

I. READING**Social Customs****Queuing**

In the United Kingdom queuing or standing in line is the norm. People almost always form queues in shops, banks, cinemas and bus stops. 'Jumping the queue' or moving in front of other people is considered to be very impolite. The best thing to do is to be patient and 'get in the queue'.

Please, thank you and sorry

Please and *thank you* are used many times in a conversation in the UK. This is probably why other nationalities say the British are polite. *Sorry* is used a lot, too. Often, when two people bump into each other in the street, they both say sorry - even if it is clearly one person's fault.

The weather

The weather in England changes often. Because of this, one of the most common ways for strangers to start a conversation is to talk about the weather. At places like bus stop you might hear:

'Lovely day, isn't it?'
'Yes, it is.'

or

'Not a very nice day, is it?'
'No, it isn't.'

Crossing the road

People expect you to cross roads at the proper place, such as zebra crossings. Most cars stop immediately when they see a pedestrian at a crossing. British drivers do not generally beep their horns but if you cross the road in the wrong place, they do beep their horns and can get angry. Because the British drive on the left you have to remember to look right when you cross the road.

The box

Telly, TV, or just the box Different people give it different names. But nearly every house has got one. British people spend 170 minutes a day watching television. The most popular programme is the news. Other popular programmes include reality shows like *Big Brother*, quiz shows, documentaries about nature, and soaps. *Coronation Street*, a soap opera about life in a town in the north of England, has been on British TV since the 1960s.

(R. Nolasco: 'New English Zone' Oxford)

1. British people are when they are queuing.

- A) impolite Б) patient
 B) moving to the front Г) impatient

2. The British often talk to strangers about

- A) TV programmes Б) pedestrians
 B) queuing Г) the weather

3. When you cross a road in the UK, you should look first.

- A) right Б) back
 B) left Г) down

4. The British watch TV for every day on average.

- A) an hour Б) nearly two hours
 B) nearly three hours Г) about four hours

5. British people say very often.

- A) 'I'm pleased' Б) 'good night'
 B) 'sorry' Г) 'get in the queue'

6. Choose the true sentence.

- A) The British drive on the right.
 Б) British drivers get angry when people cross the road in the wrong place.
 B) The British never wait in a queue for their bus.
 Г) The most popular TV programme is Big Brother.

II. COMMUNICATION**7. A:****B: Yes. Here you are.**

- A) Is that your dictionary, please?
 Б) Do you like sweets?
 B) Do you want a sweet?
 Г) Could you pass me some butter, please?

8. A: What shall we get Carol for her birthday?**B:**

- A) Why don't we buy her a soft toy?
 Б) Why is it her birthday today?
 B) Do you want a soft toy?
 Г) Can I have a soft toy?

9. A: How about playing table tennis this afternoon?**B:**

- A) I'd rather watch a football match on TV.
 Б) I don't like playing computer games.
 B) Me too!
 Г) Is this on TV today?

10. A:**B: I usually walk, but I sometimes go by bike.**

- A) How are you at school?
 Б) Do you often go to school?
 B) How far is your school?
 Г) How do you get to school?

11. A:**B: I've got a terrible headache.**

- A) I hope you will be better.
 Б) I'm sorry to hear that.
 B) What's the matter with you?
 Г) What do you do?