

Teacher's Guide

INFOQUEST 1 – ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

In this infoquest learners:

- find out about three English-speaking countries
- do a quiz
- write a quiz for their classmates

AIMS: The aims of this infoquest are:

- to increase learners' awareness of three countries where English is spoken
- to practise answering and writing questions
- to introduce learners to the infoquest format and task types
- to encourage learners to work in pairs and in groups
- to consolidate language found in Module 1 of Messages
- to provide skills practice

STAGES:

Start

- Brainstorming activity
- Chart completion activity [**Worksheet 1**]
- Quiz prediction activity

Search

- Refer to Web sites to check answers
- Semi-intensive reading activity [**Worksheet 2**] and [**Worksheet 3**]
- Intensive reading activity [**Worksheet 4**]

Report

- Compare and share answers
- Check-understanding and practice activity [**Worksheet 5**]

Task

- Quiz-writing activity
- Search, read and answer activity

Discuss

- Brainstorming activity
- Note making and extension activity

STAGE BY STAGE:

Start

Aims:

To introduce the topic, create interest and encourage learners to draw on what they already know.

Procedure:

A. Think

1.

- Open Infoquest 1.
- In **open class**, ask learners to identify items in the picture and say what country they are from. (From left to right: India, the United States, Australia, the United Kingdom).
- Focus on language in the language box (see below).
- Introduce the phrase “English-speaking countries”.
- Put learners in **groups of three** and ask them to make a list of English-speaking countries.

(2 minutes)

Language Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Do they speak English in Australia?</i>• <i>Yes.</i>• <i>I don't know.</i>• <i>Maybe.</i>• <i>I think they speak English in Canada.</i>

2.

- Open infoquest 1.
- Draw attention to the title and focus learners on the picture at the top of section A.

- In **open class**, ask learners to identify items in the picture and say what country they are from.

(2 minutes)

3.

- Focus on the table examples.
- Focus students on the language box (see below).
- Put learners in **groups of three** and introduce **Worksheet 1**.
- Ask learners to work together to complete it.
- Hand out **Worksheet 1**.
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(5 minutes)

Language Box
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is Britney Spears American?</i> • <i>Yes.</i> • <i>What about Nicole Kidman?</i> • <i>I think she's Australian.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is Dublin in the UK?</i> • <i>I don't know.</i>

B. Compare and share.

- **Groups** compare their tables and share information.

(2 minutes)

C. What do you think?

- Introduce the word *quiz*.
- Focus learners on the first five questions.
- Elicit the answer to the first question.
- Put learners into **groups of three** and ask them to guess the answers to the other quiz questions. **DON'T give the correct answers**. Tell students that they will check their answers in the next stage.

(3 minutes)

Search

Aims:

To introduce Web sites, check answers from previous stage and provide reading skills practice.

Procedure:

A. Search and find.

- Hand out **Worksheet 2**. Ask learners to mark in their first five answers then open the Web sites to read and check answers.
- Ask groups to continue and complete the quiz.

(10 minutes)

B. Search and complete.

- Introduce **Worksheet 3** and ask **groups** to return to Web sites and try to complete the table in five minutes.

(5 minutes)

C. Compare and check.

- Groups compare tables and check answers.

(3 minutes)

D. Search in detail.

- Introduce **mastermind quiz** and explain that each group needs to search very carefully to find the answers. Explain that it is a race to finish and that if the members of the group work together they will finish more quickly.
- Start groups together and time the activity.

(8 minutes)

Report

Aims:

To check answers to previous stage (encourage learners to do this in English) and consolidate vocabulary in the quiz.

A. Compare and share.

- **Groups** compare and share answers to the mastermind quiz. Refer the learners to the language box and demonstrate how they can check answers in English.
- In **open class**, check answers and refer to the Web sites when necessary.

(5 minutes)

B. Check what you know.

- Introduce the **crossword** on **Worksheet 5**.
- **Groups** complete the crossword as much as possible from memory, referring to the quiz only when absolutely necessary.

(8 minutes)

Task

Aims: To practise question forms using information in the Web sites.

A. Make a quiz.

- Refer learners to example questions and elicit answers.
- Explain that each group can refer to the quiz in the previous stage and search for information in the Web sites to write questions for another group.
- Set time limit and start activity **in groups**.

(10 minutes)

B. Do the quiz.

- Ask groups to exchange their quiz questions.
- Set time limit and ask groups to complete the new quizzes.

(8 minutes)

Discuss

Aims: To bring infoquest 1 to a logical end, practise its language content, drawing on what learners know about their own country.

A. Brainstorm.

- In **open class**, introduce activity and recap on content of the Web sites.
- Elicit examples of what learners can include in a Web site about their own country.
- In **groups** learners list information to include.

(5 minutes)

B. Compare and share.

- In **open class**, groups compare ideas and information. The teacher can help to reformulate language the learners use.

(5 minutes)

C. Complete your information.

- Ask **groups** to complete information required, and give help when necessary.

(10 minutes)

SELF-EVALUATION:

This is an optional stage where learners have the opportunity to recall and reflect on what they have learnt from doing the infoquest. This could be done by asking them the following questions in their L1.

- What did you learn about these English-speaking countries?
- What new words or phrases can you remember?
- Did you work well with your group?
- What did you like about this infoquest?

ANSWERS

Worksheet 2

Quiz

1. b
2. b
3. c
4. b
5. c
6. b
7. b
8. b
9. c
10. a
11. b
12. c

Worksheet 4

Infoquest 1 mastermind quiz

1. He was born in 1975.
2. The United States.
3. More than 19 million.
4. Seven per cent.
5. The United Kingdom.
6. It's a native dog in Australia.
7. Hugh Grant,
8. The United States.
9. Australia.
10. San Francisco.
11. Australia; the Great Barrier Reef.
12. It's a national park in Wales, the United Kingdom.

Worksheet 5

CROSSWORD

Across: 2. flag; 5. speaking; 9. language; 12. mountain; 14. singer; 16. wildlife
Down: 1. villages; 3. stars; 4. city; 6. population; 7. buildings; 8. country; 10. place; 11. rock; 13. reef; 15. high