Chapter Summary

Chapter 1 (A great city) explains about the history of London, from when the Romans arrived in 43 AD to the present day. It outlines the important events including 1066, the Great Plague of 1665, the Great Fire of London in 1666, the Great Exhibition during the time of Queen Victoria, and the destruction of many buildings during the Second World War.

Chapter 2 (Royal London) is about Royal London, with information about Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Kensington Palace, and Hampton Court. It tells you about opening times for visitors and the dates for parades such as the Trooping of the Colour on the Queen's birthday.

Chapter 3 (The City and the Tower of London) is about the City and the Tower of London. There are many important buildings to visit such as the Bank of England, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, and St Paul's Cathedral.

Chapter 4 (Whitehall and Westminster) covers Whitehall, with its government offices and the Prime Minister’s home, and Westminster, with the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. It also gives details of Guy Fawkes, who tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605, and the celebration of this event on November 5 each year.

Chapter 5 (By the river) talks about the River Thames and places you can see along the river, including Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, the Tate Modern, the Millennium Bridge, the London Eye, and the Thames Barrier.

Chapter 6 (Parks and gardens) includes information on parks and gardens, including Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Regent’s Park, and St James’s Park. It also tells you where to find Speaker’s Corner, London Zoo, and the Diana, Princess of Wales playground.

Chapter 7 (More museums and galleries) is about visiting museums and galleries. These include the British Museum, the Museum of London, the Natural History Museum, the London Transport Museum, the National Gallery, Tate Britain, Madame Tussauds, the London Dungeon, and smaller museums such as the Dickens House Museum and the Sherlock Holmes Museum at 221b Baker Street.

Chapter 8 (Theatres, music, and sport) covers theatres, music, and sport and explains where to buy tickets and what to see. There is information about where to watch cricket and football, as well as the Oxford and Cambridge University Boat race and the London Marathon.

Chapter 9 (Shopping and eating) is about the shops and where to eat. It tells you the best streets for shops and markets. For food it tells you about the variety of restaurants, where to go for afternoon tea, and the food in pubs.

Chapter 10 (Travelling) covers travelling around London, including tubes, buses, taxis (also called ‘black cabs’), and boats. It tells you where to buy tickets and the best time to travel.

Background

London is the capital city of England and the United Kingdom. There have been people living in the area for around two thousand years and today London is one of the world’s most important business and financial centres.

London is one of the most populous cities in the European Union, with a population of 7.5 million and a metropolitan area population of between 12 and 14 million. Its population is very cosmopolitan, drawing from a diverse range of peoples, cultures, and religions. Over 300 different languages are spoken in the city.

London is a major tourist destination, with the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, and the London Eye amongst its many attractions. It also has world-famous institutions such as the British Museum, the National Gallery, and the Natural History Museum.
London

Pre-reading activity

Word search

Match these words with the definitions below. Use the glossary at the back of London to help you.
bridge, celebrate, century, coronation, docks, gallery, government, museum, parade, plague, play, prison, queen, royal, war

DEFINITIONS:
1 a line of people walking together for a special reason, while other people watch them _______
2 of or about a king or queen _______
3 a group of people who control a country _______
4 the special day when a man is made king, or a woman is made queen _______
5 a place on a river or by the sea where ships bring people and things _______
6 something built high to go over a river or road _______
7 fighting between countries or groups of people _______
8 a place where you can look at old or interesting things _______
9 a time of 100 years _______
10 to enjoy yourself because you have a special reason to be happy _______
11 a very bad illness that makes thousands of people die _______
12 a building for bad people; they stay there and cannot leave _______
13 a place where you can see paintings and other kinds of art _______
14 you go to the theatre to see a _______
15 the most important woman in a country _______

Now find the words in the wordsearch below.

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To the teacher

Aim: To introduce some of the key vocabulary
Time: 10–15 minutes
Key: parade, royal, government, coronation, docks, bridge, war, museum, century, celebrate, plague, prison, gallery, play, queen.
London

While reading activity

Spot the mistakes

Read this summary of Chapter 5 By the river. Find and correct the mistakes.

In London you can walk along the River Thames and go across its many bridges. The Millennium Bridge is London’s oldest bridge. It opened in 1200 and it has good views of London and the sea. People like walking across the bridge because there are lots of cars.

You can also visit the Globe Theatre and watch a play by William Shakespeare, England’s most famous writer.

Tate London is also next to the river. It is a cinema with 288 rooms and there is work by Matisse, Picasso, Andy Warhol, and many other artists. Then there is the London Mouth, a big wheel 135 metres high, built in 2000. It moves very fast and from the capsules you can see across London to Buckingham Palace and the Houses of Parliament.

You can take the train or boat to Canary Wharf to learn about London’s docks from Roman times to today and later visit the Greenwich Barrier next to Royal Victoria Dock.

Now write a summary of Chapter 6 Parks and gardens. Include five mistakes. When you have finished it, give it to another student to correct.

To the teacher

Where: At the end of Chapter 6.
Aim: To help with summarizing and revision of reading.
Time: 20–30 minutes
Organization: You will need a photocopy of the worksheet for each student. The activity is in three parts, which can be done together in one class or separately over two. For part one, the students read the summary and correct the ten mistakes they find. When they have all finished, check the answers with the whole class. For part two they write their own summary of Chapter 6, with their five deliberate mistakes, and give it to a partner. For part three they read their partner’s summary and find and correct the mistakes. They then return the corrected summary to their partner to check that they found all the mistakes.
# London

**After reading activity**

### Matching phrases with places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phrase</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘drive’ a London bus here</td>
<td>The London Transport Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>at the end of the Mall</td>
<td>Buckingham Palace</td>
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<tr>
<td>built about 1078</td>
<td>The Tower of London</td>
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<tr>
<td>built at the time of Elizabeth the First</td>
<td>St Paul’s Cathedral</td>
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<tr>
<td>built for the second time in 1997</td>
<td>The Globe Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>destroyed in the Great Fire</td>
<td>Hyde Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>has a lake</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>has the second biggest dome</td>
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<tr>
<td>in Covent Garden</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Put these phrases next to the right place.**

- ‘drive’ a London bus here
- at the end of the Mall
- built about 1078
- built at the time of Elizabeth the First
- built for the second time in 1997
- destroyed in the Great Fire
- has a lake
- has the second biggest dome
- in Covent Garden

**To the teacher**

**Where:** At the end of the book.

**Aim:** To focus student’s attention back on places in the book.

**Time:** 10–15 minutes

**Organization:** Give each student, or pair of students, a copy of the worksheet. Ask them what they remember about the six places. Then ask them to match the phrases with each of the places. Check the answers with the whole class.

**Key:** The London Transport Museum: in Covent Garden; see trains from the nineteenth century; not far from Oxford Street; opened in the seventeenth century; see the Crown Jewels here; see trains from the nineteenth century; the ‘office’ of the Queen; the bell rings when a king or queen dies; the City’s oldest building; the guard changes at half-past eleven; watch Shakespeare’s plays here.