

QUESTIONS ON TEXT 1 (for the LVB ?)

1/ As you read the text pick the **vocabulary** that you find the most useful.

Try to find the equivalents in English of

- sinistre
- déchirer / remettre complètement à plat
- exploite
- jeter de l'huile sur le feu / aggraver une situation
- en quelques mots / pour dire les choses simplement
- un citoyen
- parties constitutives
- non pertinent / sans importance
- un principe
- décomposition / désintégration / déstructuration
- un gros morceau / tout un pan de...
- s'effondrer

From line 1 to 13

2/ Identify (or try to guess!) what are the five elements of poor governance mentioned or alluded to in the first paragraph (and their consequences if they are mentioned)

From line 14 to 26

3/ Explain again, in your own words *"The problem is that Britain is not a traditional country like France, Germany..."*

4) Why is Northern Ireland referred to as *"The disputed land of Northern Ireland"*

5) Why are the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia mentioned?

From line 27 to 37

6) Is Brexit the root cause of this identity crisis? Say why or why not in your own words

From line 38 to the end

7) What did the author do over the summer?

8) *"The last time the U.K. lost a major chunk of its territory"* (l 44) What does he refer to here?

9) Why is "Westminster" referred to as *"the heart of the British state"* (l 48)

QUESTIONS ON TEXT 2 (plutôt les LVA ?)

1) Read the entire text.

What type of article is it? What is the main point made by the author. Answer in your own words

2) Why such a reference to a rugby player in the first paragraph?

3) What has "erupted once more"? (l 5)

- 4) Explain in your own words “ *That a once-imperial nation on a small archipelago in the Atlantic cannot hold its domestic union in place is astonishing*” (l 8-9)
- 5) “fanciful”, “supposedly”, “meaningless”, “reputedly”, “challenged by scholar”, “dismissed”... Why do all these words have in common? What does the journalist explain in this passage?
- 6) What has all this lead to?
- 7) Explain in your own words: “*It is significant that this collective abuse of the Welsh, Scottish and Irish never met a collective response*” l 31
- 8) Pick all the dates in that paragraph and check you know what they refer to.
- 9) “*Therefore a rump United Kingdom did cohere*” What does it mean? Why are the Tory party and the Labour Party mentioned?
- 10) From line 39 to 49
Try to identify all the changes mentioned (making up the “burst of dissent” referred to l 50)
- 11) Explain in your own words: “ *Across Europe, nation-building has long been a vexed art*” (l 50)
What is the journalist trying to do with this list of examples?
- 12) What has been the response in Westminster?
- 13) What is the journalist doing and calling for in the concluding paragraphs (l 61 to 67)
- 14) How would you organise a synthèse on this text? You can try to write an introduction.

WORK on TEXT 3 (extra - if you have time)

Ideally the super motivated among you should read the entire text and take notes on it (or a team could do it and share their notes with the rest of the group 😊)

To make things easier, I have divided this long analysis into four parts.

To start with, I encourage you to read carefully and take notes on Part TWO.

PART ONE – INTRODUCTION

From line 1 to line 44

PART TWO – THE RISE AND FALL OF THE UNION

From line 45 to line 139

PART THREE – BREXIT AND NATIONAL IDENTITIES

From line 140 to line 237

PART FOUR – CONCLUSION - WHAT NEXT?

From line 238 to the end