

PROPUESTA A

LOTTERIES IN BRITAIN

Britain did not have a national lottery until 1994 when the government finally approved the project despite strong opposition. The National Lottery is run by a private company, Camelot, which was given the licence to run it until 2001.

The lottery was an immediate success with the public and its “crossed fingers” logo, a gesture supposed to bring good luck, soon became familiar throughout Britain. Lottery tickets are sold at many supermarkets nowadays. For only £ 1.00 people choose a row of six numbers between 1 and 49. Each week one of three machines containing 49 numbered balls is switched on, and seven are taken out at random. The first six are the winning numbers and the seventh is the bonus ball. Anyone who has chosen the six winning numbers wins the jackpot, that is, the main prize. People with three, four or five matching numbers can also win prizes.

Some of the money raised by the lottery is invested in good causes. However, the lottery is not popular with everyone, and many charities complain that they have not received enough money. Many people feel that the company Camelot makes too much profit.

The US does not have a national lottery but there are lotteries in 26 states. US lotteries date back to 1776 when the Congress gave its approval for lottery tickets to be sold to raise money for the American Revolution. America’s religious groups have always been against lotteries, and lottery games did not become official until 1979.

Adapted from Oxford Guide to British and American Culture

Answer the following questions using the information given in the text.

1. When did Britain start to have a national lottery?
2. Was it easy for the British government to approve the project to have a national lottery?
3. What is “Camelot”?
4. How much is a lottery ticket?
5. Who wins the jackpot?
6. Is most of the money raised by the lottery sent to charities?
7. What do charities complain about?
8. Is there a national lottery in the US?
9. When did lotteries begin in US?
10. What do America’s religious groups think about lottery games?

PROPUESTA B

THE WRIGHT BROTHERS

Wilbur and Orville Wright loved to invent things. As young boys they made toys and kites that they sold to friends. They attended school regularly, but learned about science and mechanics from reading and working with instruments. In 1892 they decided to go into business together. They opened a shop in Dayton, Ohio, where they rented and built bicycles.

At about this time a man named Otto Lilienthal was working on trying to find a way for human beings to fly. Lilienthal was killed in a glider (airplane without an engine) accident in 1896. The Wright Brothers decided to continue with his experiments of trying to find a way to fly.

Wilbur and Orville Wright began to test gliders with two wings in 1900. They designed, built and tested over two hundred models to determine the best wing design. Finally they designed one on which the pilot would lie down flat on his stomach. They tested their design one thousand times over three years on the sand dunes near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. During this time they were becoming very good pilots.

On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright wheeled the new invention onto a beach at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Powered by a small engine, the airplane coasted across the sand, lifted off, and flew a total of one hundred and twenty feet into the air before landing.

Orville and Wilbur Wright are remembered as the "fathers of flight." The beach at Kitty Hawk is a national historical monument.

Adapted from www.myschoolhouse.com

Answer the following questions using the information given in the text.

1. When did the Wright Brothers start to invent things?
2. What did they sell to their friends?
3. Did they learn about science at school?
4. When was Lilienthal killed?
5. Did the Wright Brothers continue Lilienthal's experiments?
6. How many models did they build?
7. How long did they test their design?
8. Where was the beach where they tested their new invention?
9. Did the airplane fly?
10. How do people remember the Wright Brothers?