

I. READING



What is the best-known symbol of London? Big Ben? The statue of Eros in Picadilly Circus? Or could it be something much more ordinary than that? Could it be the big red London double-decker bus?

It certainly could. Big red buses are recognised - and even found - all over the world, and people recognise them as symbols of London. Visitors climb into London buses to go and see the Niagara Falls. London buses can be seen driving round Europe to advertise big department stores, or British events. They don't need to have the words 'London Transport' on the side of them. People recognise them at once! It was over 100 years ago, on October 25th 1911, that the London General Omnibus Company ran their last horse-drawn omnibus through the streets of the capital. Since then the big red motor bus has been London's 'king of the road'.

Today, every day, thousands of Londoners use the big red buses to move - often slowly - around town. Lots of tourists know that a one-day London bus pass, valid on all regular bus routes, offers a wonderful way to see Britain's capital city.

The idea of the 'double decker' is actually much older than the motor bus. It is a continuation of the system that was used for public transport in the age of horse-drawn vehicles, when some of the passengers sat inside, and the rest travelled on the roof. Too bad if it was raining!

The earliest horse-drawn double-deckers in London had steps at the back, so that people could climb up onto the roof. The main difference with today's buses was that in those days, there was no protection for the people travelling on top. If it rained, they could pull a sort of oil-cloth cover out of the back of the seat in front of them, and pull it over them; but they still got wet.

Today the only open-topped buses are the special tourist buses. It wasn't until the 1930's that all new buses came equipped with roofs over the upper deck! Increasingly powerful engines meant that buses could be bigger and heavier. Like trams, they could then have roofs.

The most famous London buses, however, are not those that filled the capital's streets in the 1930's, but the powerful 'Routemasters' which date from the 1950's and 60's. These are the buses that have been taken all over the world, the buses that you can see in the tourist brochures, and the ones which have been sold, in miniature, to millions of visitors and souvenir hunters.

Still, it's not too late to enjoy travelling on one of these historic buses. Some of the old buses have been preserved, and were used on two 'heritage routes' through the centre of London, specially for tourists. Route 9 went from the Royal Albert Hall to Aldwych, via Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square; but the last Routemasters were used on this route in 2014. The only route left is Route 15, which goes from Trafalgar Square to the Tower of London, via St. Paul's Cathedral. But other old Routemasters are used by the tourist bus companies, which offer trips round the centre of London.

(Adapted from : linguapress.com)

1. Double-decker buses can be seen

- ☒ A) near the Niagara Falls.
- ☐ Б) only in the city of London.
- ☒ B) in almost every corner of the world.
- ☐ Г) nowhere outside the UK.

2. What does the phrase 'king of the road' refer to?

- ☐ A) the last horse-drawn omnibus
- ☒ Б) the double-decker bus
- ☒ B) the well-known vehicle
- ☒ Г) the big red motor bus

3. The idea of the 'double decker'

- ☐ A) was introduced when the first motor car appeared.
- ☐ Б) has been in use since 1911.
- ☒ B) had been used before the open-top vehicles started travelling.
- ☒ Г) referred to horse-drawn vehicles as well.





4. Double-decker buses

- ☒ A) were different from those drawn by animals.
- ☒ Б) had no roofs over the upper-deck before 1930's.
- ☒ B) can be purchased as miniature souvenirs.
- ☒ Г) are still an attraction to tourists in London.

5. 'Routemasters'

- ☐ A) are not as powerful as the buses that travelled in London in the 30's.
- ☐ Б) have been used on Route 9 until now.
- ☐ B) are no longer seen on the streets.
- ☐ Г) are not popular with tourist bus companies.

6. Which of the places does the text mention?

- ☒ A) 
- ☒ Б) 
- ☐ B) 
- ☒ Г) 

II. COMMUNICATION AND VOCABULARY

7. A: Do you fancy going to that new exhibition?

B:

- ☐ A) Never mind.
- ☐ Б) I wouldn't go.
- ☒ B) I won't make it, I'm afraid.
- ☐ Г) I'm not into music.

8. A:

B: Yes, I'm looking for a house to rent.

- ☒ A) May I help you?
- ☒ Б) Would you like me to help you?
- ☐ B) Will you help me?
- ☒ Г) Do you need some help, sir?

9. A: Thanks for inviting me to the party.

B:

- ☒ A) We are glad you have come.
☒ Б) Hope you'll like it.
☒ В) You're welcome.
☒ Г) I'm sure you'll have the time of your life here.

10. A: I'm sorry for breaking your vase.

B:

- ☒ A) It's not your fault.
☒ Б) No problem.
☒ В) Don't worry.
☒ Г) Don't be sad. It wasn't precious to me.

11. We lived in a when we were kids.

- ☒ A) cottage ☐ Б) kennel
☒ В) mansion ☐ Г) porch

12. My cousin Jane was wearing at the fancy dress party.

- ☐ A) pale complexion ☒ Б) her hair loose
☒ В) a dotted skirt ☒ Г) a wig

13. 'I often played truant in secondary school' is similar to

- ☐ A) I was punctual at school
☐ Б) I played a musical instrument at school
☐ В) I was a brilliant student
☐ Г) I won a lot of awards

14. Which of the jobs are done indoors?

- ☒ A) lawyer ☐ Б) forester
☒ В) plumber ☐ Г) ski instructor

15. You can buy trout and cod at the

- ☐ A) hardware shop. ☐ Б) stationer's.
☒ В) fishmonger's. ☐ Г) watchmaker's.

16. Mike is a/an boy. That's why he is not liked by so many people.

- ☒ A) greedy ☒ Б) cheeky
☒ В) unreliable ☒ Г) dishonest

III. GRAMMAR

17. When I got back home yesterday, my wife delicious dinner.

- ☒ A) made ☒ Б) was making
☒ В) had made ☐ Г) used to make

18. The Smiths have beautiful gardens.

- ☐ A) so ☐ Б) such a
☒ В) such ☒ Г) a few

19. We won't be able to get home they give us a lift.

- ☐ A) if ☐ Б) as soon as
☒ В) unless ☐ Г) provided that

20. We the new exhibition hall by the guide.

- ☐ A) were showed ☐ Б) have been showed
☐ В) have being shown ☐ Г) was shown

21. you like me to bring you something to drink?

- ☐ A) Will ☐ Б) Can
☒ В) Would ☐ Г) Shall

22. 'I haven't stolen the purse' Mark claimed.

- ☒ A) He said he hadn't stolen the purse.
☐ Б) He said he hasn't stolen the purse.
☐ В) He told he hadn't stolen the purse.
☒ Г) He told me he hadn't stolen the purse.

23. They refused us so we managed the problem on our own.

- ☐ A) to help, solving
☐ Б) helping, solving
☐ В) helping, to solve
☐ Г) help, to solve

24. The highlanders bought

- ☐ A) forty sheeps
☐ Б) forty sheeps
☐ В) forty sheep
☒ Г) forty sheep



25. Nobody helped Helen cook dinner. She cooked it

- ☒ A) herself
☒ Б) without any help
☒ В) on her own
☒ Г) with no help

26. Let's have (1) ... supper in (2) ... park.

- ☐ A) (1) a; (2) the ☐ Б) (1) a; (2) a
☒ В) (1) -; (2) a ☒ Г) (1) -; (2) the

IV. ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD

27. Which of these are the capital cities?

- ☐ A) Edinburgh, Dublin, Auckland, Sydney
☐ Б) Cardiff, Toronto, Dublin, London
☐ В) Wellington, Glasgow, Canberra, Belfast
☒ Г) Edinburgh, Canberra, Cardiff, Ottawa

28. Which of the sentence(s) is/are true about the USA?

- ☐ A) Texas is the biggest American state.
☐ Б) There are 51 states in the USA.
☒ В) The population of the USA is bigger than 300 million people.
☒ Г) Donald Trump is the 45th American president.

29. (1) and (2) are English singers.

- ☒ A) (1) Adele; (2) Dua Lipa
☐ Б) (1) Ariana Grande; (2) Madonna
☒ В) (1) Ed Sheeran; (2) Sam Smith
☐ Г) (1) Justin Bieber; (2) Bruno Mars

30. The Severn, Thames and Trent are the names of:

- ☒ A) rivers in Britain
☐ Б) mountain ranges in the USA
☐ В) lakes in Canada
☐ Г) historic buildings in Scotland