

Total English

Advanced

Life in the Hebrides!

1 Which of the UK islands below are situated off the coast of Scotland?

<i>Isle of Wight</i>	<i>Orkney Islands</i>	<i>Isle of Man</i>	<i>Isle of Skye</i>
<i>Isle of Mull</i>	<i>Isles of Scilly</i>	<i>Isle of Arran</i>	

Have you visited any of them? What kind of communities do you think exist on these islands? Discuss with your partner.

2 Now go to www.visithebrides.com and answer the following questions.

- In the first paragraph on the home page find another word for 'relax'.
- In the second paragraph find another word for 'a lot of'.
- What is one of the great traits of the local heritage?
- Click on 'islands' on the left. How many islands are there in the Outer Hebrides?
- Now click on 'FAQs' (frequently asked questions) on the left. What is the weather like in the winter in the Outer Hebrides?
- Why might it be good to visit the Outer Hebrides in June, July and August?
- What is a common misconception about the Outer Hebrides?
- What do islanders do on a Sunday?
- What is a good way to learn Gaelic?
- What does a Ceilidh refer to now?

3 Now you! Navigate further through 'FAQs' or go to another part of the website to find 5 more interesting facts about the islands. Write your facts below.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4 Work with a partner. Read all the information you have gathered in this webquest again. Would you like to live in the Outer Hebrides? What do you think of the community life? Give reasons for your answers.



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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to use the Internet to explore the theme of community. This webquest is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 2.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials: copy of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Ask students to read the list of islands and decide which ones they think are part of Scotland. Check answers with the class.

Answers: Orkney Islands Isle of Skye Isle of Mull Isle of Arran

Students then discuss what kind of communities they think or know exist on these islands. Ask for class feedback.

- 2 Make sure that all students have found the correct website. They can answer the questions working alone or in pairs. Monitor as they work to check if they have any questions. Check answers with the class.

Answers (correct at time of going to press): a) unwind b) abundance c) they always provide a friendly welcome d) 8 (listed on right of page) e) generally mild although there can be some wild and stormy gales. f) There are lots of cultural music festivals, dances and events at this time. g) That everyone lives in a time warp and there is no TV or electricity. Whilst there are strong traditions it is quite the opposite - life is technologically very much with the times. h) They take time to relax and reflect in their peaceful surroundings. i) Stay in one of the local bed and breakfasts that are Gaelic speaking. j) Dances and musical gatherings which take place in village halls and pubs on the islands.

- 3 Students have a freer activity where they can navigate around the site to find out information of interest. Encourage students to read out their information to their partners.
- 4 Students discuss with their partners whether or not they could live in the Outer Hebrides and what they think of the community life. Ask for class feedback.



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