



Teaching about Scotland

This is one of a series of units for teaching about Scotland in German Secondary schools. All the materials were created by very motivated students in my Area Studies Scotland class, some with experience of teaching in a “Gymnasium“. The materials can be tried out as they are, or altered as desired. They can also be combined. One basic idea behind them all is that both the teacher and the learners can develop the materials themselves, according to their own interests, and then even offer them to another class. For some of these units printed information material is needed, for example ferry timetables, but if you don't have this, it is no problem to print it out from the Internet. Useful websites are given.

Scottish Sports

Target group and Aim.

The unit is intended for an 8th grade class (age 13 - 14) of a German Secondary school and covers two lessons (90 minutes). The goal is to give the class an idea of what kinds of sport are typical and popular in Scotland. All the materials necessary are provided here.

The unit was created by Rouven Hönig
Sprachlehrinstitut, Universität Konstanz
Winter term 2004
Course: Area Studies Scotland

Activities.

- 1) A quiz
- 2) A crossword puzzle
- 3) A diagram and short text on a particular sport, shinty
- 4) A gap text on the history of shinty



(1) Quiz

Put a tick beside the correct answer:

1. Which of the following is Scotland's most important sport?

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|
| a) Skiing | c) Fishing | e) Football |
| b) Sailing | d) Bowling | f) Hockey |

2. When did the first rugby match between England and Scotland take place?

- | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| a) 1900 | c) 1759 | e) 1914 |
| b) 1923 | d) 1870 | f) 1789 |

3. Most Scottish towns and cities have at least one golf course. How many does Edinburgh have?

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) Edinburgh has at least 21 | c) Edinburgh has at least 15 |
| b) Edinburgh has at least 3 | d) Edinburgh has at least 33 |

4. Scotland's most important football clubs are

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| a) Aberdeen | c) Celtic Glasgow | e) Dundee United |
| b) Livingston | d) Hearts of Midlothian | f) Glasgow Rangers |

5. The Scots invented a popular game which is known almost all over the world. Which is it?

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|-------------|
| a) Football | c) Running | e) Rugby |
| b) Golf | d) Curling | f) Climbing |

6. Golf and football are very important in Scotland. Both of them were forbidden in 1457 by an Act of Parliament. Football was forbidden because
- a) of its popularity
 - b) women also liked it
 - c) soldiers played it instead of going to the Army
 - d) the injuries were too serious
7. The first golf rules were laid down in 1744 by a company of golfers. What was the name of this company?
- a) Company of Perth Golfers
 - b) Company of Aberdeen Golfers
 - c) Company of Edinburgh Golfers
 - d) Company of Calgary Golfers
8. The Scots enjoy playing a kind of sport that is mainly played in Scotland. Which is it?
- a) Cricket
 - b) Drink it up
 - c) Outburst
 - d) Shinty
 - e) Bite off
 - f) Rafting
9. In 2002 in Salt Lake City the Scottish Women's Olympic Team won the gold medal in which of the following disciplines?
- a) Swimming
 - b) Skeleton
 - c) Ski Jump
 - d) Curling
 - e) Cycling
 - f) Fencing
10. How many gold and silver medals did Scotland's athletes win altogether in Salt Lake City?
- a) 1
 - b) 4
 - c) 9
 - d) 10
 - e) 7
 - f) 16
11. In Scotland there is an event that the Germans like to copy (in a smaller version and not so authentic, of course). What is it called?
- a) Neverland Games
 - b) Highland Games
 - c) Gaelic Games
 - d) Island Games

12. At these events the male participants do not wear “normal “clothes. Instead of trousers they wear

- a) shorts
- b) a kilt
- c) a dress
- d) nothing
- e) tights
- f) a scarf

13. The disciplines of these events are quite interesting. Which three of the following are part of these games:

- a) Weight for Height
- b) Tossing the Caber
- c) Cut it Down
- d) Barrel Jumping
- e) Dancing
- f) Sawing the tree

14. The origin of these games can be found in the 11th century. Actually the clans held them to try to find

- a) beautiful and intelligent women
- b) strong and healthy men
- c) good cheap wood
- d) well-made whisky

15. The jackets of the formal dress men wear at these events are very expensive. They cost about

- a) £50-100
- b) £100-150
- c) £150-250
- d) £250-450

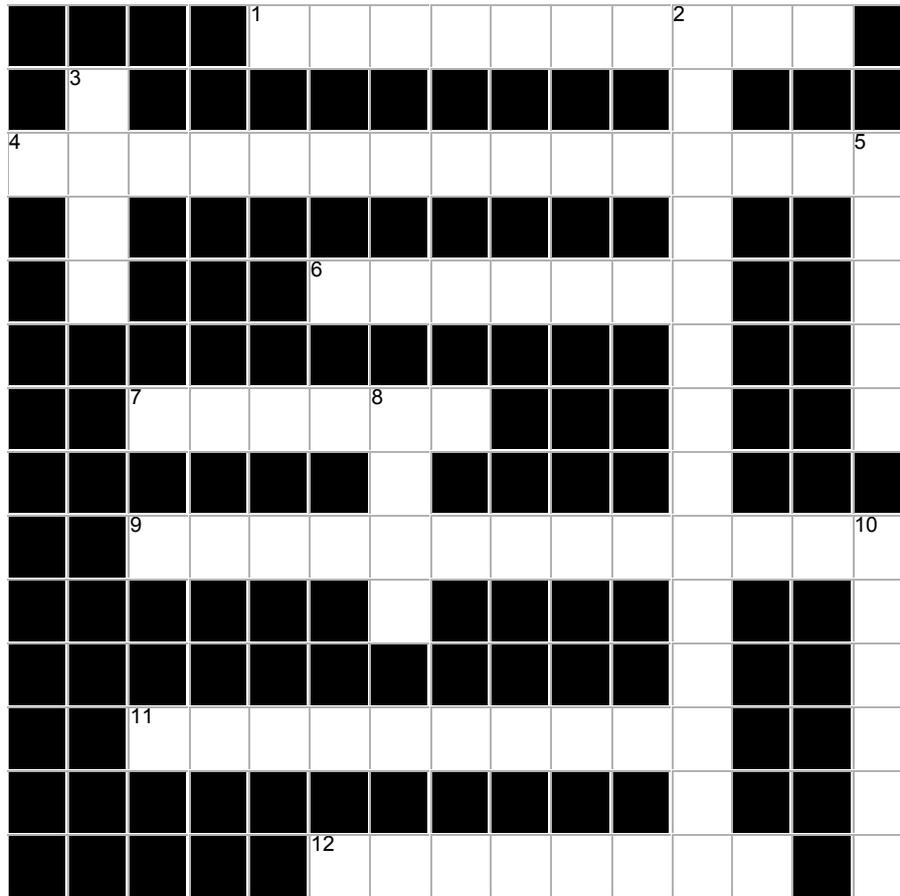
16. The Scots today hold the Highland Games to

- a) find the strongest man in Scotland
- b) drink a lot of whisky
- c) have fun and meet friends
- d) praise Mary Stuart
- e) have a party for Madonna

17. Which of the following instruments is typical of Scotland?

- a) Guitar
- b) Harp
- c) Piano
- d) Bagpipes
- e) Flute
- f) Didgeridoo

(2) Crossword Puzzle



Clues

Across:

- 1 the coach of the Scottish Football Team (2204) 2 words
- 4 a discipline of the Highland Games
- 6 the Scottish Women's National Team won the gold medal in this discipline
- 7 the Scots like this drink
- 9 a very old event in Scotland
- 11 a famous dance performed at the Highland Games
- 12 Celtic Park is also known as

Down:

- 2 an important football team
- 3 the Scots invented this game
- 5 a game like American Football
- 8 it is not only the competitors at the Highland Games who wear this
- 10 (only) played by the Scots

(3) Shinty

With the help of the picture and the diagram below, see if you can work out the rules of this game. Make use of what you know about other sports too, and use your imagination!

The Field of Play

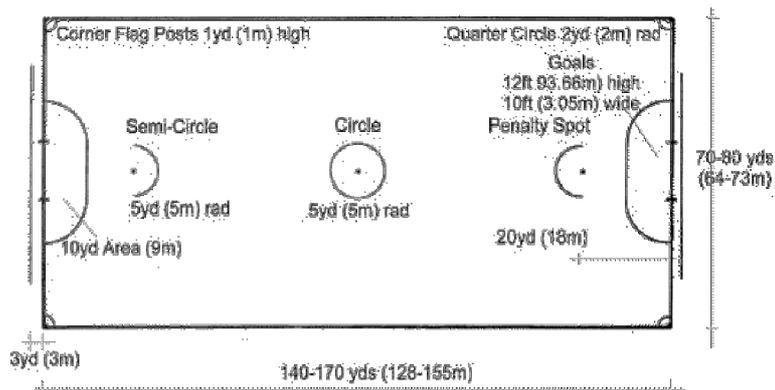


Diagram and picture from <http://www.shinty.com/fullrules.htm>

Brief Description

The game of shinty, under its current rules, is played 12 a side, with normally 3 substitutes allowed, in two periods of 45 minutes. The playing stick - the caman - is now usually made of laminated hickory or ash, and the head, which is of triangular section, must be able to pass through a ring two and a half inches in diameter. It is similar to what we Germans call "Hockey".

The rules of the game can be found at:
<http://www.shinty.com/fullrules.htm>

(4) A Brief History of Shinty

First try to imagine how this game originated, then skim through the text and try to get the gist of it. Next try to imagine what kind of word would fit into the gap. The last step is to choose the right word from the list below.

Our game of _____ goes back to the roots of Gaelic Scotland and the even earlier heritage of the Celtic race. In common with other _____, shinty moved out of a long previous history of unwritten rules and widely differing local variations in the last quarter of the nineteenth _____. In 1879 the Glasgow Celtic Society instituted a cup competition and established _____ of play. On 13 February 1887, a famous game was played at Inverness between Strathglass and Glenurquhart when the field measured over 300 yards _____ by 200 yards _____ with _____ two _____ a _____. The Camanachd Cup Trophy competition was instituted in 1895 and the first final was contested at Inverness on 5 April 1896 when Kingussie _____ Glasgow Cowal by two hails to nil. In 1922 the Sir William Sutherland Cup competition was _____ as the Scottish Junior Championship. In the 1995/96 Season a new overall eight team Premier _____ was introduced. Also _____ was a representative district team competition integrated with Under-21 and Senior selection for the Shinty Hurling Internationals against Ireland.

The initial object of the Association is "to foster and develop the national game of shinty" and it works to carry on a game which has been handed down to us by our forebears and of which, in turn, hand on, a game which knows no social _____, with, on the field of _____, all _____ equal and the greatest of all, the most expert and finest wielder of the caman. (caman = playing stick)

Key Words

beat century distinctions instituted introduced League long men play players rules shinty side sports twenty wide

<http://shinty.com/history.htm>

(5) Sources

For this whole unit I used the following websites:

www.visitscotland.com

www.rampantscotland.com

www.britcoun.de

www.highlandgames.net

www.geo.ed.ac.uk

www.albagames.co.uk

www.highlandgathering.owltownband.de

www.scotsman.com

www.dieschotten.com

www.eufo.de

www.geocities.com

www.celticfc.co.uk

www.friendsofscotland.gov.uk

www.sport1.at

www.shinty.com

www.maerkischeallgemeine.de