

# My Hometown: Riverford

COMPREHENSION • VOCABULARY • DISCUSSION

## INTERACTIVE ONLINE TEST

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## Reading Passage

Read the passage carefully. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter for easy reference.

**A** Riverford is a small town with about twenty-five thousand people. It sits beside the Clearbrook River, so most streets run close to the water. In the morning many locals walk or cycle along the river path to work or school. The town is not big, but it feels friendly and safe. The main square is the heart of Riverford. On Tuesdays and Saturdays, farmers come from nearby villages to sell fresh fruit, vegetables, and cheese. You can hear neighbours chatting while they taste sweet apples or choose brown bread for dinner. A tall clock tower stands in the centre of the square, and its bells ring every hour. Because of this tower, tourists often take photos here first. Riverford also has an old stone bridge that is almost two hundred years old. Cars cannot drive over it now, so families like to sit there and watch ducks swim below. Across the bridge you find Willow Park. Children play football on the grass, and older people sit under the trees to read books. In summer the town council shows free outdoor movies in the park after sunset. For culture, the Town Museum is small but interesting. It shows pictures from the past, and there is a room about famous local writer Emily Shore. Every May the museum organises a short story contest for students. Travelling to Riverford is easy. Two fast buses leave each hour from the nearest city, and the train station is only five minutes from the main square. Spring and autumn are the best seasons to visit; the weather is cool, and pink cherry flowers cover the riverside path. If you like quiet streets, friendly faces, and nature close to the centre, Riverford is a nice place to call home.

## Vocabulary Glossary

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Key words and phrases from the passage. Study them before attempting the exercise below.

WORD / PHRASE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
<b>locals</b>	people who live in a particular place	<i>The locals are friendly and always say hello.</i>
<b>square</b>	an open area in a town, usually with buildings around it	<i>The children played in the square near the fountain.</i>
<b>neighbours</b>	people who live near you	<i>Our neighbours often invite us for dinner on weekends.</i>
<b>tourists</b>	people who travel to a place for pleasure	<i>Tourists took pictures of the famous statue in the park.</i>
<b>council</b>	a group of people who manage a town or city	<i>The city council decided to build a new playground.</i>
<b>museum</b>	a place where objects of art, history, or science are shown	<i>We visited the museum to see the dinosaur exhibit.</i>
<b>organises</b>	plans and arranges an event	<i>The school organises a big party every year.</i>
<b>contest</b>	a competition where people try to win	<i>She won first prize in the singing contest.</i>

### Vocabulary Exercise — Fill in the Blank

Use one word or phrase from the glossary above to complete each sentence. Each item is used only once. Answers are on the final page.

1. Many \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy walking along the river in the morning.
2. The main \_\_\_\_\_ is a popular place for people to meet.
3. Our \_\_\_\_\_ are very friendly and often help us with our garden.
4. Many \_\_\_\_\_ visit the town to see the old bridge.
5. The town \_\_\_\_\_ decided to plant more trees in the park.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ has a new display about ancient Egypt.

## Comprehension Questions

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*These questions are different from the online practice test. Choose the best answer (A, B, C, or D). Answers and explanations are on the final page.*

### Question 1

**What can you buy at the market in Riverford?**

- A. Clothes and shoes
- B. Fresh fruit, vegetables, and cheese
- C. Books and stationery
- D. Flowers and plants

### Question 2

**Why do tourists often take photos in the main square?**

- A. Because of the beautiful flowers
- B. Because of the tall clock tower
- C. Because of the street performers
- D. Because of the water fountain

### Question 3

**What activity can families do on the old stone bridge?**

- A. Ride bicycles
- B. Watch ducks
- C. Drive cars
- D. Have picnics

### Question 4

**What is special about the Town Museum in Riverford?**

- A. It is the largest museum in the area
- B. It has a room about a local writer
- C. It has a famous painting collection
- D. It offers free entry all year

### Question 5

#### What does the town council do in Willow Park during summer?

- A. Organise music concerts
- B. Hold art exhibitions
- C. Show free outdoor movies
- D. Run sports competitions

### Discussion & Writing Prompts

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*Each prompt references a specific detail from the passage above. Use for classroom discussion or a short written response (150–200 words).*

1. Paragraph C mentions that the old stone bridge is almost two hundred years old. How do you think the history of such places contributes to the town's charm?

2. According to Paragraph E, spring and autumn are the best times to visit Riverford. Do you agree that certain seasons are better for visiting places? Why or why not?

3. The passage states in Paragraph D that the Town Museum organises a short story contest every May. How can such events encourage young people to engage with local culture?

# Answer Key

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## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Q1 B

Q2 B

Q3 B

Q4 B

Q5 C

## VOCABULARY EXERCISE

FIB1 locals

FIB2 square

FIB3 neighbours

FIB4 tourists

FIB5 council

FIB6 museum

## Comprehension Question Explanations

Why the correct answer is right — and why each wrong option is incorrect.

### 1. What can you buy at the market in Riverford?

✓ B — Fresh fruit, vegetables, and cheese The passage states that farmers sell fresh fruit, vegetables, and cheese.

✗ A — Clothes and shoes *Clothes and shoes are not mentioned in the passage.*

✗ C — Books and stationery *Books and stationery are not mentioned in the passage.*

✗ D — Flowers and plants *Flowers and plants are not mentioned in the passage.*

### 2. Why do tourists often take photos in the main square?

✓ B — Because of the tall clock tower The passage mentions that tourists take photos because of the clock tower.

✗ A — Because of the beautiful flowers *Beautiful flowers are not the reason mentioned for photos.*

✗ C — Because of the street performers *Street performers are not mentioned in the passage.*

✗ D — Because of the water fountain *A water fountain is not mentioned in the passage.*

### 3. What activity can families do on the old stone bridge?

✓ B — Watch ducks The passage states that families like to watch ducks from the bridge.

✗ A — Ride bicycles *Bicycles are not mentioned as an activity on the bridge.*

✗ C — Drive cars *Cars cannot drive over the bridge as stated in the passage.*

✗ D — Have picnics *Picnics are not mentioned in connection with the bridge.*

### 4. What is special about the Town Museum in Riverford?

✓ B — It has a room about a local writer The passage mentions a room about the local writer Emily Shore.

✗ A — It is the largest museum in the area *The museum is described as small, not the largest.*

✗ C — It has a famous painting collection *A famous painting collection is not mentioned.*

✗ D — It offers free entry all year *Free entry is not mentioned in the passage.*

**5. What does the town council do in Willow Park during summer?**

✓ **C — Show free outdoor movies**

The passage states that the town council shows free outdoor movies in summer.

✗ **A — Organise music concerts**

*Music concerts are not mentioned in the passage.*

✗ **B — Hold art exhibitions**

*Art exhibitions are not mentioned in the passage.*

✗ **D — Run sports competitions**

*Sports competitions are not mentioned in the passage.*

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