

NAME: _____ 2° BACH. – APRIL 10th – MOCK EXAM

There are some places in Britain where people greet each other with a smile and take advantage of any excuse for a street party. The building blocks of friendly communities are many and various: pubs, churches, amateur dramatic societies, schools and fish-and-chip shops. Here are some relaxed, easy-going places where one could feel confident of a warm welcome.

If terriers and poodles had a vote, Keswick, in Cumbria, would be the runaway winner as Britain's Friendliest Town. In 2012, the popular Lake District tourist centre took the national prize in a competition run by the Dog Club. Two-legged visitors also get a warm welcome. The town is an example of a community that relies on tourism without becoming cynical and **acquisitive**.

Yorkshire **folk** can sometimes be suspicious of outsiders, but the smiles of welcome get broader the further north in the county you travel. According to a recent **survey**, the spa town of Harrogate is the happiest community in Britain, taking into account factors such as good neighbourliness and handsome surroundings, including beautiful countryside. And it was voted happiest town last year, too.

You don't have to be tanked up with the local beer to appreciate the **friendliness** of Taunton and the people who live there. An abundance of independent shops and businesses in the town centre reveals an idiosyncratic community **brimming** (*lleno de, rebosante de*) with optimism. There are plenty of charming Victorian houses in town, and picturesque country cottages nearby.

The number of cyclists can often be a test for a **flourishing** community. Nowhere in Britain beats Plymouth in this respect. This Devon city is the most bicycle-friendly place in the country, according to a survey. Even if you prefer to explore by foot, you are likely to be struck by the fact that it seems to be a city **at ease** with itself. A large student population means there are plenty of flats and a good mix of people from many countries.

1. TRUE or FALSE according to the text. Copy that part (and ONLY that part) of the text which justifies your answer. (1.5 point)

- a. TRUE Some establishments in certain communities in the UK, like restaurants, are calm and you will be treated nicely.
There are some places in Britain (...) The building blocks of friendly communities are many and various: pubs, churches, amateur dramatic societies, schools and fish-and-chip shops. Here are some relaxed, easy-going places where one could feel confident of a warm welcome.
- b. TRUE If dogs could vote, Keswick would be their favourite town. If terriers and poodles had a vote, Keswick, in Cumbria, would be the runaway winner as Britain's Friendliest Town.
- c. TRUE Keswick lives mainly on tourism.
Keswick, in Cumbria [...] The town is an example of a community that relies on tourism without becoming cynical and **acquisitive**. [often disapproving, eager to own and collect things; codicioso]
- d. FALSE People in South Yorkshire make people feel more welcome than in North Yorkshire.
Yorkshire folk can sometimes be suspicious of outsiders, but the smiles of welcome get broader the further north in the county you travel.
- e. TRUE Harrogate has been voted the happiest town for two years.
According to a recent survey, the spa town of Harrogate is the happiest community in Britain [...] And it was voted happiest town last year, too.

f. _____ FALSE _____ The most cosmopolitan city mentioned in the text is Taunton.

Nowhere in Britain beats Plymouth in this respect. [...] A large student population means there are plenty of flats and a good mix of people from many countries.

Survey [B2]: an examination of opinions, behaviour, etc., made by asking people questions

Collocations: to conduct, to carry out or to do a survey

2. Find words or phrases in the text that correspond in meaning to the words and definitions given here: (1.5 points)

a. say hello to: greet

b. champion: runaway winner

c. renowned: popular

d. depends: relies

e. people: folk

f. bigger: broader

g. scenery: surroundings

h. drunk: tanked up

i. cordiality: friendliness

j. shocked: struck

runaway winner:

a person, team, or entity that achieves a significant and often uncontested victory or success, usually in a competition or election

3. Pronunciation: (1 point)

a. Which of the following words has the same sound as the letter underlined in the word “church”:
terriers, warm, tourism, prefer.

b. In which word is the underlined letter pronounced differently from the others: country, could, foot, good.

c. Circle the word with the ending pronounced /d/ as in “lived”? worked, stopped, listened, helped, asked.

d. Circle **two** words with the ending pronounced /z/ as in “cars”? looks, handkerchiefs, jobs, works, envelopes, walks, knives.

4. Use of English: use the word or expression in italics. (3 points; 0.3p each)

a. “Go to the Lake District because you will love it!” she said to us. **Reported Speech (Advice/Commands)**
She told us to go to the Lake District because we would love it.

Explanation: When reporting an imperative (a command or strong advice), we use the structure verb + object + to-infinitive. Also, “will” changes to “would” because the reporting verb “said/told” is in the past (backshifting).

b. The last time I visited Yorkshire was two years ago. **Time Expressions (Past Simple to Present Perfect)**

Solution (since): I haven't visited Yorkshire since 2024 (assuming the current year is 2026).

Solution (for): I haven't visited Yorkshire for two years.

Explanation: We use the **Present Perfect Negative** to describe an action that stopped in the past and has not happened again up to now. "Since" marks a specific point in time, while "for" marks a duration.

c. He had no family in Devon and he didn't have any friends. **Negative Correlative Conjunctions**

He had neither family in Devon nor friends.

Explanation: The structure neither... nor is used to join two negative ideas. Because "neither" already carries a negative meaning, the main verb must be in the affirmative form to avoid a double negative.

d. I went to Harrogate last summer and I met Clare. **Third Conditional (Hypothetical Past)**

If I hadn't gone to Harrogate last summer, I wouldn't have met Clare.

Explanation: To talk about a **past** situation that cannot be changed, we use the **Third Conditional**. The structure is **If + Past Perfect, ... would have + Past Participle**.

e. "Are you going to Britain on holidays next month?" my aunt wanted to know. **Reported Questions**

My aunt wanted to know if I was going to Britain on holidays the following month.

Explanation: For "Yes/No" questions, we use if or whether. We change the tense from Present Continuous to Past Continuous and update time expressions like "next month" to "the following month."

f. I think it is a good idea to take a bicycle because the city is prepared and safe. **Modal Verbs for Advice**

You should / ought to take a bicycle because the city is prepared and safe.

Explanation: "I think it is a good idea" is a common way to give advice. The modal verbs should or ought to are the most accurate grammatical equivalents for this function.

g. Cumbria always gives visitors a warm welcome. It is Britain's Friendliest Town. **Relative Clauses (Non-defining)**

Cumbria, which is Britain's Friendliest Town, always gives visitors a warm welcome.

Explanation: We use a non-defining relative clause (starting with which and separated by commas) to add extra information about a noun that is already specific.

h. I am having a wonderful time here. I don't want to go home. **Result Clauses (Such... that)**

I am having such a wonderful time here that I don't want to go home.

Explanation: Such + (a/an) + adjective + noun + that is used to emphasize the quality of something and show the resulting consequence.

i. My neighbour's dog won't stop barking, I'm fed up. **Expressing Annoyance (Wish + would)**

I wish my neighbour's dog would stop barking.

Explanation: We use I wish + would when we are complaining about an annoying habit or a situation we want someone else to change.

j. Jamie has offered me a trip to Taunton. **Passive Voice (Personal Passive)**

I have been offered a trip to Taunton (by Jamie).

Explanation: When a sentence has two objects (me / a trip), English often prefers using the person as the subject of the passive sentence. The Present Perfect "has offered" becomes "have been offered."

5. WRITE A COMPOSITION ANSWERING THIS QUESTION: Is the place where you live friendly to visitors? What would you do to attract more visitors? (MAXIMUM 130 words; 3 points).