next summer London will host the *2012 Olympic Games*. Visitors and athletes can savour the pulsating atmosphere at the new Olympic Park in East London. The capital will come alive with many sporting events that viewers can watch on TV worldwide. Another popular summer event is the *BBC Proms* that takes place at the Royal Albert Hall. Classical music at its best. The six week season ends with the legendary *Last Night of the Proms*. Tickets for this are like gold dust. So much so that the BBC hosts a *Proms in the Park* in mid September.

August – The Queen's official residence *Buckingham Palace* in August is open to the public. It is well worth seeing the State Rooms that since the great fire in Windsor Castle in 1993 have been open to the public to raise money for the restoration. August bank holiday weekend sees the famous *Notting Hill Carnival* take place. Described as Europe's biggest street party the event rivals Rio de Janeiro's carnival for colour, costumes and wonderful dance displays. August sees the *Crystal Palace Aviva Grand Prix* that brings the worlds top class athletes into town for a top class weekend of sport.

September – The final stage of the *Tour of Britain* cycling race takes place in London when the top cyclists will be taking to the streets. Competitors will race through Westminster and the City of London before finishing on Whitehall. September is also the month when the capital opens its doors to the hundreds of buildings in London during the *Open House London Weekend* – it gives visitors the chance to see many iconic buildings in the capital. September also sees the *Great Gorilla Run* take place. You can dress up as a gorilla and join hundreds of other 'gorillas' doing the 7km fun run in London all in aid of saving the last of the worlds natural gorillas.

Category: London / Tourism / London events

Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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EXERCISES

1. Events in your town/city: Briefly, what three events do you know that are happening in your town/city during the next three months? Go round the room swapping details.

2. Events happening in London: Briefly, what three events do you know are happening in London during the next three months? Go round the room swapping details.

3. Dictation: The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

4. Reading: The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

5. Vocabulary: Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

6. The article: Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?

7. Let's think! Think of five events that are happening in London between July and September. Then add five events that are happening in your town/city during this same period. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these.

Five events in London	Five events in your town/city
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

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

8. Let's think! In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **Events in London**. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

9. Let's roleplay 1: Radio London: *In pairs*. You are in the *Radio London* studio. One of you is the presenter; the other student is the guest. Today's interview is: *Events in London – July to September*. (Imagine!) *5 minutes*.

Events in London – July to September - 30th July 2011

10. Let's roleplay 2: Radio London: In pairs/groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Radio London* studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Events in London – July to September*.

1	A London public relations person	3	An overseas journalist
2	The Mayor of London	4	A tourist

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

11. Let's discuss: In pairs/small groups/ as a class - Look at the events listed below. Talk about them. *10 minutes*.

1	Wimbledon	7	Notting Hill Carnival
2	Pride Parade	8	Rio de Janeiro Carnival
3	2012 Olympic Games	9	Buckingham Palace
4	BBC Proms	10	Crystal Palace Aviva Grand Prix
5	Proms in the Park	11	Tour of Britain
6	Great Gorilla Run	12	Open House London Weekend

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

12. Presentation: In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a two minute presentation on *one of the listed items in No 11 above*. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the good and weak points on each presentation. Learn from the results.

13. Let's do 'The Article Quiz': Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A

- 1) What is happening on the 7th July 2012?
- 2) Who is hosting the Proms in the Park?
- 3) What happened in 1993?
- 4) What are like gold dust?
- 5) What does the phrase like 'gold dust' mean?

Student B

- 1) What is the Great Gorilla Run?
- 2) What is the Tour of Britain?
- 3) Where is the Notting Hill Carnival taking place?
- 4) What major sports event is taking place in London during the summer of 2012?
- 5) What is happening at Crystal Palace?

14. Let's write an e-mail: Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **Events in my town/city**. Your e-mail can be read out in class.

15. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) Events in London _____
- b) I like to see _____
- c) In my town/city _____

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What do you think about the *Pride Parade* that will take place in London next year?
- 3) Give an example of something that is like 'gold dust'.
- 4) Will you be watching the *2012 Olympic Games*? Where will you be watching them?
- 5) Who is the best tennis player in your country? Do they play at *Wimbledon*?
- 6) Have you ever been to the *Royal Albert Hall*? If yes, explain. Would you like to go (again)?
- 7) What was the last carnival you went to? Explain.
- 8) Does your town/city have an *Open House Weekend* when you can visit all the different government buildings/ museums for free?
- 9) What do you think about the raising of money to save the gorillas?
- 10) Will you be either popping over to London to see the *Notting Hill Carnival* or to Rio to see the *Rio Carnival* shortly?

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) What do you think of *Wimbledon*?
- 3) Would you like to go to *Last Night of the Proms*? Explain.
- 4) Have you ever watched a classic music concert in a park? If yes, explain.
- 5) Have you ever been to *Buckingham Palace*? If yes, when? How was it?
- 6) Have you ever met The Queen? If yes, explain.
- 7) What was the last athletics meeting you attended? Explain.
- 8) What do you know about *The Tour of Britain*?
- 9) Have you ever dressed up as a gorilla? If yes, explain!
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's discuss! Events in your city/town

Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1

Consider the following points to discuss:

20 events in your city/town.

The teacher can moderate the session.

GAP FILL: READING:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

July – In the first week of July London sees the final week of *Wimbledon*. The famous annual lawn tennis championship is the world's premier tennis (1)____. First started in 1877 the event plays host to all the top international tennis players at the All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon. Next July London will host the *Pride Parade*. The event on the 7th July promotes gay, lesbian and transsexual issues.

Summer – Next summer London will (2)___ the *2012 Olympic Games*. Visitors and athletes can (3)_____ the (4)_____ (5)_____ at the new Olympic Park in East London. The capital will come alive with many sporting events that (6)_____ can watch on TV worldwide. Another popular summer event is the *BBC Proms* that takes place at the Royal Albert Hall. Classical music at its best. The six week (7)_____ ends with the legendary *Last Night of the Proms*. Tickets for this are like (8)_____. So much so that the BBC hosts a *Proms in the Park* in mid September.

August – The Queen's official (1)_____ *Buckingham Palace* in August is open to the public. It is well worth seeing the State Rooms that since the great fire in Windsor Castle in 1993 have been open to the public to raise money for the (2)_____. August bank holiday weekend sees the famous *Notting Hill Carnival* take place. Described as Europe's biggest street party the event (3)_____ Rio de Janeiro's (4)_____ for colour, costumes and (5)_____ dance displays. August sees the *Crystal Palace Aviva Grand Prix* that brings the worlds top class (6)_____ into town for a top class weekend of sport.

September – The final stage of the *Tour of Britain* cycling race takes place in London when the top cyclists will be taking to the streets. (7)_____ will race through Westminster and the City of London before finishing on Whitehall. September is also the month when the capital opens its doors to the hundreds of buildings in London during the *Open House London Weekend* – it gives visitors the chance to see many (8)_____ buildings in the capital.

season

viewers

tournament

atmosphere

host

gold dust

savour

pulsating

wonderful

restoration

carnival

athletes

rivals

residence

competitors

iconic

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Events in London – July to September

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GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	annual	11	restoration
2	carnival	12	tournament
3	athletes	13	worldwide
4	competitors	14	atmosphere
5	through	15	transsexual
6	iconic	16	gold dust
7	gorilla	17	championship
8	Wimbledon	18	lesbian
9	classical	19	legendary
10	popular	20	wonderful

LINKS

<http://www.greatgorillarun.org/london>

<http://www.tourofbritain.com/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/proms>

<http://www.thenottinghillcarnival.com/>

<http://www.diamondleague-london.com/>

<http://www.openhouselondon.org.uk/>

<http://www.buckinghampalace.co.uk/>

ANSWERS

GAP FILL: Events in London – July to September: **July** – In the first week of July London sees the final week of *Wimbledon*. The famous annual lawn tennis championship is the world's premier tennis **tournament**. First started in 1877 the event plays host to all the top international tennis players at the All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon. Next July London will host the *Pride Parade*. The event on the 7th July promotes gay, lesbian and transsexual issues.

Summer – Next summer London will **host** the *2012 Olympic Games*. Visitors and athletes can **savour** the **pulsating atmosphere** at the new Olympic Park in East London. The capital will come alive with many sporting events that **viewers** can watch on TV worldwide. Another popular summer event is the *BBC Proms* that takes place at the Royal Albert Hall. Classical music at its best. The six week **season** ends with the legendary *Last Night of the Proms*. Tickets for this are like **gold dust**. So much so that the BBC hosts a *Proms in the Park* in mid September.

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