

Why are Brits so obsessed with tea?

TED4ESL warm-up idea:

Before giving the worksheet to Ss, ask them about symbols, landmarks and people they associate with England.

LONDON

DISCUSSION

1. **Discuss these questions:**
 - Have you ever been to the UK? What did you see?
 - What landmarks, objects and people connected with the UK can you see in the picture?
 - What else would you add as a symbol of the UK?
 - What are the symbols of your country?



VIDEO & DISCUSSION

2. **Watch the video and write down what these figures and phrases refer to.**
 - 165 million – the number of cups of tea that the British drink every day
 - fake teas – low-priced teas - tea leaves mixed with other leaves and then died
 - low tea – afternoon tea also known as low tea due to the low tables it was served on
 - tea rooms – places for women where they could meet, chat and discuss politics (the 1880s)
 - 96% – of tea consumed in Britain comes in the form of a tea bag
 - the 1950s – super convenient tea bags didn't catch on in Britain until then
3. **Choose the correct prepositions in these sentences. Then, watch again and check your answers.**
 - a) We're rather fond *of/for/in* a proper brew which is what we call a nice cup of tea.
 - b) Invite them *up/to/over* for a cup of tea.
 - c) It's how we stay *in/on/to* such great shape.
 - d) Whilst our surrounding countries remained too hooked *for/in/on* coffee, England became a tea drinking nation.
 - e) Americans were naturally enthusiastic *for/about/with* these new, super convenient tea bags.

After the video:

Ask Ss if there is a typical drink in their country, if they prefer tea or coffee or how they like their tea.

IDIOMS & COMMON PHRASES

4. Match halves to make popular English idioms and common phrases.

not one's cup	_____	a lord
feel under	_____	but it pours
as drunk as	_____	of tea
cheap	_____	as chips
a queen	_____	bee
the jewel in	_____	every penny
worth	_____	someone's crown
it never rains	_____	the weather

5. Match idioms from ex. 4 with their meanings.

- the most valuable or successful part of something **the jewel in someone's crown**
- not what one likes or is interested in **not one's cup of tea**
- to not feel very well **feel under the weather**
- a woman who thinks she is the most important person in a group **a queen bee**
- very inexpensive **cheap as chips**
- used for saying that problems often seem to happen all at the same time
it never rains but it pours
- worth all the money **worth every penny**
- extremely drunk **as drunk as a lord**

6. Talk about the last time you:

- felt under the weather
- found/bought something worth every penny
- took up some new hobby/sport, but it wasn't your cup of tea
- had to speak with a queen bee at work/school
- had a situation when you said 'it never rains but it pours'
- visited a city in your country that you consider the jewel in the crown
- bought something which used to be expensive and now is cheap as chips