

Summer in Europe

Today let's talk about summer. For some, it's the best time of year. For schoolchildren, summer is the time of long school holidays. It's also when many families go on their summer holidays.

Summer in the Northern Hemisphere in Europe is the season after spring and before autumn. The summer solstice on June 21 is the traditional date of summer starting. June 21 has the longest day and the shortest night. Druids like to meet at Stonehenge in Southwest England on this day. Summer is traditionally June, July and August. It is when the weather in Europe is normally at its best. It is hot and sunny.

The French always take the first two weeks of August for their summer holiday. Most of them like to head down to the campsites that are dotted along the Côte d'Azur in the South of France. There is sand, sea and plenty of hot Mediterranean Sea to relax along.

In the UK, folk like to go to the seaside. Popular resorts to visit include Blackpool, Clacton and Bournemouth. Brits like to eat an ice cream, wear a silly hat, put their sunglasses on, and unwind with their families. They like to have fun!

Summer is the time to have a picnic. It is also the time to do some sport; like canoeing, hiking and roller blading. Some folk like to play cricket on the village green, then sip a summer beer in an old traditional village pub.

Tourists like to visit cities like London, Rome, and Paris. People like to head out into the countryside to visit country houses, castles and museums. Farmers harvest their crops and pick their fruit.

Summer is also the time to go for a walk, go cycling or swimming. It's a good time for festivals, fetes and parties. Summer is when we can escape from work for a couple of weeks. Whatever you decide to do this summer – enjoy!

SPEAKING

Think of three things that you like to do in summer. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name three seaside towns in England.
- 2) Name three big European cities.
- 3) Name three summer sports.
- 4) What is June 21?
- 5) When is summer?

Student B questions

- 1) Who wears a silly hat?
- 2) What do farmers do?
- 3) Where is the Côte d'Azur?
- 4) Where and what is Stonehenge?
- 5) What do the French do?

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WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**summer**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs - Think of three things you like to do in summer. Write them below and discuss.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

WRITING / SPEAKING

Think of three summer holidays you went on. Talk about them briefly with your partner.

SPEAKING / GAME

As a class in a circle. "I went on my summer holiday and in my suitcase I packed..." Repeat what the previous items were. Forget something and you are eliminated!

SPEAKING - PRESENTATION

Allow 5 minutes prep – As a class.

Prepare a two minute presentation on:
My best summer holiday

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What do you normally do in summer?
- 3) Have you ever worked on a farm in summer?
- 4) What fetes, fairs and festivals do you like to go to in summer?
- 5) What sports do you like to do in summer?
- 6) Do you like to visit any castles, museums or houses in summer?
- 7) Which is the best city to visit in summer?
- 8) Which is the best seaside resort to stay at in summer?
- 9) What will you do this summer?
- 10) What books might you like to read this summer?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Radio London* studio. Today's interview is: *Summer in Europe.*

- 1) A holidaymaker from your country.
- 2) A tour guide in Paris.
- 3) A French/Asian holidaymaker.
- 4) A travel writer from the USA.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are in a pub. Start a conversation about summer. *3-5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION 1

In pairs / As a group – Choose five top tourist attractions in your country that you might like to visit this summer. Discuss together. What do you know about them? *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION 2

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...

Summer in Europe

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What did you do last summer?
- 3) What is the best thing about summer?
- 4) What is the worst thing about summer?
- 5) What year was your best summer and why?
- 6) When was the hottest summer? What did you do during it?
- 7) What do you normally like to do in summer?
- 8) Where do you normally like to go in summer?
- 9) Do you prefer to stay in a hotel or go camping in the summer?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Summer in Europe

Today let's talk about summer. For some, it's the best time of year. For schoolchildren, summer is the time of long school holidays. It's also when many families go on their summer holidays.

Summer in the Northern Hemisphere in Europe is the season after spring and before (1)__. The summer (2)__ on June 21 is the traditional date of summer starting. June 21 has the longest day and the shortest night. (3)__ like to meet at Stonehenge in Southwest England on this day. (4)__ is traditionally June, July and August. It is when the weather in Europe is (5)__ at its best. It is hot and sunny.

The French always take the first two weeks of August for their summer holiday. Most of them like to head down to the campsites that are dotted along the Côte d'Azur in the South of France. There is sand, sea and (6)__ of hot (7)__ Sea to (8)__ along.

summer / relax / autumn / plenty / normally / solstice / druids / Mediterranean

In the UK, (1)__ like to go to the seaside. Popular resorts to visit include Blackpool, Clacton and Bournemouth. Brits like to eat an ice cream, wear a silly hat, put their sunglasses on, and (2)__ with their families. They like to have fun!

Summer is the time to have a (3)__. It is also the time to do some sport; like (4)__, hiking and roller blading. Some folk like to play cricket on the village green, then sip a summer beer in an old (5)__ village pub. Tourists like to visit cities like London, Rome, and Paris. People like to head out into the countryside to visit country houses, castles and museums. Farmers (6)__ their crops and pick their fruit. Summer is also the time to go for a walk, go cycling or swimming. It's a good time for festivals, (7)__ and parties. Summer is when we can (8)__ from work for a couple of weeks. Whatever you decide to do this summer – enjoy!

harvest / canoeing / escape / fetes / folk / picnic / unwind / traditional

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Summer in Europe

Today let's talk about summer. (1)__ some, it's the best time of year. For schoolchildren, summer is the time of long school holidays. It's also when many families go on their summer holidays.

Summer in (2)__ Northern Hemisphere in Europe is the season after spring and before autumn. The summer solstice (3)__ June 21 is the traditional date of summer starting. June 21 has the longest day (4)__ the shortest night. Druids like to meet at Stonehenge in Southwest England on this day. Summer is traditionally June, July and August. It is when the weather (5)__ Europe is normally (6)__ (7)__ best. It is hot and sunny.

The French always take the first two weeks of August for their summer holiday. Most of them like to head down to the campsites that are dotted along the Côte d'Azur in the South (8)__ France. There is sand, sea and plenty of hot Mediterranean Sea to relax along.

of / on / at / in / and / for / its / the

In the UK, folk like to go to the seaside. Popular resorts to visit include Blackpool, Clacton and Bournemouth. Brits like to eat an ice cream, wear a silly hat, put their sunglasses on, and unwind (1)__ their families. They like to have fun!

Summer is the time to have a picnic. It is also the time to do some sport; like canoeing, hiking and roller blading. (2)__ folk like to play cricket on the village green, (3)__ sip a summer beer in an old traditional village pub. Tourists like to visit cities like London, Rome, and Paris. People like to head out into the countryside to visit country houses, castles and museums. Farmers harvest (4)__ crops and pick their fruit. Summer is (5)__ the time to go for a walk, go cycling or swimming. It's a good time for festivals, fetes and parties. Summer is (6)__ we can escape from work for a couple of weeks. (7)__ you decide to do (8)__ summer – enjoy!

when / this / also / whatever / with / their / some / then

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GAP FILL: LISTENING

Summer in Europe

Today let's talk about summer. For some, it's the best time of year. For schoolchildren, summer is the time of long school holidays. It's also when many families go on their _____.

Summer in the _____ in Europe is the season after spring and before autumn. The summer solstice on June 21 is the traditional date of summer starting. June 21 has the longest day and the shortest night. Druids like to meet _____ Southwest England on this day. Summer is traditionally June, July and August. It is when the weather in Europe is _____. It is hot and sunny.

The French always take the first two weeks of August for their summer holiday. Most of them like to head down to the campsites that are dotted along _____ the South of France. There is sand, sea and plenty of hot Mediterranean Sea to relax along. In the UK, folk like to go to the seaside. Popular resorts to visit include Blackpool, _____. Brits like to eat an ice cream, wear a silly hat, put their sunglasses on, and unwind with their families. They like to have fun!

_____ to have a picnic. It is also the time to do some sport; like canoeing, hiking and roller blading. Some folk like to play cricket on the village green, then sip a summer beer in an old _____.

Tourists like to visit cities like London, Rome, and Paris. People like to head out into the countryside to visit country houses, _____. Farmers harvest their crops and pick their fruit.

Summer is also the time to go for a walk, go cycling or swimming. It's a good time for festivals, fetes and parties. Summer is when we can escape from work for a couple of weeks. _____ to do this summer – enjoy!

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING / DRAWING

1) On the board - In pairs/small groups – Draw a map of your country. You recently hired a car for 10 days and drove around it. Describe your holiday there. Draw your route on your map, adding the places you visited. *5-10 mins.*

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Summer _____
- 2) The sun _____
- 3) I like _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *Summer in Europe.* Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***Summer in Europe.*** Your email can be read out in class.

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) Stonehenge
- 2) Clacton
- 3) Bournemouth
- 4) Blackpool
- 5) plenty
- 6) traditional
- 7) campsites
- 8) Mediterranean
- 9) summer
- 10) autumn

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) solstice
- 12) silly
- 13) unwind
- 14) canoeing
- 15) countryside
- 16) harvest
- 17) fetes
- 18) enjoy
- 19) holidays
- 20) relax

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