

Famous English people

A list of famous English people



1. **Winston Churchill** (1874-1965) Leader of Great Britain during the Second World War, Churchill rallied a nation in leading the opposition to Nazi Germany in 1940. Famous for his speeches and bulldog spirit. Churchill famously stated. 'We will never surrender'



2. **Princess Diana** (1961-1997) married Prince Charles and gained a high profile for her humanitarian work and the support she gave to various charities. After her marriage broke down, she continued to remain in the public limelight until her untimely death, whilst chased by the paparazzi.



3. **William Shakespeare** (1564-1616) is the foremost writer and poet of the English language. His plays, such as Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, and Hamlet have had a huge impact on culture, language and literature around the world.



4. **John Lennon** (1940 – 1980) was a key member of the Beatles, writing many songs and being a key personality of the band. After the Beatles broke up in 1970, Lennon continued with a highly successful sol career, until his murder in 1980.



5. **David Beckham** (1975-) is a footballer, who is one of England's most capped players. He won many domestic honours with Manchester United and Real Madrid. He is equally as famous off the pitch due to his show biz lifestyle with his wife Victoria Beckham.



6. **T E Lawrence** (1888 – 1935) during the First World War, T.E. Lawrence helped unite the Arabs and led them in opposition to the Ottoman Empire. Lawrence's inspirational leadership skills made him a global figure.



7. **Jane Austen** (1775 – 1817) an English novelist from Hampshire. Jane Austen's novels included *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park* and *Emma*. She is one of the most widely read novelists in the English language.



8. **Charles Dickens** (1812-1870) was a Victorian novelist who created some of the most memorable characters in English Literature. Dickens criticised the worst excesses of Victorian society, through novels like *Oliver Twist* and *David Copperfield*.



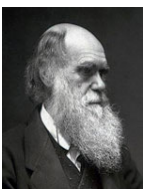
9. **Queen Victoria** (1819 – 1901) was Queen of England from 1837 to her death in 1901. During her reign the British Empire spread across the globe. Victoria herself was made Empress of India. She came to epitomise a century.



10. **J.K. Rowling** (1965 –) author of the *Harry Potter Series*. Rowling became the best selling author of her generation. Her success was global with her books translated into numerous languages. The film series was also a great success and strengthened the *Harry Potter* brand.



11. **King Henry VIII** (1491 – 1547) was England's most famous and perhaps most notorious King. He had six wives, two of which he executed. Henry VIII also split the Church of England from Rome to enable him to remarry.



12. **Charles Darwin** (1809-1882) was a naturalist who wrote '*On the Origin of Species*' which explained humans evolved from more primitive animal forms in a process known as evolution and natural selection.



13. **Queen Elizabeth I** (1533-1603) was the daughter of Henry VIII and she took the throne after a period of turmoil. However, her reign proved a stabilising influence, and importantly saw the defeat of the Spanish Armada. During her reign, an increased number of explorations were made to the 'New World' in America.



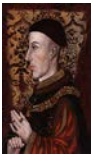
14. **Sir Isaac Newton** (1642–1727), was an English physicist, mathematician, alchemist, and philosopher. He is widely considered the greatest scientist of all time. His scientific breakthroughs, led to significant increases in our understanding of gravity, optics and mathematics.



15. **J R R Tolkien** (1892 – 1973) an Oxford don who became famous through writing *The Hobbit*, and the epic trilogy ‘*Lord of the Rings*’. Tolkien spawned a new genre of fantasy literature. *Lord of the Rings* made him one of the best selling authors of the Twentieth Century.



16. **Tony Blair** (1953 –) British Prime Minister from 1997 – 2007. Blair was elected on a platform of great optimism after 18 years of Conservative rule. His leadership became controversial after supporting the US led invasion of Iraq.



17. **King Henry V** (1386 – 1422) was immortalised through Shakespeare’s play. He is most famous for leading the English to a decisive victory at the Battle of Agincourt in the ongoing one hundred years war with France.



18. **Paul McCartney** (1942 –) A key member of the Beatles. Along with John Lennon, McCartney wrote a significant number of the Beatles hits. After the Beatles split, he embarked on a solo career and had remained high profile throughout the music industry.



19. **King Arthur** (5th Century) . A king of almost mythical nature. According to legend, King Arthur is said to have united the English into a cohesive unit against Saxon invaders.



20. **John M Keynes** (1883 – 1946) is the most outstanding economist of his generation. His work on macroeconomics provided a solution to the Great Depression and his work is a constant source of debate amongst modern economies. He was also involved in the Versailles Peace Treaty, resigning in protest at its harsh terms.



21. **Thomas Beckett** (1118 – 1170) Archbishop of Canterbury during time of Henry II. Initially a friend of Henry II. His opposition to King Henry II as Archbishop of Canterbury made him an opponent of the King. Beckett was murdered in Canterbury Cathedral.



22. **William Tyndale** (1494–1536) was one of the first persons to print the Bible in English. He worked on translating the Bible into English even when it was deemed to be an illegal act. He was executed for blasphemy after years of avoiding capture.



23. **William Wordsworth** (1770 – 1850) a major English romantic poet. Wordsworth’s poetry was influential to the Romantic movement of the early Nineteenth Century. Much of his poetry was inspired by his native Lake District.



24. **Lord Baden Powell** (1857 – 1941) founder of the World Scouting Movement and Chief Scout of the world. He was a member of the British army and was involved in the Siege of Mafeking.




25. **Captain James Cook** (1728 – 1779) was an English seaman who led many ground-breaking voyages into uncharted seas in the Pacific. He mapped islands and lands from New Zealand to Hawaii.





26. **Thomas Paine** (1737 – 1809) was an English-American write and political activist. His republican writings proved very influential in encouraging Americans to join the American revolution.





27. **Florence Nightingale** (1820 – 1910) although born in Italy, she spent many years working in England helping to establish the nursing profession. She used her experiences working as a nurse in the Crimean war to establish better medical practises.


28.  **William Wilberforce** (1759 – 1833) was an English philanthropist and was the leader of the movement to abolish slavery. His life's goal was achieved shortly before his death.


29.  **Isambard Kingdom Brunel** (1806-1859) was an English mechanical and civil engineer. He played a key role in building the early railway network and built many ground-breaking ships and bridges.

30.  **Charles Babbage** (1791 – 1871) was an English mathematician and inventor. He is best remembered for being the 'father of computers' Although many of his early models were not finished, his work laid the foundation for later computers.

31.  **William Blake** (1757 – 1827) was an English poet, engraver and mystic. He held radical views for his time. Later his poetry became highly respected and admired.

32.  **Margaret Thatcher** (1925 – 2013) was British Prime Minister from 1979-1990. She oversaw a period of rapid social and economic change in Britain. She was a conviction politician unafraid to speak her mind and pursue her ideology.

33.  **Bobby Moore** (1941 – 1993) was an English footballer who played for West Ham and England. He captained England during the 1966 World Cup triumph. He was widely regarded as a true gentleman on and off the pitch.

34.  **Oliver Cromwell** (1599-1658) was an English military and political leader. Cromwell was the main leader of the Parliamentarians during the English civil war. After the defeat of the monarchy, he was head of state where he led the Puritanical movement.



35. **Stephen Hawking** (1942 –) is an English theoretical physicist. Despite suffering from motor neurone disease, Hawking has made many important scientific discoveries and helped to explain science to the general public.



36. **Sir Charlie Chaplin** (1889-1977) an English born comic and actor, Chaplin was one of the first media stars of the Twentieth Century. Chaplin moved to Hollywood where he became famous for his silent movies and comic talent.



37. **Emmeline Pankhurst** (1858-1928) - A British suffragette, Emily Pankhurst dedicated her life to the promotion of women's rights. She explored all avenues of protest including violence, public demonstrations and hunger strikes. She died in 1928, 3 weeks before a law giving all women over 21 the right to vote.



38. **Queen Elizabeth II** The second longest serving monarch, Elizabeth has presided over six decades of rapid social change. The period has seen Britain divest itself of Empire, and become relatively less influential. Despite ups and downs, Elizabeth has been an important stabilising influence.



39. **Julie Andrews** (1935 –) singer and actress. Famous for role in 'Marry Poppins'



40. **Sebastian Coe** (1956 –) British Olympic medallist winner at 800m. Sebastian Coe also became a Conservative MP and later led London's successful bid for the 2012 Olympics



41. **Tim Berners Lee** (1955 –) is an English computer scientist, who is credited with the creation of the world wide web (WWW) which enabled transfer of documents across the internet.



42. **Richard Branson** (1950 –) A high school drop out, Richard Branson founded the multinational Virgin group of more than 400 companies, including Virgin mobile, Virgin Airways and Virgin trains.



43. **Boris Johnson** (1964 –) is Mayor of London and one of the best known politicians in the country. He is famous for his slightly eccentric behaviour, which hasn't inhibited his political career.



44. **Horatio Nelson** (1758-1805) was an English naval hero. Best remembered for his service in the Napoleonic wars. In particular, the Battle of Trafalgar, where he was killed successfully leading the British fleet in battle.



45. **Sir Michael Caine** (1933-) was an English actor and writer. He featured in over 100 films, including some of the most famous films of his generation, such as *Zulu*, *The Italian Job*, and *A Bridge too far*.



46. **Sir Francis Drake** (1540-1596) was an English admiral and explorer. He made several voyages to the Americas and carried out the second circumnavigation of the world.



47. **Guy Fawkes** (1570-1606) was a Catholic conspirator in the great 'Gun Powder Plot' in which dissidents planned to blow up Parliament and King James. However, the plot was discovered and Fawkes executed.



48. **Emily Bronte** (1818-1848) was an English novelist from Haworth, Yorkshire. Along with her sisters she had a significant influence on English novels and poetry. She is best remembered for her classic 'Wuthering Heights'

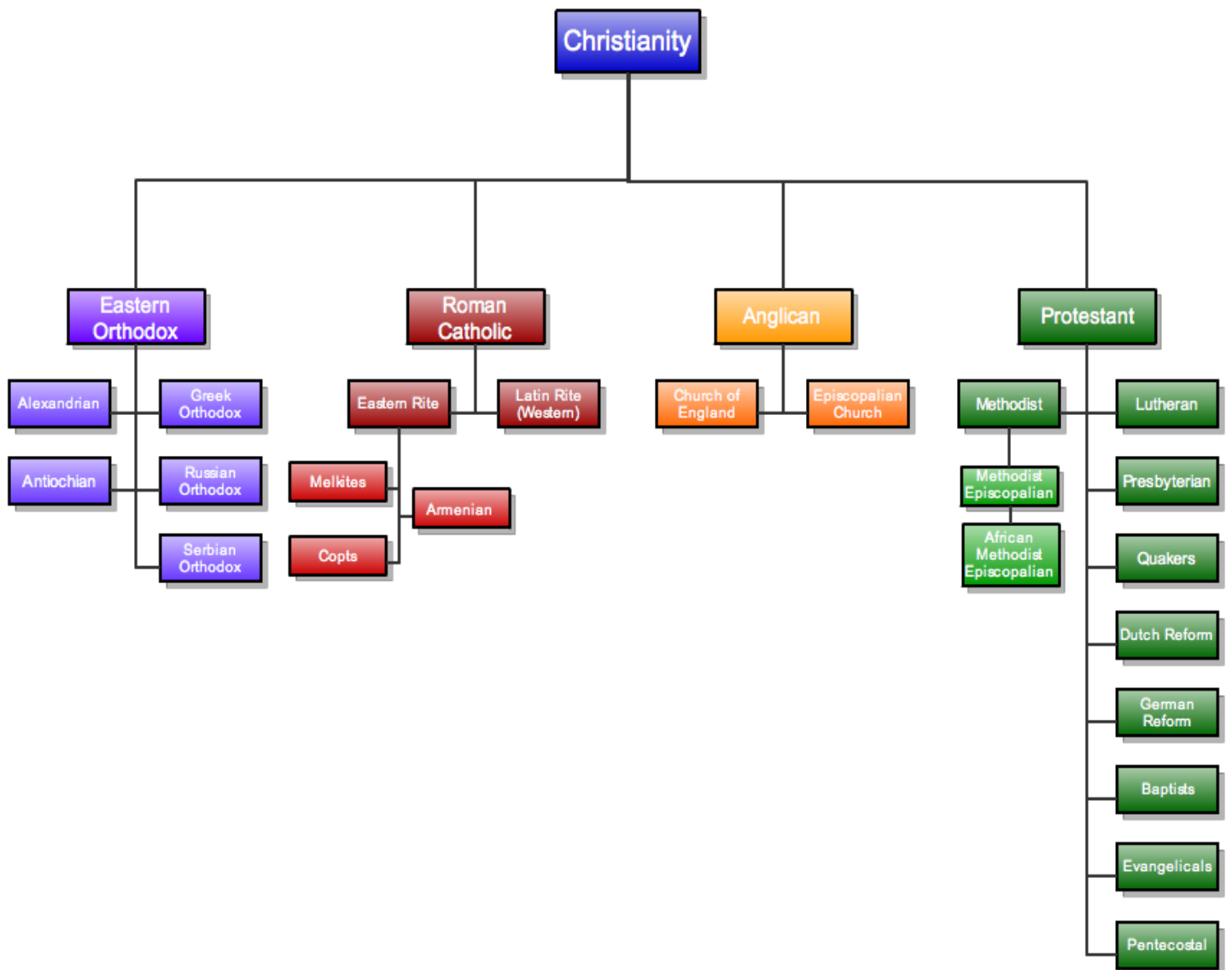


49. **Sir Roger Bannister** (1929 -) an English doctor and athlete. Bannister was the first athlete to break the four minute mile at Iffley Road track, Oxford.



50. **Cliff Richard** (1940 –) is a musician and entertainer whose career has spanned five decades. Originally seen as a rebellious rock ‘n roll star, he has become part of the music establishment.

ANGLICANISM



Anglicanism, one of the major branches of the 16th-century Protestant Reformation and a form of Christianity that includes features of both Protestantism and Roman

Catholicism. Anglicanism is loosely organized in the Anglican Communion, a worldwide family of religious bodies that represents the offspring of the Church of England and recognizes the archbishop of Canterbury as its nominal head. It prizes traditional worship and structure but operates autonomously and flexibly in different locales. Although the Anglican Communion has a creed—the Thirty-nine Articles—it has been disposed to allow widely divergent interpretations. Thus, Anglicans see themselves as possessing a cluster of historic pieties and procedural loyalties but few firm rules. *The Book of Common Prayer*, a compilation of the church's liturgical forms originally issued in 1549, represents the faith's independence from Rome and remains the hallmark of Anglican identity. The prayer book derives from ancient English spirituality and embodies the uniqueness of Anglican Christianity.

***History* Christianity in England**

The Church of England, mother church of the Anglican Communion, has a long history. Christianity probably began to be practiced in England not later than the early 3rd century. By the 4th century the church was established well enough to send three British bishops—of Londinium (London), Eboracum (York), and Lindum (Lincoln)—to the Council of Arles (in present-day France) in 314. In the 5th century, after the Romans had withdrawn from Britain and the Anglo-Saxons had invaded it, St. Illtud and St. Patrick performed missionary work in Wales and in Ireland, respectively. Isolated from continental Christianity in the 5th and 6th centuries, Christianity in the British Isles, especially in the north, was influenced by Irish Christianity, which was organized around monasteries rather than episcopal sees. About 563 St. Columba founded an influential monastic community on the island of Iona in the Inner Hebrides islands of Scotland.

An important step in the history of the English church was taken in 596, when St. Augustine was sent on a mission to England by Pope Gregory the Great. He was charged with evangelizing the largely pagan southern English kingdoms and establishing Roman ecclesiastical organization. He successfully preached to the king of Kent, converting him and a large number of his followers in 597. Augustine's archbishopric at Canterbury soon became the symbolic seat of England's church, which established important ties to Rome under his leadership. Subsequent missionwork, such as that of St. Aidan in northern England about 634,

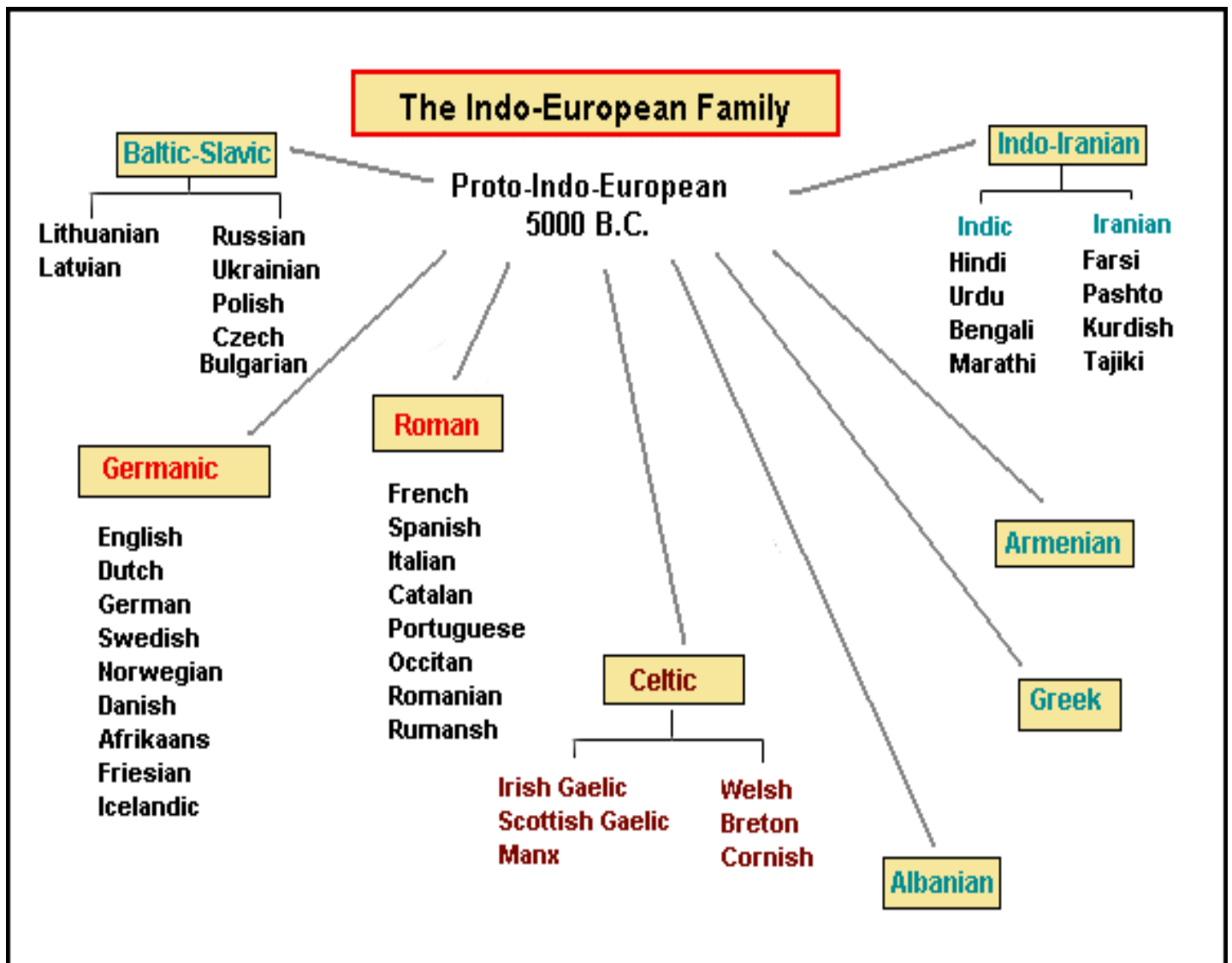
helped to solidify the English church. At the synod of Whitby in 664, the church of Northumbria (one of the northern English kingdoms) broke its ties with the Celtic church and accepted Roman usage, bringing the English church more fully into line with Roman and continental practices.

The early church in England was a distinctive fusion of British, Celtic, and Roman influences. Although adopting the episcopal structure favoured by the church of Rome, it retained powerful centres in the monasteries. The most important British sees were the archbishoprics of York and Canterbury, which often competed for primacy. Representatives of the church, such as the great historian and scholar Bede, played an important role in the development of English culture. The church sometimes found itself at odds with the English monarchy, as when St. Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, went into exile during controversies over the investiture of William Rufus and Henry I. The martyrdom of St. Thomas Becket, the most famous case of church-state conflict, demonstrated the church's concern to protect its integrity against the throne in the 12th century. The writings of John Wycliffe questioned the form of the medieval church and became an early protest against control of the English church by Rome.

Under King Henry VIII in the 16th century, the Church of England broke with Rome, largely because Pope Clement VII refused to grant Henry an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Wishing no reform—except along the lines of Erasmus's Christian humanism—Henry intended to replace Rome's authority over the English church with his own. Upon Henry's death, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer began changes that allied the Church of England with the Reformation. His *The Book of Common Prayer* revised traditional forms of worship to incorporate Protestant ideas. These efforts, however, were overturned by Queen Mary, who sought to restore Roman Catholicism in England. When Elizabeth I assumed the throne in 1558, the Reformation in England triumphed. The theologian John Jewel (1522–71) wrote that the Church of England had returned to ancient precedent. Richard Hooker (1554?–1600) defended the church against attacks by English Puritans and Catholics. Although the Puritans achieved political power in the Commonwealth in the mid-17th century, the subsequent Restoration (1660) marked the beginning of more than a century of great influence for the Church of England. The church dominated

England's religious life, becoming a considerable social and spiritual force and closely allying itself with the power of the throne. It generated impressive forms of philanthropy, and clergy commonly performed the duties of civil servants.

The church's hold on English religious life began to wane in the 18th century, despite impressive reform efforts. John Wesley, Charles Simeon, John Newton, and other clergy associated with the Evangelical revival prompted a surge of new religious fervour. Evangelical laity such as William Wilberforce and the Clapham Sect fought slavery and encouraged social reform. In the early 19th century the Anglo-Catholic (High Church) Oxford movement, led by John Henry Newman, John Keble, and E.B. Pusey, attempted to recover the ancient liturgy and to respond to social concerns. The church made impressive efforts to encompass the diversity of modern English life while retaining its traditional identity.



Read the article about two sisters.
Are the sentences 'Right' or 'Wrong'?
If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' or 'Wrong', choose 'Doesn't say'.

Something very strange happened to Tamara. She never knew she had a twin sister until she started university!

Tamara was born in Mexico. Her parents could not look after her so she went to live with a family in Manhattan, USA.

When Tamara was twenty years old, she started university in Long Island. She enjoyed her university life. But one day she was walking home from class, and a student smiled at her. "Hello Adriana!" said the student. "I'm not Adriana," said Tamara.

This happened to Tamara again and again. People Tamara didn't know kept calling her Adriana. It was very strange. One day, when a woman called her Adriana, Tamara asked "Why do you keep calling me Adriana?"

The woman replied, "You look like my friend Adriana. You have the same face and the same hair. Is Adriana your sister?" Tamara said that she did not have a sister called Adriana. But she was interested in this girl Adriana. Finally she asked someone for Adriana's email address.

When Tamara wrote to Adriana, she found out that they both had the same birthday, they looked the same and both of them were from Mexico. When Tamara went to live with the family in Manhattan, Adriana moved to Long Island to live with a family there. It had to be true! Adriana and Tamara were twin sisters!

1 Tamara and her sister were both born in Mexico.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

2 Tamara's parents moved from Mexico to Manhattan.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

3 People called Tamara "Adriana" many times.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

4 Adriana wrote to Tamara first.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

5 Adriana always knew she had a twin sister.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

6 Adriana is Tamara's only sister.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

7 Adriana was a student at Long Island University.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

8 Adriana had only recently arrived in Long Island.

Right Wrong Doesn't say

Read the Instant Messaging Conversation. Are the sentences 'Right' or 'Wrong'? If there is not enough information to answer 'Right' or 'Wrong', choose 'Doesn't say'.

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.43 am

Are you free this afternoon? Do you want to go out?

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.45 am

I just have to finish my homework, but I think I can finish it this morning. What do you want to do?

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.48 am

Let's go into town. We can go shopping and then get a coffee. We can go to the new cafe near the library. The cakes look great there.

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.50 am

You know I hate shopping. Why don't we go to the park? Kev and Rob will be there skateboarding. We can have meet up with them.

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.52 am

I don't want to spend my Saturday afternoon watching boys skateboarding! That's so boring! But we can go to the park for a game of tennis if you like.

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.55 am

I'm not really in the mood for tennis. I don't want to do anything too active. I want to just relax. You could come to my house, and we could watch a movie. We've got lots of good food.

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.56 am

I could watch a film on my own. Why don't I bring some board games round? That'll be a bit more fun.

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.57 am

Okay, that sounds alright, but my little brother will probably want to play too. Is that okay with you?

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 10.58 am

Sure. Shall I invite anyone else? I think Sophie is free this afternoon.

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 11.00 am

Okay, you can invite her, but no-one else. I don't want too many people round.

Tiffany writes:

Saturday 7th April - 11.01 am

Fine. I'll come round after lunch. Is one o'clock okay?

Jack writes:

Saturday 7th April - 11.02 am

Make it half past. I have to write a few emails first. See you 18r.

1 Jack is doing his homework this morning.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

2 Jack and Tiffany went shopping together last Saturday.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

3 Tiffany wants to go to the library.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

4 Jack wants to take his skateboard to the park.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

5
Tiffany wants to play tennis, but Jack doesn't.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

6 Tiffany has already watched a film today.

- Right
- Wrong

- Doesn't say

7 They decide to play board games at the new cafe this afternoon.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say

8 Tiffany will meet Jack at half past twelve.

- Right
- Wrong
- Doesn't say



SAMUEL BECKETT

THE THEATRE OF THE ABSURD

The theatre of the Absurd came about as a reaction to world war II. it took the basis of existential philosophy (it is, in fact, related to the ideas of Sartre and Camus on the tragic life of human beings) and combined it with dramatic elements to create a style of theatre which presented a world that cannot be logically explained, life is in one word absurd. needless to say this genre of theatre took quite some time to catch on because it used techniques that seemed to be illogical to the theatre world. the plots often deviated from the more traditional episodic structure, seem to move in a circle, ending the same way it began. The scenery was often unrecognizable, and to make matters worse, the dialogue never seemed to make any sense. Illogical situations, unconventional dialogue, minimal plots in attempt to reflect the absurdity of human existence, "Absurd" because out of harmony.

The Themes are:

existential anguish, pain of living, fear, alienation and absurdity, all fundamental elements of human existence.

The Theatre of the Absurd as life:

to point the meaninglessness of life out, clowns and puppets are protagonists on the stage and pain and anguish become ironic humour.

Absurdist playwrights

Samuel Beckett: the most wellknown of them, Beckett's plays seem to focus on the themes of uselessness of human action and the failure of the human race to communicate .Born in Dublin in 1906, he was a writer, a poet and a playwright, his masterpiece can be considered "**Waiting for Godot**" (1952).

All his themes (absurdity of life, pessimism, lack of communication and atheism) can be found in Vladimir and Estragon's scenic experience.

Other representative Absurdist playwrights are Eugene Ionesco and Harold Pinter



WAITING FOR GODOT

ACT I

A country road. A tree.

Evening. Estragon, sitting on a low mound, is trying to take off his boot. He pulls at it with both hands, panting. He gives up, exhausted, rests, tries again.

As before. Enter Vladimir.

ACT 2- Part 1

VLADIMIR Gogo!

ESTRAGON: Didi!

VLADIMIR: Your hand!

ESTRAGON: Take it!

VLADIMIR: Come to my arms!

ESTRAGON: Your arms?

VLADIMIR: My breast!

ESTRAGON: Off we go! *They embrace. They separate. Silence.*

VLADIMIR: How time flies when one has fun! *Silence.*

ESTRAGON: What do we do now?

VLADIMIR: While waiting.

ESTRAGON: While waiting. *Silence.*

VLADIMIR: We could do our exercises.

ESTRAGON: Our movements.

VLADIMIR: Our elevations.

ESTRAGON: Our relaxations.

VLADIMIR: Our elongations.

ESTRAGON: Our relaxations.

VLADIMIR: To warm us up.

ESTRAGON: To calm us down.

VLADIMIR: Off we go. *Vladimir hops from one foot to the other. Estragon imitates him.*

ESTRAGON: (*stopping*). That's enough. I'm tired.

VLADIMIR: (*stopping*). We're not in form. What about a little deep breathing?

ESTRAGON: I'm tired breathing.

VLADIMIR: You're right. (Pause.) Let's just do the tree, for the balance.

ESTRAGON: The tree?

Vladimir does the tree, staggering about on one leg.

VLADIMIR: (*stopping*). Your turn. *Estragon does the tree, staggers.*

ESTRAGON: Do you think God sees me?

VLADIMIR: You must close your eyes. *Estragon closes his eyes, staggers worse.*

ESTRAGON: (*stopping, brandishing his fists, at the top of his voice.*) God have pity on me!

VLADIMIR: (*vexed*). And me?

ESTRAGON: On me! On me! Pity! On me! *Enter Pozzo and Lucky. Pozzo is blind.*

POZZO: Pity!

VLADIMIR: Poor Pozzo!

ESTRAGON: I knew it was him.

VLADIMIR: Who?

ESTRAGON: Godot.

VLADIMIR: But it's not Godot.

ESTRAGON: It's not Godot?

VLADIMIR: It's not Godot.

ESTRAGON: Then who is it?

VLADIMIR: It's Pozzo.

POZZO: Here! Here! Help me up!

VLADIMIR: He can't get up.

ESTRAGON: Let's go.

VLADIMIR: We can't.

ESTRAGON: Why not?

VLADIMIR: We're waiting for Godot.

ESTRAGON: It's true!