

Canterbury

Activity 1

Complete the gaps in these sentences:

1. Canterbury is a beautiful _____ city
2. Its medieval centre is full of _____ streets
3. The tales are story told by _____ on a pilgrimage
4. There are many _____ in this small city
5. It's also a nice idea to take a _____ along the city walls...
6. ... not only because it has _____ its old charm

Activity 2

Answer these questions:

1. Where is Canterbury?

2. Why does it have the status of cathedral city?

3. Why is Canterbury so famous?

4. When did Chaucer write The Canterbury Tales?

5. Who tells the stories in the Canterbury tales and why?

6. What did the pilgrims visit Canterbury?

7. What are three of the many attractions in Canterbury?

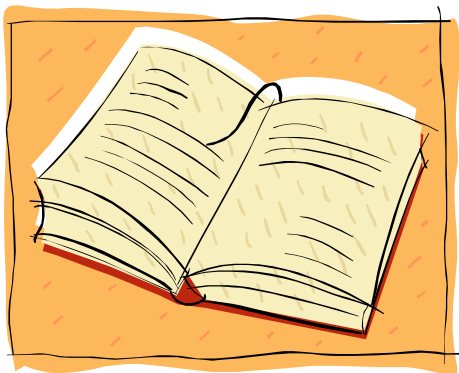
8. Which city does the writer Virginia Woolf compare Canterbury to?

Activity 3

Listen and fill the gaps

Canterbury is a beautiful historic city with a _____ of almost 131000 and is a UNESCO world heritage site. Its _____ centre is full of picturesque streets, nice little shops and _____ restaurants and cafes.

It is England's most famous cathedral city, situated in the South East of the country. The _____ of cathedral city in England and Wales was traditionally given by the British _____ to a small group of towns with diocesan cathedrals.



Canterbury is also famous for the Canterbury Tales - a _____ of stories written by an important English author, Geoffrey Chaucer, in the 14th century. These tales are stories told by _____ on a pilgrimage from London to Canterbury to visit the shrine of Saint Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral.

There are many _____ in this small city, the most interesting are: the World Heritage site of Canterbury Cathedral, St Martin's Church and the West Gate, a fortified medieval _____. It's also a nice idea to take a walk along the city walls and explore the _____ medieval streets such as Mercery Lane. Visiting the Roman _____, built around the ruins of a Roman Townhouse, is interesting too.

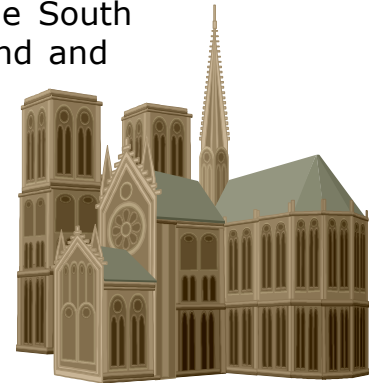
Today visitors from all over the world come to visit Canterbury, not only because it has kept its old _____ with the ancient buildings, shops and restaurants, but also because it's lively and very _____. I went to Canterbury last year and I really enjoyed it. Virginia Woolf, the English novelist and essay writer, said that 'There is no _____ place in the world...and I have seen Venice too.' Well, maybe it's a little bit exaggerated but Canterbury is really lovely! It's _____ going to see it!

Transcript

Canterbury is a beautiful historic city with a population of almost 131000 and is a UNESCO world heritage site. Its medieval centre is full of picturesque streets, nice little shops and cosy restaurants and cafes.

It is England's most famous cathedral city, situated in the South East of the country. The status of cathedral city in England and Wales was traditionally given by the British monarch to a small group of towns with diocesan cathedrals.

Canterbury is also famous for the Canterbury Tales - a collection of stories written by an important English author, Geoffrey Chaucer, in the 14th century. These tales are stories told by pilgrims on a pilgrimage from London to Canterbury to visit the shrine of Saint Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral.



There are many attractions in this small city, the most interesting are: the World Heritage site of Canterbury Cathedral, St Martin's Church and the West Gate, a fortified medieval gatehouse. It's also a nice idea to take a walk along the city walls and explore the narrow medieval streets such as Mercery Lane. Visiting the Roman Museum, built around the ruins of a Roman Townhouse, is interesting too.

Today visitors from all over the world come to visit Canterbury, not only because it has kept its old charm with the ancient buildings, shops and restaurants, but also because it's lively and very cosmopolitan. I went to Canterbury last year and I really enjoyed it. Virginia Woolf, the English novelist and essay writer, said that 'There is no lovelier place in the world...and I have seen Venice too.' Well, maybe it's a little bit exaggerated but Canterbury is really lovely! It's worthwhile going to see it!

Thanks to Stefania Ariu from Cagliari, Italy for kindly preparing this podcard.

This student worksheet is free to download and print for use in the classroom or for self-study. It is meant to be used in conjunction with the listening file which is available in mp3 format. However, the transcript can be used not only to check answers but also for reading comprehension and vocabulary

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