

1

Answer the following questions in your own words.

1. When and by whom was London founded? **by the Romans over 2000 years ago**
2. Who were the Saxons? **a Germanic tribe**
3. What happened in 1066? **William the Conqueror invaded England and made London its capital**
4. What function did the Tower of London have? **to protect the city from invaders; later on it became a prison**
5. What can tourists see there today? **the Crown Jewels, Beefeaters and ravens**
6. Which two events hit London in the middle of the 17th century? **the Great Fire, the plague**
7. How has London's population changed since World War II? **more and more immigrants came from former British colonies**
8. When did the London Underground go into operation? **1863**
9. What happened during World War II? **London was bombed by Germany**
10. What were the reasons for the city's "green belt"? **to stop the expansion of the city**
11. Which part of London was rebuilt in the 1970s and 1980s? **the Docklands**
12. Name two famous art galleries in London: **National Gallery, Tate Gallery**
13. Why did London become the center of world trade? **it was the biggest colonial power**
14. What task does the Bank of England have? **controls the country's money supply, responsible for the value of England's currency**
15. How does London cope with flooding from the sea? **the Thames Barrier controls the flow of water**
16. What part of London is the financial center of the city? **the City**
17. Where is London's theatre district? **West End**
18. Where are English kings and queens crowned? **Westminster Abbey**
19. Name a few London parks: **Hyde Park, Green Park, St. James Park**
20. What is the prime meridian of the world? **it divides the world into an eastern and western hemisphere**

2

Multiple Choice Test

Choose the correct answer for each question.

1. In the 1950s and 60s

- a. more and more Europeans came to London.
- b. the Docklands were rebuilt.
- c. immigration to the UK came to a halt.
- d. people from Britain's former colonies started coming to London.**

2. A statue of Lord Nelson was built

- a. at Trafalgar Square.**
- b. at Picadilly Circus.
- c. at Knightsbridge.
- d. at Horse Guards.

3. Most of London's famous cinemas and theatres are located

- a. in Greenwich.
- b. in the West End.**
- c. south of the River Thames.
- d. around the Tower of London.

4. During World War II

- a. the Nazis invaded England and got as far as London.
- b. the Germans bombed London.**
- c. the first green belt was built.
- d. London was destroyed by a great fire.

5. A huge barrier was built on the River Thames

- a. to bring fresh water to the city.
- b. to produce electricity for the eastern part of the city.
- c. to make it easier for ships to pass through to the center.
- d. to stop London from being flooded.**

6. Almost all of England's kings and queens were crowned in

- a. Westminster Abbey.**
- b. St. Paul's Cathedral.
- c. the Tower of London.
- d. Buckingham Palace.

7. Gatwick Airport lies

- a. in the west of London.
- b. between London and Heathrow Airport.
- c. in the middle of the city.
- d. between London and the southern coast.**

8. The Docklands lost their importance because

- a. more and more goods were being brought in by plane.
- b. Britain no longer had any colonies.**
- c. London was not an economic centre anymore.
- d. Britain joined the European Union.

LONDON – KEY

3

TRUE or FALSE ? Decide if the sentences are True or False and tick them off (✓) . If the sentence is False write a correct sentence into the box on the right. The first two have been done for you.

		T	F	Correct Statement
1	Covent Garden was at first a fruit and vegetable market.	✓		
2	The Docklands are still the biggest harbour in Great Britain.		✓	The Docklands lost their importance after Britain's colonies became independent.
3	London was bombed heavily during World War II.	✓		
4	Trafalgar Square is famous for its colourful billboards and Eros statue.		✓	Piccadilly Circus is famous for its colourful billboards and Eros statue. / Trafalgar Square has a statue of Admiral Nelson
5	A green belt was created so that Londoners had an area to enjoy themselves.		✓	The green belt was created to stop the city from expanding.
6	Westminster is the government district of London.	✓		
7	At the beginning of the 19th century London had about a million people.	✓		
8	The prime meridian of the world goes through London's West End.		✓	The prime meridian goes through Greenwich.
9	After fire broke out in London in 1666 a great plague killed thousands of people.		✓	A great fire broke out after the city suffered from the Great Plague.
10	Windsor Castle is one of the royal family's official residences.	✓		
11	The Saxons founded a settlement near London 2000 years ago.		✓	London was founded by the Romans.
12	London's Underground is the oldest in the world.	✓		
13	The National Gallery is situated near the British Museum.		✓	The National Gallery is at Trafalgar Square.
14	William the Conqueror crowned himself in St. Paul's Cathedral .		✓	William the Conqueror crowned himself in Westminster Abbey.
15	The City of London is only one square kilometre in size.	✓		

4

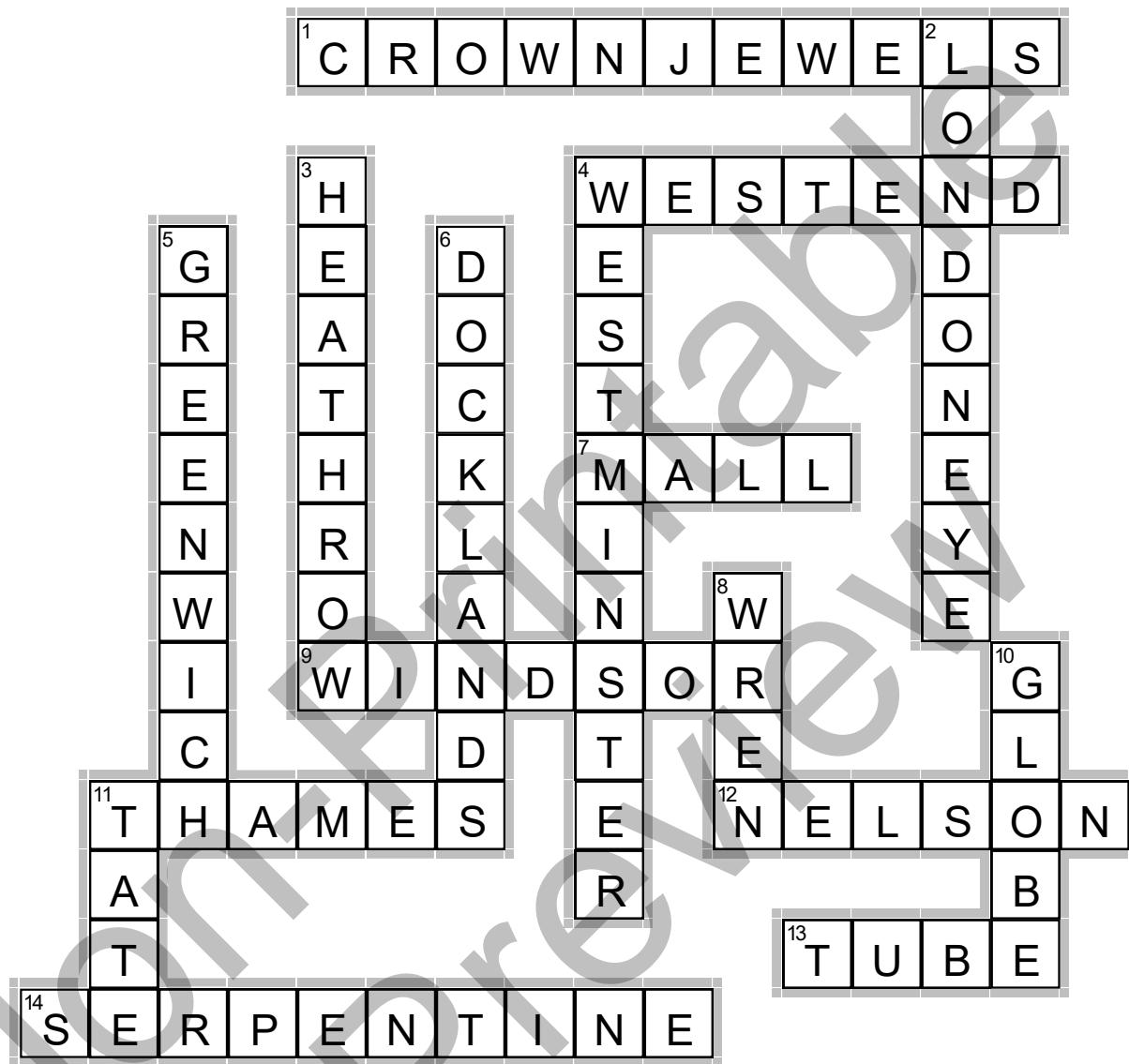
Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

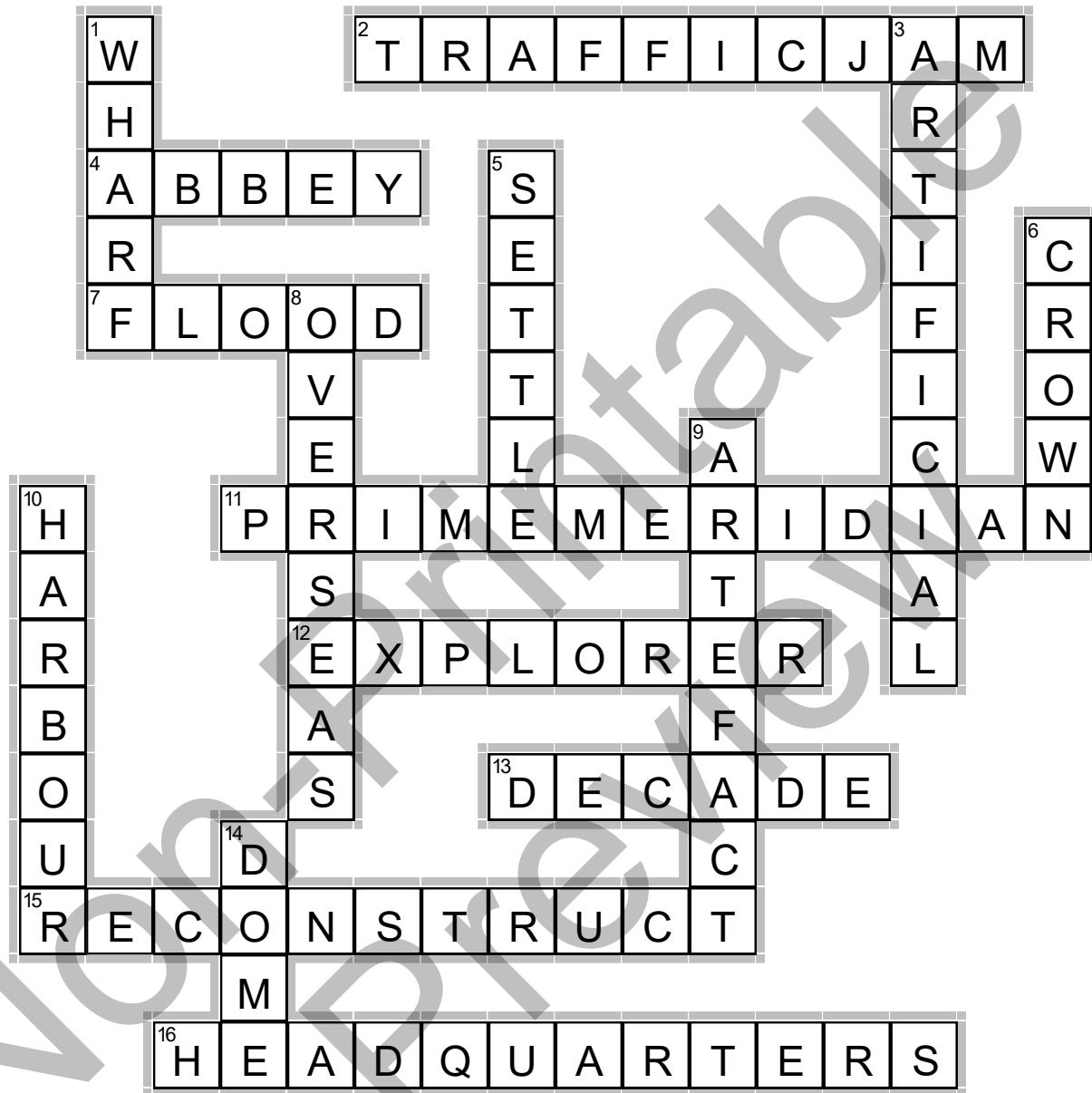
A	abbey	R	someone who travels a long distance to work every day
B	landmark	F	a very serious illness that killed many people during the Middle Ages
C	revitalize	L	an object that keeps something out
D	empire	I	crossroads; place where two or more roads meet
E	tide	Q	structure from which water is pumped into the air
F	plague	A	a large church, where monks and nuns used to live
G	artefact	E	the rising and falling of the sea
H	crown	K	half of the Earth
I	junction	O	famous person who is in the media very often
J	billboard	P	an object that is built out into the water so that boats and ships can stop next to it
K	hemisphere	G	an object that was made in the past and is historically important
L	barrier	S	a large strong building that is used for defending an important place
M	fleet	D	a group of countries or colonies controlled by one ruler
N	planetarium	C	to make something new; to put new energy into a place
O	celebrity	H	to become king or queen
P	wharf	N	a building with a curved roof; lights show how planets and stars move
Q	fountain	M	the ships that belong to the navy of a country
R	commuter	B	an important building or sight that you recognize at once
S	fortress	J	large sign used for advertisements

5

Match the beginnings of the sentences on the left with the endings on the right. There are TWO endings you will not need.

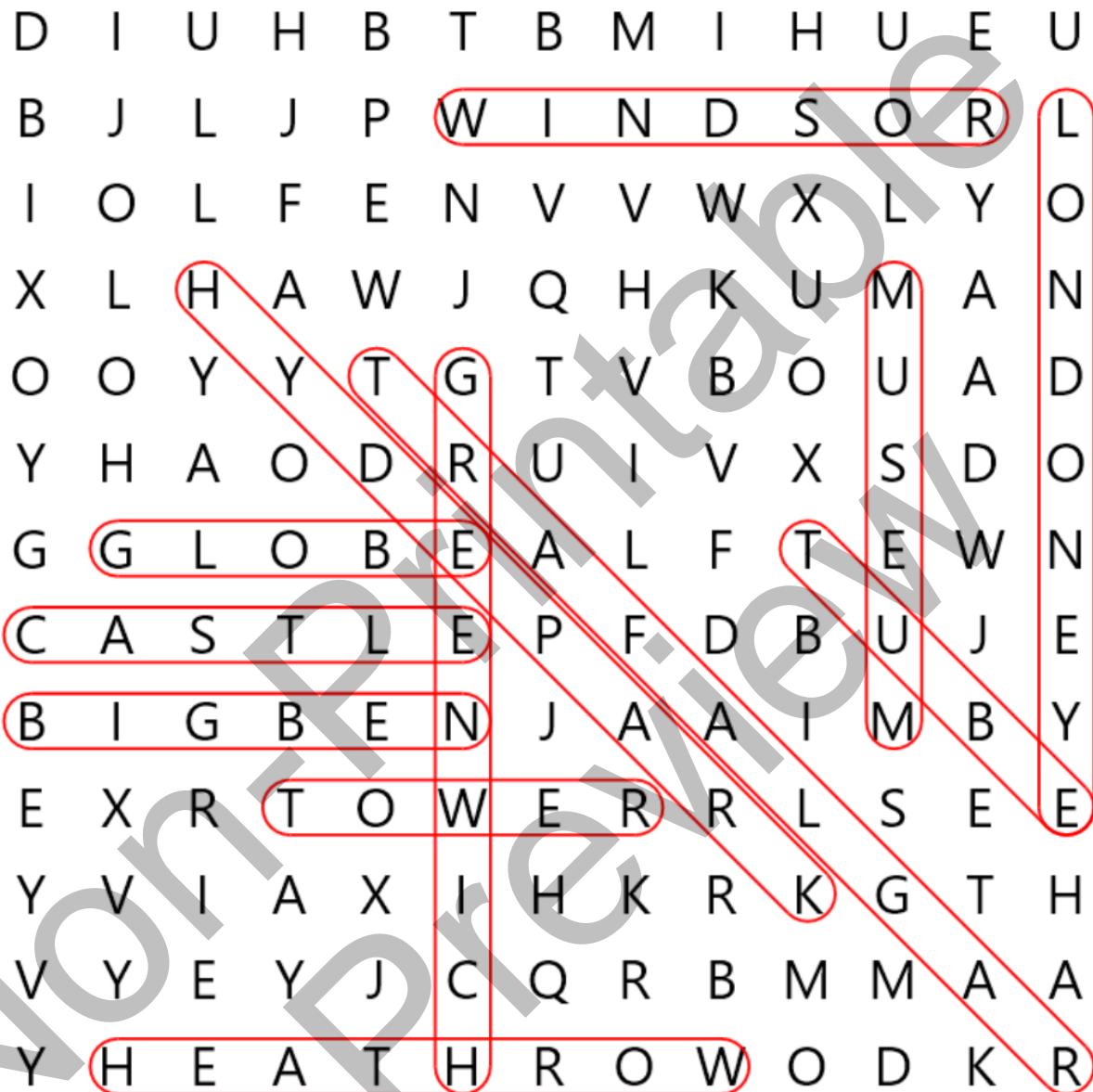
A	The Docklands lost their importance	M	handles regional flights and flights of budget airlines.
B	Millions of people from all over the world	C	moved to the suburbs and new towns.
C	After World War II many Londoners		in an attempt to move traffic away from the city.
D	The Great Plague	G	to start an underground railway network.
E	The Bank of England	L	are immigrants or the children of immigrants.
F	The British Museum shows millions of artefacts	A	when Britain's colonies became independent.
G	London became the first city in the world	K	to stop water from flooding the nation's capital.
H	Almost all of Britain's monarchs	I	to stop its expansion.
I	A green belt was built around the city	F	from all cultures and continents.
J	High speed trains from the European continent	B	come to London as tourists.
K	The Thames Barrier was built		when Britain was still a colonial power.
L	About a quarter of London's population	E	controls the value of the British pound,
M	Stansted Airport in the north of London	H	were crowned in Westminster.
		J	arrive daily through the Channel Tunnel.
		D	killed a fourth of the city's population.





8

Find 12 words about London in the grid below. (← ↘ ↗ ↓)



9

Match the landmarks and sights of London with the descriptions.

A	Westminster Abbey	K	museum with wax figures of famous people
B	Tate Gallery	R	famous building destroyed during the Great Fire of London
C	Picadilly Circus	E	planetarium and museum with old naval instruments
D	Tower Bridge	L	large square with a monument in honour of Lord Nelson
E	Royal Observatory	H	district in the eastern part of London, famous for its naval history
F	The Mall	J	airport that lies halfway between London and the southern coast
G	Speaker's Corner	A	place where English kings and queens are crowned
H	Greenwich	N	area that was once the centre of world trade
I	Tower of London	G	public place near the entrance of Hyde Park
J	Gatwick	D	two towers connected through a walkway
K	Madame Tussauds	O	giant Ferris wheel built at the turn of the millennium
L	Trafalgar Square	M	large castle 30 km west of London
M	Windsor	C	famous place with colourful billboards and a statue of Eros
N	Docklands	Q	former home of Princess Diana
O	London Eye	F	one of London's broadest roads
P	The Serpentine	S	London's largest airport
Q	Kensington Palace	B	museum with works of modern art
R	St. Paul's Cathedral	P	artificial lake in the middle of Hyde Park
S	Heathrow	I	large fortress that protected London from invaders

10

Complete the text with words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.

The History of London

Today's London was founded as the Roman (1) **settlement** Londinium. It was situated near the mouth of the Thames river. Over the centuries, London was attacked by Vikings from the North. William the Conqueror took control of London in the 11th century. He built many historic buildings and a (2) **fortress**, the Tower of London. On Christmas Day, 1066, William crowned himself king in Westminster Abbey.

During the Middle Ages, London grew (3) **steadily** and became a big European trading centre. In the 17th century, the city was hit by the Plague, which killed thousands of people. A year later, a great fire (4) **destroyed** most of the city.

When the Industrial Revolution started towards the end of the 18th (5) **century**, almost one million people lived in London. More and more came from the (6) **countryside** because the town offered jobs and a better life. This caused many problems, especially with inner city (7) **traffic**. In the middle of the 19th century London became the first city to set up an (8) **underground** railway network.

After the bombing of the city in World War II large sections of London had to be (9) **rebuilt**. A (10) **green belt** around the city stopped it from growing. New towns and suburbs (11) **emerged** outside the green belt.

London's (12) **harbour**, which was one of the largest in the world during the rise of the British Empire, lost its (13) **importance** after Britain had given up most of its colonies. In the 1970s and 1980s the Docklands in the eastern part of the city were rebuilt. Modern skyscrapers and glass office buildings now take the place of the old docks and (14) **wharfs**.

century
countryside
destroyed
emerged
fortress
green belt
harbour
historic
importance
rebuilt
settlement
steadily
traffic
transportation
underground
wharfs

11

Complete the text with words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.

The London Underground

The London Underground, or the Tube as it is often called, is the oldest underground train (1) **network** in the world. Opened in 1863 there are a total of eleven lines, 270 stations and over 400 km of (2) **track**, making it the third-longest subway system in the world. The London Underground carries over a billion passengers a year, or about 3 million every day. The deepest stations are over 60 metres below the (3) **surface**, however 55% of the tracks run above it.

In the 1830s, London's (4) **authorities** had the idea of linking the centre of London with the large train stations which were located farther away. In 1863 the first underground railway, the Metropolitan Line, opened. Wooden carriages were powered by (5) **steam** locomotives. The system of tracks gradually expanded. By the end of the 19th century most lines used (6) **electricity** to power the trains. During World War II many tube stations were air-raid shelters where people sought (7) **protection** during the German bombing of the city.

Over the course of history, the size of the tunnels changed, so that today, two different types of trains travel across the city. Modern (8) **escalators** bring passengers to the deep level stations of the tube. The Jubilee Line is the last line to be built. It was opened in 1979 in honour of Queen Elizabeth's 25th (9) **anniversary** as monarch. In the 1990s it was extended eastwards to the Docklands.

The London Underground normally (10) **operates** daily between 5 a.m. and midnight. Some lines stay open throughout the night on special occasions, like New Year's Eve. London Underground stations can get very crowded during the weekday (11) **rush** hours. Even though the system is so large, trains usually (12) **run** on time. The well-known symbol of the London Underground, a red circle with a blue bar, was created at the beginning of the 20th century and has not changed much since then.

Some of London's Underground stations are buildings which have a special architectural value. Many original stations have been (13) **restored** and look similar to the way they did over a century ago. Although so many people use the underground every day, the (14) **safety** record of the system has been very good.

anniversary
authorities
electricity
escalators
expanded
network
operates
protection
restored
run
rush
safety
steam
surface
symbol
track