

FUN SOCIAL LEARNING

# SPEAK STREET NW1

Learn English as you tour  
King's Cross



# KING'S CROSS



# OLD ST. PANCRAS CHURCH



We start our walk at Old St Pancras Church. The original church was built in the 4th century, when the Romans brought Christianity to England. It is one of the oldest churches in London, although a lot of the church building was built in the Victorian 19th Century. The church is very close to the railway and through the years has been visited by people who work nearby.

You can walk around the graveyard. **Can you find the famous Ash tree at the back of the church?** It is a

very old tree called the 'Hardy Tree'; named after the poet Thomas Hardy who liked to visit it. The tree has many gravestones twisted into its roots.

The famous British pop band 'The Beatles' took photos by the church. There is a bench with a small sign that remembers the groups 'Mad Day Out'. Recently there have been music concerts inside the church. Today you can visit the church, pray or attend a service.

| VERB (INFINITIVE) | I (PRESENT FORM) | HE/SHE/IT (PRESENT FORM) | SIMPLE PAST TENSE |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| To build          | build            | builds                   | built             |
| To be             | am               | is                       | was               |
| To bring          | bring            | brings                   | brought           |
| To remember       | remember         | remembers                | remembered        |
| To attend         | attend           | attends                  | attended          |
| To visit          | visit            | visits                   | visited           |
| To work           | work             | works                    | worked            |
| To pray           | pray             | prays                    | prayed            |

# CENTRAL ST. MARTINS



Cross the canal and the big building in front of you is Central St Martins; part of the University of Arts in London. The building was built in 1852 and used to be a grain store, as it is next to the main railway station. Wheat from the countryside (north of London) arrived and was kept in the building, ready for London bakeries to use it for bread. During the Victorian time (1837-1901) cities in the UK were very busy and dirty. It was the time of the Industrial Revolution and thousands of people moved to cities to work in factories. The canals and

railways were built to transport all the things that people in the city needed. You can also see big circular gas holders that used to hold gas to light up London.

This area has been redeveloped, keeping lots of the old buildings but changing them for new things we need today, like universities, flats and restaurants. There are lots of benches and spaces to sit and relax; it is less noisy and dirty than when it was first built and you can see many art students studying at the University.

| VERB (INFINITIVE) | I (PRESENT FORM) | HE/SHE/IT (PRESENT FORM) | SIMPLE PAST TENSE |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| To cross          | cross            | crosses                  | crossed           |
| To arrive         | arrive           | arrives                  | arrived           |
| To keep           | keep             | keeps                    | kept              |
| To move           | move             | moves                    | needed            |
| To redevelop      | redevelop        | redevelops               | redeveloped       |
| To change         | change           | changes                  | changed           |
| To relax          | relax            | relaxes                  | relaxed           |

# ST. PANCRAS INTERNATIONAL STATION



St Pancras International station was built in 1868. It's red bricks and clock are a famous London site. You can travel all over the UK from here and even to France and Belgium too on the Eurostar. Inside there are many shops and restaurants. See if you can find 'The Meeting Place' statue. It shows a man and a woman holding each other. He is wearing a suit and she is wearing a jacket, skirt and high heels. It looks like they are meeting each other again, after a long time.

The Meeting Place is a helpful place to meet somebody since the statue is so big, you can't miss it from anywhere in the station. Around the bottom of the statue are many images of people who have passed through the station.  
**What can you see?**

The station is one of the busiest in London. There are trains, undergrounds, and taxis. There is even a hotel and flats here too.

| VERB (INFINITIVE) | I (PRESENT FORM) | HE/SHE/IT<br>(PRESENT FORM) | SIMPLE PAST<br>TENSE |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| To travel         | travel           | travels                     | travelled            |
| To find           | finds            | finds                       | found                |
| To show           | show             | shows                       | showed               |
| To hold           | hold             | holds                       | held                 |
| To wear           | wear             | wears                       | wore                 |
| To meet           | meet             | meets                       | met                  |
| To miss           | miss             | misses                      | missed               |

# THE FRANCIS CRICK INSTITUTE



We finish our tour at the Francis Crick Institute. This is a modern building completed in 2016. There are thousands of scientists working here on all kinds of different projects. The building is so large it even has several floors underground. The building was named after Dr Francis Crick. He was a famous scientist who helped to discover DNA, which helps us understand human development. There are solar panels on the roof,

to help power the building using the sun's energy.

There is a cafe and even a free museum inside that you can visit to learn more about science. Around the back of the building is the Living Centre. This is a community centre for Somerstown and they help with all kinds of things from finding a job to getting help with health or advice about local services.

| VERB (INFINITIVE) | I (PRESENT FORM) | HE/SHE/IT (PRESENT FORM) | SIMPLE PAST TENSE |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| To finish         | finish           | finishes                 | finished          |
| To complete       | complete         | completes                | completed         |
| To work           | work             | works                    | worked            |
| To name           | name             | names                    | named             |
| To discover       | discover         | discovers                | discovered        |
| To understand     | understand       | understands              | understood        |
| To power          | power            | powers                   | powered           |
| To learn          | learn            | learns                   | learned           |

# ??.? QUESTIONS ??.?

Describe the 4 buildings you have seen:

When were they all built?

What do people do in these buildings?

How is Kings Cross different now from in the Victorian era?



Speak Street helps newcomers to learn English and explore our diverse community.

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