

Read the text about the Loch Ness. Answer the 20 questions. You may use a dictionary.

Scotland and the mystery of the Loch Ness Monster

Have you ever heard or read about the Loch Ness Monster? Do you think the monster is real? Nobody knows the answer.

Loch Ness is in northern Scotland, and Scotland is part of the United Kingdom. People often speak of “Great Britain”. Great Britain is only England, Wales and Scotland. The United Kingdom (UK) is Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Men and woman in Scotland sometimes wear the kilt. It is part of their dress. Bagpipes are also Scottish. Of course not all Scotsmen and Scotswomen play bagpipes and wear kilts. But Scottish people are always Scottish, not English. Say to a Scotsman: “You’re Scottish” and he’s your friend. But if you say: “You’re English” he won’t be happy at all. And don’t say Scotch. Scotch is the Scottish whisky.

Loch Ness is an old lake. Scientists tell us that it is 25,00 years old. It is also a long lake. It is 38 kilometres long, but only 1.6 kilometres across. Eight rivers and 228 streams run into it. The rivers and streams come down from the hills and the water runs into the loch. Loch is an old Scottish word and means lake.

It’s also a deep lake, 296 metres deep. The water in the loch isn’t clear. You can only see one meter in the water.

Nessie is not just the name of the monster. It’s a real Scottish name. It comes from the name Agnes. Scottish people like the name Agnes, and it is common to call a girl Nessie.

The name of Loch Ness comes from the River Ness. It runs from the lake to the town of Inverness.

The *Inverness Courier* is the name of a newspaper. The people of Inverness read it. One day, in the year 1933, they see a headline in their newspaper: STRANGE SPECTACLE ON LOCH NESS. And then a strange story: Mr and Mrs Spicer who live in London but often go to Scotland say: “We were in our car near Loch

Ness. We saw the monster. A strange creature lives in Loch Ness. It’s a dragon.”



The *Daily Mail* is a big and important London newspaper. They send a reporter to Scotland to ask questions. But he gets different stories. It’s a very strange monster, the reporter says. It has got a long *and* a short neck, a big head *and* a small head. But it’s not a monster. And it’s not a dinosaur. It’s a whale.

One year later, in 1934, John McLean sees the monster. He draws a picture of the monster. And the *Daily Mail* has his picture on the front page with the headline: MONSTER IN THE LOCH – MYSTERY OF LOCH NESS.

Now the people say, “We want a photograph of the Loch Ness Monster.” The newspapers send reporters to Scotland to get a photograph of the monster. Also a lot of tourists come to Loch Ness. They are from England, Wales, and Ireland. They have their cameras with them. They wait and watch, watch and wait. But Nessie waits, too. Is the monster afraid of cameras? Then the first photographs are in the newspaper. They are from different people and they show different Nessies. Are they real? Are there lots of different monsters in the lake? Some of these monsters look like a boat, others like a big fish or a tree in the water.

From 1939 to 1945 are the years of the Second World War. The newspapers write about the war. But after the war Nessie is there again, every summer. Now people come with film cameras. But Nessie doesn’t like film cameras.

Nessie is not only a mystery, it’s also a big business. You can buy posters of the Loch Ness Monster, a Loch Ness Monster game, books and videos about the Mystery of the Loch, T-shirts, and souvenirs of all kind.

1. The Loch Ness Monster

- wears a T-shirt.
- is on T-shirts you can buy.
- sells T-shirts in Inverness.

2. The Loch Ness Monster

- is real.
- is a mystery.
- is a girl.

3. "Nessie" is a

- boy's name.
- girl's name.
- Scottish family name.

4. Perhaps Nessie is

- a whisky.
- a whale.
- a wasp.

5. The titles on the front page of a newspaper are called

- headhunters.
- headlines.
- headmasters.

6. Inverness is in

- Great Britain.
- England.
- Ireland.

7. The people of Inverness are

- English.
- Scotch.
- Scottish.

8. Scotland belongs to

- Ireland.
- England.
- the UK.

9. The people of Inverness like Nessie,

- because it brings tourists and money to them.
- because it eats fish.
- because it's real.

10. Loch Ness is

- a small lake.
- a deep lake.
- a broad lake.

11. A stream is

- a very small river.
- a very big river.
- a very deep lake.

12. A dragon is

- a monster.
- a fish.
- a boat.

13. Why was there no monster during the war?

- Nessie is afraid of guns.
- The newspapers had more important things to write about.
- No cameras allowed for tourists during the war.

14. Loch is the Scottish word for

- monster.
- lake.
- river.

15. Bagpipes

- can find the monster.
- make music.
- drink whisky.

16. A kilt is

- a skirt for men.
- a Nessie hunter.
- a bird of the Highlands.

17. The photographs

- don't lie.
- are not always true.
- show always the same Nessie.

18. People call the monster Nessie

- because it was a girl named Agnes who saw it for the first time.
- because the lake it lives in is called Loch Ness.
- because it makes a similar sound, like the hissing of a snake.

19. When you know the answer of a mystery then

- it isn't a mystery any more.
- you don't believe it.
- it is a strange spectacle.

20. The tourists coming to Loch Ness

- usually have cameras with them.
- don't buy any souvenirs.
- try to catch Nessie with nets and fishing rods.