

BRITAIN, A LAND OF IMMIGRANTS

CLOZE EXERCISE

ACTIVITIES



- While reading the short text below fill in the gaps with the following words: Polish – Germans – 1919 – war – census – birthplace – Wales – wounded.

Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, many people from all over Europe emigrated to Great Britain. In England and ①, the 1871 ② recorded 32,823 Germans out of an overall European-born population of 89,829, in a total English and Welsh population of approximately 33 million.

Scotland's population at the time was around 3,350,000. In 1911 the English and Welsh census recorded 53,324 foreign-born ③. In England and Wales, the 1871 census recorded an Italian population of 5,063 and by 1911 this number was 20,389. In Scotland, census returns for these years were 268 and 4,594 Italians respectively.

Some 19,000 ④ Belgian soldiers arrived during the war. In addition, 240,000 Belgian refugees were scattered throughout Britain by ⑤. Virtually all were repatriated, and in 1921 there were 9,892 recorded in Britain.

In the 1931 census there were 44,462 people claiming Poland as their ⑥. Those who arrived during World War II and stayed on, constitute the core of the present-day ⑦ community. In 1951 there were 162,339 Polish-born people in Britain. By 1971 the figure had dropped to 110,925.

There were 334,000 German and Italian prisoners of war (POWs) employed in areas such as agriculture. Some 15,700 Germans and 1,000 Italians remained after the ⑧. The rest were repatriated. After World War 2, work-permit schemes recruited Germans, Italians, Ukrainians, Austrians and Poles, although not all remained.

