



Gretna Green	
Fertigkeit: Leseverstehen	Niveau B1 Ich kann in unterschiedlichen Texten das Wesentliche erfassen. Auch wenn ich nicht alles verstehe, kann ich die Bedeutung einzelner Wörter und Äußerungen aus dem Zusammenhang erschließen.
Deskriptor: Ich kann einfache Sachtexte zu allgemeinen Themen lesen und ihnen gezielt Informationen entnehmen.	
Beschreibung: Die Schülerinnen und Schüler lesen Text und Aufgabenapparat selbstständig durch und bearbeiten die Aufgaben. Danach vergleichen sie ihre Ergebnisse mit dem Lösungsblatt. Für diejenigen, die nicht alle Aufgaben richtig gelöst haben, gibt es <i>follow-up tasks</i> .	
Organisationsform: Einzelarbeit	
Zeitaufwand: ca. 20 Minuten	
Erfüllungsgrad: Die Aufgabe gilt als erfüllt, wenn 10 von 17 Punkten richtig angekreuzt bzw. gefunden wurden.	
Spiegelbild-Aufgabe: <u>Schreiben:</u> Die Schülerinnen und Schüler schreiben einen kurzen Text zum Thema <i>At what age should young people be allowed to marry?</i>	
Material / Medien: Arbeitsblätter Lösungsblätter	

- Read the following text.



The Old Blacksmith's Shop



As soon as you hear the name Gretna Green, you think of runaway marriages. The first rush started in 1753, when a new law in England, passed by Lord Hardwicke, made these marriages illegal. It did not take long for young couples to realise that as soon as they crossed the Scottish border nothing could prevent their marriage.

Scottish Law demanded only that the couple proclaimed in front of two witnesses that they wanted to get married. From that moment on this marriage was recognized as legal in all countries.

In the 18th century it was mostly the blacksmith who functioned as "Anvil Priest" – this is why the anvil is the symbol of Gretna Green.

One of the oldest marriage certificates, dated 11th June 1772, belongs to Mr. Houston, the proprietor of the famous Old Blacksmith's Shop. One of the last Anvil Priests, Mr. Rennison, married 5147 couples over the anvil. These weddings caused a lot of complaints in the Anglican Church and this wedding business was considered scandalous and immoral. Lots of stories can be told of parents, hopping mad, often armed with a gun, who arrived in Scotland in carriages or on horseback trying to stop the marriage of their runaway children. But mostly they were too late, and the marriage had taken place.

In 1857, a new law was proclaimed, according to which a couple could only get married if one of them had taken up residence for 21 days prior to the weddings. This, of course, brought a reduction in marriages. Later on, the Anglican Church again brought pressure on parliament.

Since 1940, all Anvil Marriages have been illegal. But all the same, one still hears of Gretna Green marriages – because in England one has to be 18 before one can get married without one's parents' permission, while in Scotland the age for this is 16. Today, the ceremony normally takes place in a church or at the registry office. However, many young couples, after their official wedding, come to the Old Blacksmith's Marriage Room to repeat the traditional Scottish oath there.

Source:

Adapted from information material supplied by the Gretna Green Visitor Centre

- Now deal with the tasks connected with this text:

Task 1

- Decide whether the statements below are correct, incorrect or if the information is not in the text at all.
- If they are correct, **tick (✓) A.**
- If they are not correct, **tick (✓) B.**
- If the information is not in the text, **tick (✓) C.**

		A True	B False	C not in the text
1.	Runaway marriages were forbidden in England 200 years ago.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	In Scotland, the young couple only needed two people present to be able to get married.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	In former times, a law demanded the use of wedding rings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	The Old Blacksmith is the symbol of Gretna Green.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Parents often tried to prevent their children's marrying in Gretna Green.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	An angry father shot a priest.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	In 1857, a new law demanded that the young people had stayed in Gretna Green for three weeks before they could get married.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	In Scotland people are still allowed to marry earlier than in England.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Task 2

- On the basis of the text, match the parts of the following sentences.

1. Young couples came to Gretna Green
2. The church complained
3. Only a few fathers succeeded in

- a) to get divorced.
- b) stopping the marriage ceremony.
- c) because of their runaway children.
- d) and wanted to end these weddings.
- e) because they wanted to marry without permission.

Task 3

- Find the words and expressions in the text which tell you this:

1. a marriage performed at the anvil of Gretna Green **is not recognized**.

2. during the wedding ceremony there had to be **two other people present**.

3. many people thought that the couples who married in Gretna Green acted **against social rules**.

4. some of the parents who came to Gretna Green in search of their children **were extremely angry**.

5. the law said that a couple could only get married if one partner **had lived in** Gretna Green for three weeks.

6. when a new law was passed in 1857, **fewer couples were married** in Gretna Green.

Lösungen

Solutions and follow-up tasks

Task 1

No.	Solution	<i>If you have marked the wrong letter, look again in line(s):</i>	<i>Write down the words which give you this information:</i>
1	A	2 - 3	
2	A	6 - 8	
3	C		
4	B	10	
5	A	15 - 17	
6	C		
7	B	19 - 20	
8	A	24 - 26	

Task 1

No.	Solution	<i>If you have marked the wrong letter, look again in line(s):</i>	<i>Write down the words which give you this information:</i>
1	A	2 - 3	... you think of runaway marriages. The first rush started in 1753, when a new law in England ... made these marriages illegal.
2	A	6 - 8	The Scottish Law demanded only that the couple proclaimed in front of two witnesses ...
3	C		
4	B	10	... this is why the anvil is the symbol of Gretna Green.
5	A	15 - 17	Lots of stories can be told of parents, hopping mad, often armed with a gun, who arrived in Scotland in carriages or on horsebacks trying to stop the marriage of their runaway children.
6	C		
7	B	19 - 20	... according to which a couple could only get married if one of them had taken up residence for 21 days prior to the weddings.
8	A	24 - 26	... because in England one has to be 18 before one can get married without one's parents permission, while in Scotland the age for this is 16.

Task 2

1	e
2	d
3	b

Task 3

No.	Word / Expression	<i>If you haven't found the right word or expression, look again in line(s):</i>
1	... made these marriages illegal	3
2	... that the couple proclaimed in front of two witnesses	6
3	... this wedding business was considered scandalous and immoral	14 - 15
4	... parents, hopping mad , ...	16
5	... if one of them had taken up residence for 21 days prior to the weddings	20
6	This of course brought a reduction in marriages.	21