

# CAN YOU GO TO LONDON?

IMAGINE THAT SOMETHING REALLY COOL HAPPENED TO YOU – YOU WON A FREE TRIP TO LONDON IN A COMPETITION! GREAT, ISN'T IT? BUT THERE IS A SLIGHT PROBLEM. THE PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION CAUSED BIG SCANDALS IN THE CITY. THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH, SO THEY DIDN'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO WARNING SIGNS – THEY WALKED INTO FORBIDDEN PLACES, THEY NEARLY DESTROYED THE LONDON UNDERGROUND AND THEY MADE LOTS OF PEOPLE ANGRY WITH THEIR RUDE BEHAVIOUR.

THE ORGANIZERS OF THE COMPETITION WERE ASHAMED AND DON'T WANT THE SITUATION TO BE REPEATED. SO NOW THE WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION MUST PASS THE FOLLOWING TEST TO SHOW THAT THEY WILL BE MUCH MORE DISCIPLINED TOURISTS. LOOK AT THE SIGNS BELOW AND GUESS WHAT THEY ORDER YOU TO DO. IF YOU SUCCEED, YOU CAN GO TO LONDON. IF NOT, YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY AT HOME AND IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH. GOOD LUCK!



1. A sign in the London underground
- I mustn't bring any dirty things through the doors, only clean ones. I should keep the London underground tidy.
  - I mustn't approach the doors at all. They may lead to dangerous places.
  - I mustn't keep my bags and myself too close to the doors. The doors might crush me or I might break the doors – who knows?



2. A sign in the window of a clothing shop
- They will close the shop soon. My last chance to buy something there – they promise the prices are cheap.
  - It's a kind of a bazaar, I can sell my clothes there. If I don't have enough money for the return journey, this is where I will go!
  - The building is about to fall down. So it is dangerous to enter the shop – but if I risk it, I can get the clothes almost for free!



3. A sign on a London house
- Hooray! I can rent this pretty place and open a superb shop there.
  - Hooray! I can buy this pretty place and open a superb shop there.
  - Hooray! This pretty place goes into a lottery, and if I win, I will get it for free and can open a superb shop there.



**4. A sign in the Covent Garden shopping centre**

- a) The pigeons around this place are really aggressive. They bite! If I see any, I should run away.
- b) I shouldn't give the lovely birds any bread or biscuits. Even if they look at me with very, very hungry eyes. If I do, I might catch some nasty disease.
- c) I shouldn't touch and pet the pigeons. They are unique and I could harm them.



**6. A sign on the door to an Irish pub in London**

- a) I mustn't enter unless I am intelligent (smart) enough.
- b) I mustn't enter in my usual shabby, dirty, torn clothes.
- c) I must wear women's dress only.



**5. A sign not far from Buckingham Palace**

- a) I must get out of my cosy car and walk further only on foot. Ouch...
- b) I must turn back and head somewhere else. No walking to those places allowed.
- c) I must have a special permit from the Queen to enter this place.



**7. A sign on a London post box**

- a) I shouldn't put any letters into the box after 7 pm. If I do, they will never be delivered.
- b) All letters put into this box after 7 pm will become a part of a special collection in the London Post Museum.
- c) I can put my letters in whenever I wish. Only I shouldn't blame the postmen if my letters put into the box late in the evening will sleep in the box overnight.

Check your solution on p. 3. You get a point for each correct answer.

**Result:**

**0-3:** Ooops. You would be as horrible a tourist as those who won the competition last year! You would break things, tread on the grass, scare the poor Londoners! No, sorry, no trip for you. Sit at home and study, study, study. And try your luck again next year!

**4-5:** Well... Not bad. You would probably survive in London quite easily, although you may confuse some people and cause a few scandals. It's a bit risky to let you go, but maybe if you promise to be really nice... You know what? Try the test once again, and if you do better, you can set off on the journey!

**6-7:** Congratulations! And applause – you did very, very well! You'll be able to understand all you need in London, and you'll make everyone proud. Just don't get lost in the London underground and don't drink too much cider.