

LONDON



London is the capital of the UK. It is a political and cultural centre of the country. It stands on the river Thames.



It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world attracting thousands of tourists.



Big Ben is the most famous symbol of Great Britain.



Big Ben is the name of the bell and the clock in the tower of Westminster Palace. You can hear the sound of Big Ben every hour. The Clock Tower is 96.3 metres high. The hour bell weighs 13.720 kilograms. It has a deep tone.



Big Ben

Tick-tock,

Tick-tock,

This is Big Ben.

Big Ben is a clock.

Day and night

With all its might

Big Ben, the clock,

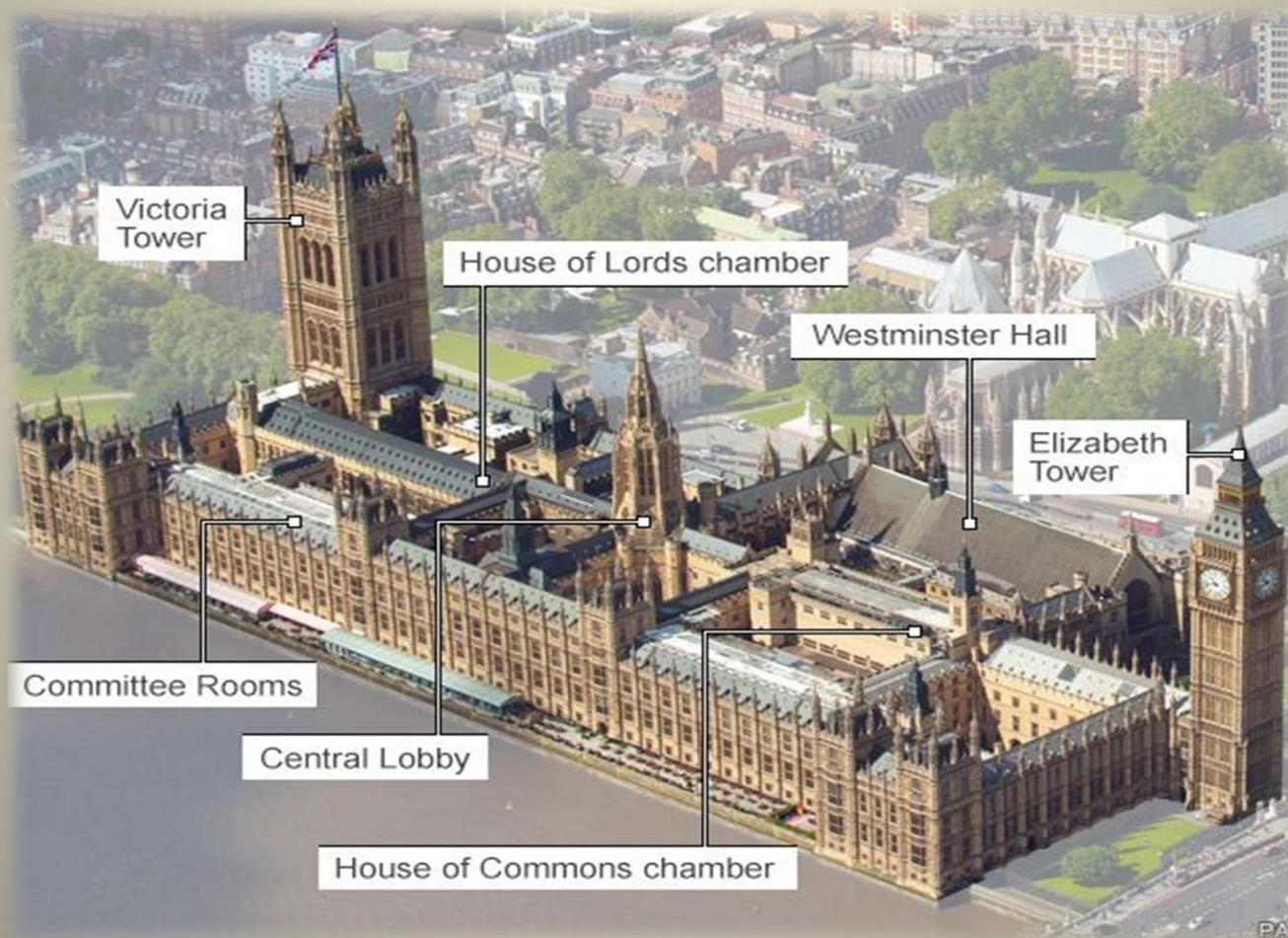
Says: Tick-tock.



Westminster Palace is also known as the Houses of Parliament.



The Houses of Parliament is the seat of the United Kingdom Parliament. It has two chambers – the House of Lords and the House of Commons.



The Houses of Parliament stand beside the river Thames. You can go on a boat and see London from the river.



Not far from the Houses of Parliament there is Westminster Abbey. It was built by king Edward in 1065.



Westminster Abbey is one of the oldest and most beautiful cathedrals of the world.



The coronation of all British Kings and Queens takes place in Westminster Abbey.



Westminster Abbey is famous for its Poet's Corner.



Many great writers and poets are buried there: for example Charles Dickens, Lewis Carroll and Rudyard Kipling.



A very popular tourist attraction is the London Eye. It is a giant observation wheel.



The 135 metres tall structure was built as part of London's millennium celebrations.



People enjoy the view of London from London Eye Capsules.



You can see the Tower of London from the river Thames. It was built in the 11th century.



The Tower was a fortress, a palace, a prison and the King's Zoo. Now it is the museum.



There are always black ravens in the Tower of London. People keep them in the Tower and look after them very well.



The legend says that once a wizard predicted that England would prosper as long as the ravens lived in the Tower.



Not far from the Tower of London there is a beautiful Tower Bridge. It was built in 1894.



The bridge opens and ships go up and down the River Thames.



One of the greatest English churches, Saint Paul's Cathedral, was built in the 17th century by famous British architect Sir Christopher Wren.



It is a beautiful building with many columns and towers. There is a large bell in one of its towers.



The Queen of England lives in Buckingham Palace.



It is a wonderful building with a monument in front of it which is the Queen Victoria Memorial.



A lot of tourists go to Buckingham Palace to see the Changing of the Guard.



It takes fifteen minutes to get from Buckingham Palace to Trafalgar Square, the centre of London.



Right in the centre of Trafalgar Square there stands the Nelson Column 44 metres high.



It is a monument to Admiral Nelson. He was a great seaman, a famous national English hero.



Four bronze lions at the foot of the Nelson column symbolize the power of England on sea and shore.



There are two beautiful fountains in Trafalgar Square. They are in front of the National Gallery.



The National Art Gallery is situated on Trafalgar Square. It is one of the best picture galleries in the world.



It has a wonderful collection of paintings of both British and Old Masters.



Every day many tourists visit this fine building with tall columns.



Welcome to London!

