

Read the text and answer the questions

Britain's Strangest Hobbies by Mike Villa

Football, knitting, bowling and gardening, these are all normal hobbies in Britain, but what about some of the more unusual hobbies people has? I wanted to find out about some strange things people do in this country. I spoke to members of the british public to find out more...

Ghost Hunting

Michelle Miller from the Wirral enjoys ghost hunting. She has visited 3 pubs and a stately home in Liverpool and



Ghost hunting

York to look for ghosts. She didn't see any ghosts but she heard them! She heard slammed doors and footsteps that were supposed to be of an old lady who had died in the house 160 years ago.

She says "When I was in Allerton Hall, I heard a strange whistling coming from the stables and it suddenly went very cold." Michelle also worked in the Dibbinsdale Pub in Bromborough and many people there saw the ghost of the 'white lady' who was sometimes outside the pub standing on a bridge, and sometimes she was standing in the restaurant area. When people approached her – she disappeared!



3

Keeping Ants

Another unusual but less scary hobby is ant-keeping. Ant keeping is for those people who like animals but don't want a traditional pet. If you like animals but can't afford the money, time or stress that a dog or cat gives, then why not try ants?



Tim's ants

They are sociable animals and live in colonies of up to 2,000 ants so if you have an ant colony you will never be



An ant colony

alone! Tim Lee from Whitby loves ants. Tim says, "When I come home from work and I feel a bit low, they are always there to meet me and they cheer me up. I love seeing them running around the colony and keeping busy!"

This is not so popular here in the UK, but it has really taken off in Canada and there are now organisations that meet annually to discuss their ants.

So what do you think? Do you feel like taking up any of these unusual hobbies? Get in touch and tell us your opinion – email me at mike@dailynews.co.uk

Unusual Hobbies

Name _____ Date _____



1. What is this text?
 - a. an article
 - b. a story
 - c. an online web page

2. Where would you see this text?
 - a. Online
 - b. Magazine or newspaper
 - c. Noticeboard

3. What features are in the text?
 - a. Columns and headline
 - b. Columns and bullet points
 - c. Bullet points and subheadings

4. What is the tone of the text?
 - a. Aggressive
 - b. Official
 - c. Friendly

5. Look at paragraph 1 and find:
a spelling mistake
a capital letter mistake
a grammar mistake

6. Find the word '**sociable**' in the dictionary and write the meaning.
.....
.....

7. What does picture 3 show?
 - a. The white lady ghost
 - b. Michelle ghost hunting
 - c. Allerton Hall

8. Who is Mike Villa?
 - a. A reporter
 - b. A guest at the hotel
 - c. A ghost

9. Who goes ghost hunting?
 - a. Michelle miller
 - b. Michelle Miller
 - c. Michele Miller

10. What punctuation marks are used when someone speaks?
 - a. Double quotation marks "....."
 - b. Single quotation marks '.....'
 - c. Exclamation marks !

11. Mike's email address is:
 - a. mike@dailynews.co.uk
 - b. mike@dialynews.co.uk
 - c. mike@dailynew.co.uk

12. True or false?
 - a. Michelle lives in York.
 - b. The old lady died one hundred and sixteen years ago.
 - c. Two thousand ants can live in a colony.
 - d. Tim doesn't have a job.
 - e. The White Lady works in a pub.
 - f. You can contact Mike to tell him what you think.
 - g. You can phone Mike.
 - h. Keeping ants is popular in Canada.
 - i. Mike is a journalist