

The Tower is one of London's most popular sights. It is close to the Thames. The history of this old castle goes back to William the Conqueror (who invaded England in 1066). The Tower has served as a fortress, a royal residence and a prison. It is nowadays a museum. Every day thousands of tourists come.



They want to see the Crown jewels. The Tower is not only one tower. It consists of several individual buildings. The best known are the White Tower and the Bloody Tower, in which many people were imprisoned before they were executed. There are strong walls around the Tower.



The so-called „Beefeaters“ guard the Tower. They wear old-fashioned uniforms.

One of the Beefeaters is responsible for the ravens. These big black birds have been kept in the Tower for ages. There is a legend that the British Empire will fall if the ravens should leave the tower. Today the Empire no longer exists and yet the ravens are all in excellent health.



sight: point of interest
close by: near
invade: enter with force
fortress: castle
nowadays: today

consist of: made of
several: some
execute: kill
guard: protect
old-fashioned: not up-to-date

responsible: in charge
raven: black bird
empire: mighty country
yet: but
health: in good shape, not sick

Underline the better alternative:

William the Conqueror / Shakespeare invaded England in 1066.

Today the Tower is a fortress / museum.

The Queen's horses / Crown jewels are in the Tower.

The Bloody Tower was a prison / Red Cross headquarters.

The Beefeaters are vegetarians / guards.

The Beefeaters have modern / old-fashioned uniforms.

There have been ravens in the Tower for a long time / since the fall of the British Empire.

Around the Tower there are strong walls / go-kart tracks.

The Tower is near / far from the river Thames.

SIGHTS OF LONDON: Sort out what is in London and what is not.

Tower ✓

~~Empire State Building~~

Tower Bridge

Eiffel Tower

Big Ben

HMS Belfast

Disneyland

Alcatraz Island

Golden Gate Bridge

Covent Garden Market

Buckingham Palace

Abbey Road Studios

The White House

Cable Car

Westminster Abbey

The Kremlin

Piccadilly Circus

Madame Tussaud's

The Little Mermaid

Fisherman's Wharf

Time Square

The Castle of Dracula

The Eye

Hyde Park

Speaker's Corner

Prater

Gastown

Gateway to the West

Quincy Market

Lincoln Memorial

St Paul's Cathedral

Trafalgar Square

10 Downing Street

The Leaning Tower

Sunset Boulevard