

Big Ben Activities **A2**

A. Read the article and fill in the blanks with the correct answer. More than one answer is possible.

1. Big Ben is _____ in London.
 - a. a famous bell
 - b. a showbiz celebrity
 - c. another name for the Houses of Parliament

2. The clock is _____.
 - a. recent
 - b. gigantic
 - c. very old

3. The metal-and-glass clock _____ need repair.
 - a. hands
 - b. faces
 - c. bells

4. It will take _____ to repair Big Ben.
 - a. three months
 - b. one year
 - c. three years

5. The repairs started in April _____.
 - a. 2016
 - b. 2017
 - c. 2018

6. The clock will be repaired _____.
 - a. one face at a time
 - b. all four faces at one time
 - c. the first face of the clock, then the second face, then the third and finally the fourth.

7. During the restoration of Big Ben, the clock will _____.
 - a. stop ringing
 - b. ring sometimes
 - c. not stop ringing

8. The four people who take care of the clocks are called _____.
 - a. clocktesters
 - b. clockmakers
 - c. clockbuyers

9. The mechanism of the clock is in _____ parts and each part needs a _____ to operate the clock.
 - a. one / wire
 - b. two / penny
 - c. three / weight

10. Energy is created when the weights _____ in the tower.
 - a. descend
 - b. ring
 - c. ascend

11. To repair the clock, the workers will use special techniques:
 - a. mountain-climbing techniques
 - b. circus techniques
 - c. flying techniques

12. How many clocks are there in the Houses of Parliament?
 - a. one and it's Big Ben
 - b. 2,000 clocks
 - c. 200 clocks

B. Numbers

1. Match the numbers with their written form.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 1856 | <input type="checkbox"/> a. thirteen point seven |
| 2,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> b. two thousand |
| 2020 | <input type="checkbox"/> c. twenty seventeen |
| 12,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> d. eighteen fifty six |
| 150 | <input type="checkbox"/> e. one hundred and fifty |
| 2017 | <input type="checkbox"/> f. two point two |
| 13.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> g. three |
| 2.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> h. twelve thousand |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> i. two point seven |
| 2.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> j. twenty twenty |

2. Now read the article again and match the numbers with what they represent.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 1856 | <input type="checkbox"/> a. number of people that visit Big Ben every year |
| 2,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> b. number of weights |
| 2020 | <input type="checkbox"/> c. number of years without repairs |
| 12,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> d. height of the Big Ben bell |
| 150 | <input type="checkbox"/> e. year when the repairs will end |
| 2017 | <input type="checkbox"/> f. year the clock was built |
| 13.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> g. diameter of the Big Ben bell |
| 2.7 | <input type="checkbox"/> h. year when the repairs on the faces of the clock started |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> i. weight of the Big Ben bell |
| 2.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> j. the number of clocks in Parliament |

C. Compound words are very useful! They are two small words put together to make a bigger word. This bigger compound word is special because it has its own definition.

For example: grand + mother = grandmother, clock + maker = clockmaker

Find the two smaller words that compose each compound word and then match each compound word with its definition.

1. clockwork = _____ + _____

2. football = _____ + _____

3. afternoon = _____ + _____

4. policeman = _____ + _____ + _____

5. weekend = _____ + _____

6. classroom = _____ + _____

7. homework = _____ + _____

8. babysitter = _____ + _____

9. motorway = _____ + _____

10. mailbox = _____ + _____

a. what pupils do after school to prepare for the next class

b. a person who looks after a child or children

c. a place where you can find pupils working

d. the mechanism in a clock

e. Saturday and Sunday

f. the opposite of "morning"

g. a person in charge of order and security in the streets

h. a road where cars can go very fast

i. where you can receive your messages and letters (electronic or paper!)

j. a ball you kick, or the game you play with it

What about you? Can you find or invent two compound words?