

## British & American Culture eTwinning project 2017

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Multiple choice questions:

1. What is the Queen of England 's name?  
a) Queen Mary    b) Queen Victoria    c) Queen Elisabeth the 2<sup>nd</sup>
2. What is the capital city of the United States of America?  
a) Washington DC    b) New York    c) Chicago
3. Where can you find the Statue of Liberty?  
a) in Boston    b) in New York    c) in Washington
4. Where can somebody see wax figures (models) in London?  
a) In the British Museum    b) In Madame Tussauds Museum    c) In the Natural History Museum
5. What is the capital city of Wales?  
a) Cardiff    b) Swansea    c) Newport
6. How many Official Languages are there in Wales?  
a) One    b) Two    c) Three
7. Which is Scotland's largest city?  
a) Edinburgh    b) Aberdeen    c) Glasgow
8. What musical instrument is Scotland famous for?  
a) violin    b) flute    c) bagpipe
9. Is the whole Ireland a part of the United Kingdom?  
a) Yes, it is.    b) No, it isn't. Only Northern Ireland is a member.    c) It is not known.
10. What is the capital and the largest city of Northern Ireland?  
a) Dublin    b) Belfast    c) Derry

GOOD LUCK!!:)

Created by the Romanian team:

Școala Gimnazială "Ion Buteanu" Buceș

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Open questions:

1. What do the stars on the American flag represent?
2. When is the National Day of the United States of America?
3. What are the first three largest cities in Scotland?
4. What is Scotland famous for?
5. What are the most important tourist points of interest in London?
6. England is famous for a strong sporting heritage. Name a few sports originating in England.
7. What are the three national parks in Wales?
8. What is Wales bordered by to the east, to the north and west and to the south?
9. How many counties does Northern Ireland consist of? What are their names?
10. What happened to Ireland in 1921?

GOOD LUCK!!:)

Created by the Romanian team: Școala Gimnazială "Ion Buteanu" Buceș

I. Multiple choice questions

- |     |      |
|-----|------|
| 1-c | 6-b  |
| 2-a | 7-c  |
| 3-b | 8-c  |
| 4-b | 9-b  |
| 5-a | 10-b |

II. Open questions:

1. Each star on the American flag represents a state in the United States .
2. The National Day of the United States of America is on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July.
3. The first three largest cities in Scotland are: Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.
4. Scotland is famous for the bagpipe, kilt, whisky and golf.
5. The most important tourist points of interest in London are: Big Ben, Buckingham Palace, Tower of London, Tower Bridge, London Eye, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, British Museum, Palace of Westminster, Natural History Museum, National Gallery, Hyde Park, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus, River Thames and many other museums and theatres.
6. A few sports originating in England include(are): football, tennis, rugby, cricket, boxing, squash, badminton, [hockey](#), [snooker](#), [billiards](#), [darts](#), table tennis, [bowls](#), [netball](#), [thoroughbred](#) horseracing, [greyhound racing](#) and [fox hunting](#), golf and Formula One.
7. The three national parks in London are: [Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](#), [Snowdonia National Park](#) and [Brecon Beacons National Park](#).
8. **Wales is bordered to the east, to the north and west and to the south like this: Wales(It) is bordered by England to the east, the Irish Sea to the north and west, and the Bristol Channel to the south.**
9. **Northern Ireland consists of six counties. Their names are: Antrim.Armagh.Down.Fermanagh.Londonderry.Tyrone.**
10. **In 1921 Ireland was partitioned between Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland by an act of the British parliament.**

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Multiple choice questions:

**1. United Kingdom is a unitary state consisting of:?**

- a) England, Ireland and Scotland
- b) England, Wales and Scotland
- c) England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales
- d) England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales

**2. The flag of UK is called?**

- a) Stars and Stripes
- b) Union Jack
- c) The Lone Star
- d) Coat of Arms

**3. Thames is a....?**

- a) capital city of New Zealand
- b) small town in northern Canada
- c) river in southern England
- d) mountain in the USA

**4. Orkney is a.....?**

- a) group of mountains in Wales
- b) group of lakes in Scotland
- c) group of islands in Scotland
- d) type of sheep in Scotland

**5. What colours are there in the flag of Republic of Ireland?**

- a) red and white
- b) green, white, orange
- c) green, white, red
- d) blue and white

**6. The flag of which country has got a dragon in it?**

- a) Northern Ireland
- b) Republic of Ireland
- c) Scotland
- d) Wales

**7. In the flag of Northern Ireland there is?**

- a) a hand and a crown in a star
- b) a star with a dragon
- c) a hand in a circle
- d) a red dragon with a crown in the centre

**8. South Wales is famous for its....**

- a) sand
- b) coal
- c) iron
- d) salt

**9. Write the names of countries under each floral emblem (symbol):**

**Choose from: Scotland, England, Wales, Northern Ireland**



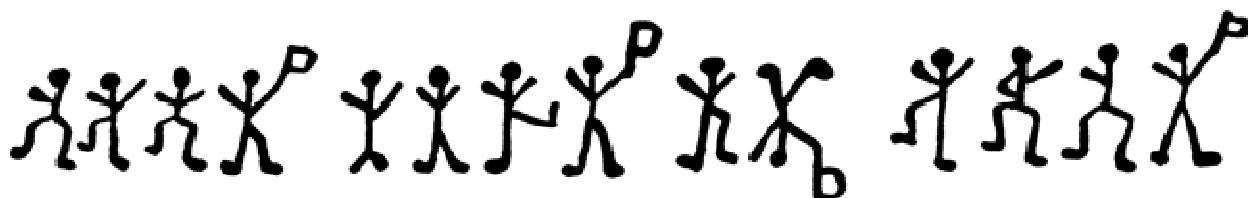
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**10. The pictures above show (in order):**

- a) a red rose, a shamrock, a poppy, a daffodil
- b) a red rose, a thistle, a shamrock, a poppy
- c) a red rose, a daffodil, a thistle, a shamrock
- d) a red rose, a shamrock, a daffodil, a thistle

Open questions

1. Who will be the next king or queen of Britain?
2. Who was the king who had six wives?
3. Who is the Prime Minister of Great Britain?
4. Where is Hogmanay mainly celebrated?
5. What is the most famous bridge in London called?
6. Where can you find the biggest and the best-known shops in London?
7. What is the name of traditional Scottish skirt?
8. Which American city is called LA for short?
9. Who was the first President of the USA?
10. What does it mean? (Dancing men code)



**GOOD LUCK!!:)**

Created by the Polish team:

Szkoła Podstawowa z Oddziałami Integracyjnymi Nr 6 in Siedlce

Answers:

1. c) England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales      2. b) Union Jack    3. c) river in southern England

4 c) group of islands in Scotland    5. b) green, white, orange    6. d) Wales    7. a) a hand and a crown in a star

8.b) coal 9. \_\_\_ England \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Northern Ireland \_\_\_ Wales \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Scotland \_\_\_

10. d) a red rose, a shamrock, a daffodil, a thistle

Open questions

1. Prince Charles 2. Henry VIII 3. Theresa May 4. In Scotland 5. Tower Bridge 6. West End 7. Kilt 8. Los Angeles

9. George Washington 10. Come here at once

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## Multiple choice questions

Tudor England – Here are some questions from famous British history

- King Henry VIII was from which dynasty?  
a) Idris of Lybia                      b) Tudor  
b) Ayyubid dynasty                    d) Anjou
- Henry VII had a disagreement with:  
a) Napoleon                              b) Gandalf  
b) Pope                                    d) Hitler
- What was a famous prison in his time?  
a) Big Ben  
b) Aztec's Temple  
c) The Tower  
d) Tower Bridge
- How many wives did Henry VIII have?  
a) 2                                        b) 4  
c) 6                                        d) 8
- What were the names of his wives?  
a) Catherine, Anne, Jane, Kathryn, Anne, Katherine  
b) Victoria, Mary, Anne, Elizabeth, Catherine, Margaret  
c) Diana, Elizabeth, Mary, Anne, Katherine, Antoinette
- How many children did King Henry VIII have?  
a) 1                                        b) 3  
c) 5                                        d) 2
- Which of his daughters became the most famous English queen?  
a) Mary                                    b) Anne  
c) Elizabeth                              d) Margaret
- What did people in his time use as deodorant?  
a) Old Spice                              b) Scented beads  
c) Nivea                                    d) Smelling salts
- Which famous writer lived during the time of Elizabeth I?  
a) Ernest Hemingway                    b) Oscar Wilde  
c) William Shakespeare                d) Arthur Conan Doyle

We hope you like our trip to the past. Good luck with exploring.  
Marko and Luka from Primary school Tordinci, Croatia

## Answers to the first set of questions

- b) Tudor
- c) Pope
- c) the Tower
- c) six
- a) Catherine, Anne, Jane, Kathryn, Anne, Katherine
- b) 3
- c) Elizabeth
- b) scented beads
- c) William Shakespeare

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1. What is the national bird of the USA?
2. Which American explorer discovered Machu Picchu?
3. Describe American flag.
4. What is the motto of the USA?
5. How do Irish say Ireland?
6. What are Native Americans also called?
7. Which world famous Croatian inventor moved to America and continued his work there?
8. What is the difference between afternoon and high tea?
9. What did St Patrick liberate Ireland from?
10. Can you write George Washington in his secret code?

### Answers – for teachers

1. The national bird of the USA is bald eagle.
2. Hiram Bingham.
3. American flag consists of 13 red and white stripes and 50 white stars in blue rectangle.
4. In God we trust.
5. They say: Éireann
6. They are also called Indians.
7. Nikola Tesla.
8. Afternoon tea is between 2 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and high tea is between 5 and 7 o'clock in the afternoon.
9. From snakes.



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## British Culture-American Culture

### A. England:

1. What are the colours of the flag of England?

- a) red, blue and white;   b) red and white;
- c) green and yellow.

2. What's the name of the Queen of England?

- a) Queen Elizabeth II;   b) Queen Mary;
- c) Queen Jane.

3. What's the capital of England?

4. What's "XMAS"?

### B. Scotland:

1. What are the colours of the flag of Scotland?

- a) blue and green;   b) blue and white;
- c) green and red.

2. What's the population of Scotland?

- a) about 7 million;   b) about 5.5 million;
- c) about 20 million.

3. What's the capital of Scotland?

4. What's the national currency?

### C. Wales:

1. What are the colours of the flag of Wales?

- a) yellow and pink;   b) blue and white;
- c) red and green.

2. What's on the Welsh flag?

- a) a lion;   b) the Welsh Dragon;   c) the Welsh tiger.



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3. What's the capital of Wales?

4. What's the Welsh calling code?

### D. Northern Ireland:

1. What's the national currency?

a) GBP; b) €; c) RON;

2. What's the name of a famous university in Northern Ireland?

a) Queen's University Belfast; b) King's University Belfast; c) Prince's University Belfast.

3. What's the capital of Northern Ireland?

4. When was Northern Ireland created?

### E. The United States of America:

1. What's the official language of the United States of America?

a) French; b) Romanian; c) English.

2. What's the capital of the USA?

a) New York; b) Washington; c) Chicago.

3. Who is the president of the USA?

4. Name a famous American singer.

Team from Romania-Apa- Mihaela

A. 1. a    2. a    3. London    4. Christmas.

B. 1. B    2. b    3. Edinburgh    4. Pound sterling (GBP).

C. 1. C    2. B    3. Cardiff    4. +44

D. 1. A    2. a    3. Belfast    4. 1921.

E. 1. C    2. b    3. Donald Trump    4. e.g. Lady Gaga.

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### England:

1. The author of „ Alice in Wonderland” was....  
a) Lewis Carroll b) A. A Milne c) Mark Twain d) Edgar A. Poe
2. The famous Trafalgar Square in London was given this name to commemorate....  
a) Admiral Nelson’s naval victory b) popular politician in the XX century  
c) one of English scholars d) a British general
3. Name five works by Shakespeare.
4. How do English people celebrate Christmas?

### Wales :

1. The Welsh name of Wales is....  
a) Cyprus b) Cuprus c) Cymru d) Cymrys
2. Snowdonia is.....  
a) the national dish in Wales b) the national costume in Wales c) the national park of Wales d) the national airline
3. Which two plants are symbols of Wales?
4. What is the Welsh delicacy - Laverbread made from?

### Scotland :

1. The national poet of Scots was....  
a) Edgar A. Poe b) Robert Burns c) Oscar Wilde d) Joe Walker
2. Hogmanay is the Scottish name of....  
a) the capitol city Edinburgh b) the national anthem c) the biggest loch- lake in Scotland d) the new year

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3. What's the name of the traditional skirt worn by Scots?
4. What two products- food and drink come from Scotland?

### **Northern Ireland**

1. The largest lake in the British Isles lies in Northern Ireland. What is its name?  
a) Loch Lomond b) Loch Neagh c) Loch Belfast d) Loch Foyle
2. Which is the nearest other UK country to the Northern Ireland ?  
a) England b) Wales c) Scotland
3. Which Irish-born actor plays King Henry VIII in the TV series „The Tudors „?
4. Where did Bloody Sunday happen?

### **the USA**

1. Washington, the capital of the USA, is in the state of.....  
a) New York b) Washington c) Maryland d) District of Columbia
2. Which is the biggest state of the USA?  
  
a) Alaska b) California c) Texas d) Montana
3. Name three American tourist attractions you'd like to visit and why.
4. Name three American icons.

**Gimnazjum Nr 1 Gdynia, Poland, Anna Klein**

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1. The author of „Alice in wonderland” was **Lewis Carroll**
2. The famous **Trafalgar Square** in London was given its name to commemorate **Admiral's Nelson naval victory**.
3. The Welsh name of Wales is **Cymru**.
4. Snowdonia is the **national park in Wales**.
5. The national poet of Scotland was **Robert Burns**.
6. Hogmanay is **the Scottish New Year**
7. The largest lake in the British Isles is **Loch Neagh**.
8. The nearest other UK country nearest to Northern Ireland is **Scotland**.
9. Washington is in the state **District of Columbia**.
10. The biggest state of the USA is **Alaska**.

**England:** 1. Works by Shakespeare- e.g „Romeo and Juliet”, „Hamlet”, „Macbeth”, „King Lear”, „The Tempest”, „Taming of the Shrew”, „The Midsummer Night Dream”, „All's well that ends well”, „The comedy of errors”, „As you like it”, „The Merchant of Venice”, „Much Ado about nothing”, „Anthony and Cleopatra”. „Julius Caesar”.

2. English people celebrate Christmas on December 25 th.

- early in the morning they open their presents,
- they have a family dinner with turkey as the main dish
- after dinner they pull crackers and eat pudding
- they put on paper crowns found in crackers
- they sing carols

3. The national dress of Scots is **kilt**.

4. **Haggis, whisky**-come from Scotland.

5. Two plants- symbols of Wales-**leek, daffodil**

6. The Welsh dish Laverbread is made from **seaweed**.

7. **Jonathann Rhys Meyers** played King Henry the 8 th in the series „The Tudors”.

8. **Bloody Sunday** happened on the **30 th January 1972**.

9. **American attractions**- e.g

- the White House
- the Empire State Building
- Disneyland
- the Grand Canyon
- the Statue of Liberty
- Hollywood
- Las Vegas
- Golden Gate Bridge- San Francisco

**10 American icons**- e.g

- Michael Jordan
- Marthin Luther King
- Elvis Presley
- Marilyn Monroe
- John Fitzgerald Kennedy- his wife Jackie

### Queen Elizabeth II

(Lea)

1. When was she crowned ?
2. How old was she when she died ?
3. Did she have children ?
4. Did she have a nice childhood ?
5. In which year was she married ?

### Margareth Thatcher (Charles)

1. In what year did her popularity increase?
2. For what was she fired from her political party ?
3. Why was she special ?

Source : wikipedia.org

Agatha Christie (Cléante)

[Agatha Christie — Wikipédia](#)

What was her nationality ?  
Where was she born ?  
when she born ?  
When did she die ?

### Queen Boudicca (Océane)

- 1) When and where did Boudicca die ?
- 2) Boudicca had two children. How were they called ?
- 3) What was her occupations ?
- 4) Boudicca's army killed a number of Romans. How many ?
- 5) What are the other names of Boudicca ?
- 6) What happened with her daughters ?

7) Why was there a rebellion ?

8) Who was she married to ?

**Marilyn Monroe (Ilyes)**

[https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn\\_Monroe](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn_Monroe)

What was her birth name ?

When was she born ?

Where was she born ?

When did she die ?

What was her work ?

What award did she win ?

Marine D

Emmeline Pankhurst

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emmeline\\_Pankhurst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emmeline_Pankhurst)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/pankhurst\\_emmeline.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/pankhurst_emmeline.shtml)

1-What was her nationality ?

2-When was she born ?

3-Why was she famous ?

4-What was her victory ?

**Shahinéze**

**Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845)**

1) Which banknote is representing Elizabeth Fry?

2) Who was her partner?

3) How many children did she have?

4) What is her date of birth?

5) What practical activity did she have?

6) How is she described?

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Source: wikipedia.org

### **Emerald Isle**

Did you know ? P55

Ireland is a young country. It was part of the United Kingdom for a long time, and it became an independent republic in 1916. But its traditions are much older! Here are a few Irish symbols.

**The Shamrock (le trêfle)** is a small plant with three leaves; the legend says that it was used by Saint Patrick to explain the Christian religion to Irish people back in the 5th century.

**Brian Boru's Harp**: Brian Boru was the 1st High King of Ireland, during the 10th century.

Today, his harp is the official symbol of Ireland.

You can see it on certain Euro coins, for instance. The original harp is still kept in Trinity College, in the heart of Dublin. We don't know if it really belonged to him, but it has become a symbol of independence and pride.

### QUIZZ Questions

- 1.What is the Irish symbol of Brian Boru ?
- 2.Give one Irish symbol.
- 3.What is the main symbol of Ireland ?
4. What is the date of the independence of Ireland ?
5. How is the first king of Ireland called ?
6. Why is the shamrock the symbol of Ireland ?  
People.
7. Why is the shamrock used to explain the Christian religion ?
- 8.What is the capital of Ireland ?

Questions about Explore

Antoine :

- 1.What is a leprechaun wearing ?
  - 2.Where is his pot of gold ?
  - 3.Who is leprechaun ?
  - 4.Why is he legendary ?
- Maria and Mackenzie : Leprechauns
- 1.*How are their clothing ?*
  - 2.*How tall are they ?*
  - 3.*What do they like doing ?*

Lois : *the leprechaun :*

- 1) what is he wearing ?
- 2)where do leprechauns hide?

Zakaria:

- 1)What does a leprechaun carry?
- 2)What does he do?
- 3)Where is the leprechaun?

Answer 1 : a harp

Answer 2 :the shamrock, the harp, green

Answer 3:Brian Boru's harp, now in Trinity College

Answer 4 : 1916

Answer 5 : Brian Boru

Answer 6 : because Ireland is green and because the legend says it was used by St Patrick to explain the Christian religion to the Irish

Answer 7 : because it has 3 leaves.

Answer 8 : it is Dublin.

## 10 greatest women in British history

**It was only 30 years ago that Britain acquired its first female prime minister but women have nevertheless made their mark throughout British history. Here are ten of the most notable, by Sally Varlow, author of *The Lady Penelope: The Lost Tale of Love and Politics in the Court of Elizabeth I***

Meryl Streep as Margaret Thatcher in *The Iron Lady*

In an age of celebrities and women's rights, it is easy to imagine that women have only made an impact on British history in recent years. It was some 30 years ago that Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female prime minister. But down the centuries countless women have proved they could make their mark in politics, literature, medicine, social reform and, of course, in the oldest profession in the world. What's more, whether queens or commoners, they've achieved their fame without ruling from behind their men-folk. Some, like Nell Gwyn, have latterly come to epitomise the spirit of their age. Others became national treasures in their own lifetime, including Florence Nightingale, the 'Lady with the Lamp', who died more than a century ago. As the founder of modern nursing she is sometimes named as our national heroine, though many others might have claimed that title in the past 2,000 years.

Read about the [10 greatest men in British history](#)

Here is BRITAIN's leading line-up:

### **Boudicca (died 60/61AD)**

First comes Boudicca, warrior queen of the ancient Iceni tribe, who led a rebellion that nearly ended Roman rule in Britain. When the Romans plundered the tribe's lands in modern-day Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk, flogged Boudicca and raped her two daughters, the Iceni rose up. With other tribes, they wiped out the Romans' Ninth Legion and sacked their strongholds at Colchester, London and St Albans, taking no prisoners (according to Roman historians) and massacring at least 70,000. But it is Boudicca alone, standing tall and Titian-haired in her chariot, who is remembered among the freedom fighters, and honoured with a dramatic statue, arms raised, by Thomas Thornycroft, near London's Westminster Pier.

### **Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603)**

If Boudicca is the feistiest figure from Ancient Britain, Elizabeth I is surely the most famous in more recent history. She is also the first of three queens not born to rule but nonetheless outstanding monarchs. She escaped the disgrace of her mother, Queen Anne Boleyn (executed by Elizabeth's father, King Henry VIII), then survived the politically dangerous reigns of her brother, King Edward VI, and her sister Queen Mary. Eventually inheriting the throne herself,



she emerged a powerful ruler, adept at boosting her popularity by ‘progressing’ around the country and playing up her image as “the Virgin Queen” – though her closeness to her “sweet Robin”, Lord Leicester, might suggest otherwise. While many see in her a charismatic queen addressing her troops as they awaited the Spanish Armada, to others she is the evil executioner of Mary Queen of Scots, the woman who should have ruled England, rather than Elizabeth, merely the daughter of the king’s former mistress.

### **Nell Gwyn (1650-1687)**

Of all royal mistresses down the ages, none has graced the job more joyously than “pretty witty Nell”, as Samuel Pepys called her. From an orange girl selling fruit to London theatregoers, Eleanor Gwyn rose to be an actress who caught the eye of the merry monarch, King Charles II, and ended up with a royal pension and a splendid house in Pall Mall. When Nell first made her mark on the stage, London was reveling in the return of the king and court life (in 1660, after the Commonwealth period of Puritan rule), and the spirit of Restoration London is epitomised in her ample-bosomed portrait. High spirits, low birth and earthy humour naturally made her enemies at court, especially among the king’s other mistresses. But, with Charles, she remained a favourite and tradition says that, on his deathbed, he urged his brother to take care of her; just as Lord Nelson begged others to look after his concubine Lady Emma Hamilton.

### **Jane Austen (1775-1817)**

Few lives could be more different from Nell and Emma’s than the morally upright spinsterhood of Jane Austen, our most celebrated woman novelist. The story of her life in rural Chawton and fashionable Bath has been told times over; and her subject, as every reader knows, was the “truth, universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife”. But while Regency London’s high society might be led by libertines, Jane’s demure heroines know full well that even a runaway romance which ended in marriage, like Lydia Bennet’s, brought shame and destroyed her sisters’ hopes of finding husbands. From *Pride and Prejudice* and *Emma* to *Persuasion*, Jane’s final story, it is Jane’s genius to observe, and sometimes satirise, their attention to status, manners and reputation.

### **Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845)**

Mrs Fry may be the least familiar of our famous ladies, but her pioneering work as a prison reformer has long been recognised and still earns her a place here. Born into the Gurney family, her marriage to Joseph Fry united two old and wealthy Quaker families, equally noted for piety and philanthropy, and Elizabeth became deeply involved in charitable work and the Quaker ministry. It was a visit to Newgate jail that opened her eyes to the appallingly squalid conditions women prisoners suffered, crowded together with their children. Thereafter she became a familiar figure, in her Quaker dress and bonnet, prison visiting and reading the Bible. Her campaigning and religious convictions succeeded in reforming prisoners and their conditions, by introducing education, paid employment, female warders, and recognition that all inmates must be treated humanely.

### **Queen Victoria (1819-1901)**

Victoria is the second queen who came to the throne by default, when her royal uncles, King George IV and King William IV, failed to produce a surviving legitimate heir. Crowned in 1838, her initial limited grasp of constitutional matters was soon supplemented by her husband, Prince Albert (whose death in 1861 left her in mourning for the rest of her life); and her favourite prime ministers, Lord Melbourne and Disraeli. With their help, and the colonising power of British forces and trading companies, she became the most powerful woman in the world. At home, her scandal-free private life made royalty respectable, after the racy behaviour of her uncles. If the rigid formality of her Court now seems absurdly stiff, it's worth remembering that her Court composer was Sir Arthur Sullivan, co-creator of the comic Gilbert and Sullivan light operas.

### **Florence Nightingale (1820-1910)**

The first woman to hold the Order of Merit and appear on a UK banknote, Miss Nightingale was a national treasure before she was 40. Her pioneering work tending British troops in the Crimean War earned her the thanks of a grateful nation. The money raised in appreciation funded her nurses' training school at London's St Thomas's Hospital, and from there her influence and principles spread worldwide. Despite her own ill health she devoted the rest of her long life to improving sanitation and health care, not without a reputation for bossiness. Yet her popular image remains that of a "ministering angel", as The Times' war correspondent put it, paying night time visits to the wounded soldiers. Every year, her birthday in May is marked at Westminster Abbey and East Wellow church, in Hampshire, where she was buried; and this year there are special services for the centenary of her death, as well as new exhibitions at St Thomas's Hospital museum, redeveloped for the anniversary, and at Claydon House in Buckinghamshire, where she often stayed with her sister.

### **Emmeline Pankhurst (1858-1928)**

Historians may disagree on the help or harm that Emmeline gave to the women's suffrage movement, but few doubt she was one of its most inspirational figureheads. After years working for votes for women, but with little success, Emmeline, helped by her daughter Christabel, established the Women's Social and Political Union as a militant wing of the women's movement. Their campaign of window-smashing, arson and violent demonstrations led to regular arrests, hunger strikes and brutal force feeding, which inevitably drew mixed public reaction. On the outbreak of war in 1914, Emmeline suspended the campaign, encouraging women to put their efforts into war work instead. After peace was signed, women over 30 were granted the vote, and shortly before Emmeline's death the age was reduced to 21, to match men's votes.

### **Margaret Thatcher (1925-2013)**

As Britain's first female prime minister (1979), Mrs Thatcher's place in history is rightly guaranteed. Yet it is her 11 consecutive years as PM, unmatched in the 20th century, and her role as the first woman leader of a major Western democracy, that make her one of the most

dominant figures in modern politics. As leader of the Conservative Party, her pro-privatisation policy and public-spending cuts naturally brought her into open conflict with trade unions and socialists, earning her the nickname the Iron Lady. With victory in the Falklands War and her narrow escape from an IRA bomb in Brighton, her popularity soared and, in 1987, she won a then unprecedented third general election. But her Euro-sceptic and Poll Tax policies had caused division in her cabinet and, in 1990, she was forced to resign as party leader. Two years later, she went to the House of Lords as Baroness Thatcher.

### Queen Elizabeth II (1926- )

Like Elizabeth I and Victoria, the Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was not expected to become queen. But the abdication of her uncle, King Edward VIII, propelled her father to the throne, as George VI, and when he died tragically young, in 1952, Elizabeth found herself ruler of the UK and Commonwealth. Since then she has witnessed greater changes in her realms – in society, science, technology, medicine and world affairs – than any of her predecessors can have imagined. They would have been astonished, possibly appalled, at the millions of miles she has travelled, hands she has shaken, and public engagements she has fulfilled. But they would have admired the unwavering sense of duty that has given Britain a head of state for nearly 60 years whose personal standards of service to her country must be the envy of many countries. And doubtless they would have applauded the courage and humour in her Annus Horribilis speech in 1992, only hours after her much-loved Windsor Castle was devastated by fire.

### More notable British Women

- **Mary Wollstonecraft** (1759-1797): early feminist, advocate of women's education.
- **George Eliot** (1819-1880): Pen name of Pen name of "blue-stocking" novelist, author of Middlemarch and The Mill on the Floss.
- **Mrs Beeton** (1836-1865): author of the definitive Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management.
- **Beatrix Potter** (1866-1943): co-founder of the National Trust and author/artist of The Tale of Peter Rabbit and numerous other children's classics.
- **Marie Stopes** (1880-1958): Pioneer of the family planning movement.
- **Agatha Christie** (1890-1976): doyenne of crime writers, creator of Hercule Poirot and Miss Jane Marple.
- **Diana, Princess of Wales** (1961-1997): the "People's Princess", campaigner for Aids victims and against landmines

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<http://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/top-five-female-irish-heroes-from-history-photos>

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