

English Paperchase

What do you know about
the English speaking world?



English Paperchase

Level

English Paperchase is a game which is aimed at students who have reached the language level A2-B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. It presents 66 elements which are typical of the English speaking world – food, places, people monuments etc. – which can be identified through five clues of decreasing difficulty, from the most difficult and general to the easiest and most specific.

Language aims

- broaden the lexical knowledge of the student through characteristic elements of life and culture in the English speaking world.
- develop logical thought by means of language input.

Material

The game **English Paperchase** contains:

- a pack of 66 image cards
- a pack of related clue cards

Rules of the game

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The game may be used in class (led by the teacher) or at home (led by a group leader), and it may be played in teams. The image cards are spread out on a table for the students to see, then the leader of the game takes a card from the clue cards and reads the first clue. If no-one guesses the answer, the leader then reads the second clue and so on until the card is identified. The leader awards points according to the clue – the points can be found on the clue cards next to each clue and they decrease in value from the first to the last clue. The winner is the player or the team which finishes the game with the highest number of points.

Games and didactic activities

The following are some suggestions for alternative activities which the teacher may vary and adapt according to the level of the group.

True or false?

Using the information on the following pages, the teacher may prepare questions to ask either orally or in written form, in which the students should choose the correct answer (for higher levels the options could be multiple choice answers), to test the knowledge of the students.

For example, Jeans were invented in 1873. T F

Items in order of category

Food

Christmas pudding
fish and chips
hot cross buns
maple syrup
pancakes
scones
tea
Yorkshire pudding

Places

Giant's Causeway
Grand Canyon
Great Barrier reef
Uluru/Ayres Rock

Monuments

Big Ben
London Eye
Stonehenge
Sydney Opera House
Taj Mahal
The Statue of Liberty

Symbols

American flag
Australian flag
Ascot hats
bagpipes
black cabs/taxis
boomerang
didgeridoo
double-decker buses
jeans
kilt
Mini
telephone box
Union Jack
Wellington boots

People

Gandhi
George Washington
Harry Potter
King Arthur
Martin Luther King
Nelson Mandela
Queen Elizabeth II
Saint George
Shakespeare
Sherlock Holmes
The Beatles

Animals and plants

bald eagle
Bengal tiger
daffodil
Indian elephant
kangaroo
koala
Loch Ness Monster
moose
shamrock
Shetland pony

Traditions

barbeque
Christmas crackers
Easter bunny
Guy Fawkes' Night
Hallowe'en (or Halloween)
St.Patrick's day
Thanksgiving day

Sport

All Blacks
baseball
cricket
ice hockey
polo
Wimbledon

Extra information...

Here you will find some extra information which the teacher can use to present each element of the game, so increasing the cultural knowledge of the students.

1. All Blacks

The All Blacks are the national rugby union team of New Zealand. They perform the "Haka" at the beginning of each match, which is a traditional war dance of the Māori people of New Zealand.

2. American flag

The American flag consists of thirteen red and white horizontal stripes and a blue rectangle in the top left corner showing 50 stars. It was planted on the moon in the Apollo 11 mission.

3. Ascot hats

Ladies' Day at the racing event Royal Ascot is an occasion for female race-goers to show off their style with colourful and interesting hats. The dress code states that ladies must wear a hat.

4. bagpipes

Bagpipes are a traditional wind instrument. They are used in many different areas of the UK but are most commonly associated with Scottish folk music.

5. bald eagle

The bald eagle is a bird of prey which is found in North America. It lives near open water and eats mainly fish. It is the national bird and national animals of the USA.

6. barbeque

Barbecuing is a popular way to cook meat outdoors. It is a typical activity in Australia at Christmas time when people go to the beach to celebrate Christmas.

7. baseball

Baseball is a bat-and-ball game which was developed in North America in the mid-18th century. It is widely recognised as the National sport of the USA.

8. Bengal tiger

The Bengal tiger's scientific name is *Panthera tigris tigris*. In 2010 it was

classified as an endangered species. It is a carnivore and they can eat 18-40kgs of meat at one time!

9. Big Ben

Big Ben is not the name of the clock tower at the Houses of Parliament in London, but it is actually the name of the bell inside the clock which chimes every 15 minutes.

10. black cabs/taxis

The black cab is a typical icon of London. Its official name is the Hackney Carriage. In London drivers have to take a test called "The Knowledge" before they are allowed to drive a black cab.

11. boomerang

The boomerang originates from Aboriginal Australia and they were traditionally used as weapons for hunting. They are now commonly used for sport and leisure games.

12. Christmas pudding

Christmas pudding is a traditional dessert which is eaten after Christmas lunch. It is often covered with brandy which is set alight before being brought to the table for serving.

13. Christmas crackers

Christmas crackers are pulled open by two people and, as they usually open unevenly, one person "wins" the contents. They were invented in 1847 by a London confectioner.

14. cricket

Cricket is a bat-and-ball game played by two teams. A game can last as long as 5 days. It developed in the south of England in 16th Century and is now considered the UK's national sport.

15. daffodil

The daffodil is a yellow or white flower from the Amaryllis family. It usually flowers in spring. It is traditional to wear a daffodil on Saint David's Day in Wales.

16. didgeridoo

The didgeridoo is a wind instrument which was developed by native Australians around 1,500 years ago. It is played by expelling air out of the mouth whilst breathing in through the nose.

17. double-decker bus

The iconic Routemaster bus was designed by Bill Durrant and Eric Ottoway for London Transport. It went into service in 1956 and was designed to last 15 years but continued for 50.

18. Easter Bunny

The Easter bunny is a fantasy character who brings eggs as gifts for children at Easter. He carries coloured eggs, candy and chocolate in a basket and hides them for children to find.

19. fish and chips

Fish and chips is a hot meal of English origin. It consists of fried potato chips and fish, commonly cod or haddock, which is deep fried in batter. It is often served with a side dish of peas.

20. Gandhi

Gandhi was born on 2nd October 1869 and lived to the age of 78. He was the most prominent freedom fighter for Indian nationalism in British ruled-India and is known as the "father of India".

21. George Washington

George Washington was the first President of the United States of America; he was one of the Founding Fathers of the USA. He is the only US president who never lived at the White House.

22. Giant's Causeway

Giant's Causeway is an area of about 40,000 basalt columns which were a result of a volcanic eruption. Legend says that it was a bridge which was destroyed by two warring giants.

23. Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela was the South-African Anti-Apartheid revolutionary who served as the President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 together with Frederik Willem de Klerk.

24. Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon is considered to be one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It is a steep sided canyon in the state of Arizona, USA. It is almost 450km long.

25. Guy Fawkes' night

Guy Fawkes' night celebrations began in the early 17th century when a plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament was discovered and King James of England was saved.

26. Halloween pumpkins

Halloween pumpkins can also be known as Jack-o'-lanterns. They are commonly put on the doorstep of homes at Halloween to frighten away ghosts and evil spirits.

27. Harry Potter

The Harry Potter series of books was written by fantasy novelist J. K. Rowling. Harry is a wizard who attends Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry with his friends Ronald and Hermione.

28. hot cross buns

The hot cross bun is a spiced, sweet bread which is marked with a white cross on the top and eaten at Easter. Sharing one is supposed to ensure friendship through the coming year.

29. ice hockey

The first organized game of ice hockey was played in Montreal in 1875 and the sport is very popular in Canada and the USA. It is commonly known as "The fastest game on Earth"!

30. Indian Elephant

The Indian elephant is generally smaller than its African cousins. They have small ears, long white tusks and they can live to around the age of 60. They are an endangered species.

31. jeans

Jeans were originally called "waist-overalls" and they were designed as durable work-wear for American cowboys and miners. American teenagers began wearing them in the 1950's.

32. kangaroo

The kangaroo has large powerful back legs for jumping, long feet and a large muscular tail for balance. They can jump very high, sometimes up to three times their own height!

33. kilt

The kilt is part of the traditional costume of Scotland. It is a skirt made from over 7

metres of woven wool fabric which is coloured in a tartan pattern.

34. King Arthur

King Arthur is a legendary British leader of the late 5th and 6th centuries. It is said that Arthur pulled his sword, Excalibur, from a stone to prove that he was the lost son of the King.

35. koala

The koala is a marsupial which is native to Australia. A baby koala is called a "Joey" and it lives in its mother's pouch for the first six months of its life.

36. Loch Ness Monster

The Loch Ness Monster is commonly known as Nessie. It is a mythical creature which supposedly lives in Loch Ness lake in Scotland. It is believed to be a plesiosaur: a type of dinosaur.

37. London Eye

The London Eye is a giant viewing wheel on the south bank of the River Thames in London. It was built in 1999 and it is 135mt tall. It was officially opened on 31st December 1999.

38. maple syrup

It is a sweet syrup which is made from the sap of the Maple tree. It was first collected by the native people of North America and it is most widely produced in Quebec, in Canada.

39. Martin Luther King

Martin Luther King Jr was an American clergyman, activist and humanitarian. He is probably best known for his role in the progress of African-American civil rights.

40. Mini

The Mini is a small economy city car which was first made in 1959 by the British Motor Corporation. It was designed by Sir Alec Issigonis and a very small team of engineers.

41. Moose

The moose, also called the Eurasian elk, is the largest member of the deer family. It is, on average, over 2mt high. It is commonly found in Canada, Alaska and Scandinavia.

42. pancakes

A pancake is a round, flat, thin cake which is cooked on a hot surface. It was traditionally eaten Shrove Tuesday, before the fasting period of Lent began.

43. polo

The sport of polo is a team game played on horseback. Each team consists of just four players and each player can use two or three different horses throughout the game.

44. Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II is the first daughter of King George VI. In 2012, she celebrated 60 years as reigning sovereign of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth Realms.

45. Saint George

Saint George is the patron saint of England. His flag, a red cross on a white background, makes up part of the Union Jack. Saint George is also the patron Saint of the Scouting organisation.

46. Saint Patrick's Day

This festival celebrates the patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick. The Saint Patrick's Festival is a five day event held in Ireland to celebrate the saint's day and Irish culture.

47. scones

A scone is a type of small, round bread, which can be sweet or savoury. There are many different varieties which can contain fruits like raisins or dates, or sometimes cheese.

48. shamrock

The shamrock is a type of grass which has three leaves. It was used by Saint Patrick to demonstrate the idea of the Holy Trinity and is now the symbol of Ireland.

49. Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was one of England's most famous writers and his works are known all over the world. He wrote 37 plays and 154 sonnets including Romeo and Juliet.

50. Sherlock Holmes

Sherlock Holmes first appeared in publication in 1887 in the novel A Study in Scarlet. He appeared in 4 novels and 56

short stories. He is particularly famous for his logical reasoning.

51. Shetland pony

The Shetland pony is a breed of pony from the Shetland Isles in Scotland. They are very small (71 to 107cm) but very strong and are considered very intelligent.

52. Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is a a gigantic sculpture on Liberty Island in New York. The statue represents Libertas, the Roman goddess of freedom, who holds a torch and a tablet.

53. Stonehenge

Stonehenge is a prehistoric stone circle in Salisbury, England. It contains over 90 stones which vary in shape and size, some of them weighing as much as 50 tonnes.

54. Sydney Opera House

The Sydney Opera House is a multi-venue performing arts centre in Sydney, Australia. It is situated in Sydney Harbour and is visited by more than 7 million people each year.

55. Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal is a white marble mausoleum which can be found in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. It was built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his third wife.

56. tea

Tea is prepared by pouring very hot water onto leaves of the tea plant. After water, it is the most widely consumed drink in the world. Over 150 million cups of tea are drunk daily in the UK.

57. telephone box

The red telephone box was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in 1924. It was coloured red for easy identification. A later design also incorporated a post box and a stamp vending machine.

58. Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated in the USA on the 4th Thursday of November. It is a festival of thanks for the harvest of the previous year. It is a national holiday in the USA.

59. The Beatles

The Beatles was a pop group formed in Liverpool, England in 1960. It was made up of 4 men: John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison.

60. The Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system, composed of nearly 3000 individual reefs and 900 islands. More than 1,500 species of fish live there.

61. Australian flag

This flag was first flown in Melbourne on 3rd September 1901. It shows a small Union Jack and the Southern Cross constellation and the large white Commonwealth star.

62. Uluru/Ayers Rock

Uluru, also known as Ayers Rock, is a sandstone formation in central Australia. It is 348mt above ground and stretches around 2.5 km underground.

63. Union Jack

The Union Jack is the flag which represents the United Kingdom. It flies on government buildings on specific flag days and flies from Buckingham Palace when the queen is not in residence.

64. Wellington boots

Wellington boots are a type of protective waterproof footwear. They were developed as hunting boots by the 1st Duke of Wellington. They are commonly known in the UK as "wellies".

65. Wimbledon

The Wimbledon Championships is the oldest tennis tournament in the world and it is the only major tennis competition which is still played on grass courts.

66. Yorkshire pudding

Yorkshire pudding is a type of savoury bread which originates from Yorkshire in the North of England. The first ever recipe was recorded in a cookery book in 1737.

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