

The London Marathon

Name _____ Date _____

The London Marathon

The London Marathon started in 1981 and is normally held in April. Since Covid-19 it has been held in October but it will return to April from 2023.

The first London Marathon was held on 29 March 1981 and there were more than 6,000 runners. In 2022 there are about 50,000 people taking part.



London Marathon runners crossing Tower Bridge.

The marathon is 26.2 miles long and goes through the centre of London. The route passes many famous London landmarks such as the Cutty Sark, Big Ben and Buckingham Palace.

Every year, the marathon raises millions of pounds for charities. Many fundraisers dress up in fancy costumes.

The entire marathon is shown live on BBC TV from 9.30am. You can track individual runners using a free app. You will need the runner's bib number.

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1. When did the London Marathon start?

		✓
A	March 1981	
B	April 1981	
C	October 1981	

(E2.7, E2.8, E2.11. 1 mark)

2. Which bridge is on the marathon route?

(E2.7, E2.12. 1 mark)

3. Roughly how many runners took part in 1981?

		✓
A	2,000	
B	6,000	
C	50,000	

(E2.7, E2.8, E2.11. 1 mark)

4. How long is the marathon?

(E2.7, E2.8, E2.11. 1 mark)

5. Your friend is running in the marathon.

Name **two** things you will need to track your friend's progress.

(E2.7, E2.8. 2 marks)

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Use a dictionary to answer questions 6 and 7.

6. 'The entire marathon is shown live on BBC TV from 9.30am.'

What does **entire** mean?

		✓
A	beginning	
B	final	
C	complete	

(E2.7, E2.10. 1 mark)

7. 'Many **fundraisers** dress up in fancy costumes.'

What does **fundraiser** mean?

(E2.7, E2.10. 1 mark)

8. Put the words into alphabetical order.

first	famous	fundraiser	fancy	free
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(E1.14, E2.15. 2 marks)

9. Complete the table.

Singular	Plural
	charities
number	

(E2.14. 2 marks)