

# Liverpool Context

Here is some information about Liverpool. Unfortunately, there is no grammar!  
Can you put the grammar back?

Liverpool locate banks River Mersey, North England.  
have negative side – old building, closed shop, but also has very glamorous  
character  
used be centre British Empire, one large port world  
famous music – “The Beatles” come Liverpool – airport name “John Lennon  
Airport”  
Liverpool also famous two football club “Liverpool” “Everton”  
people very proud and have strong sense humour  
Liverpool now change itself exciting modern Europe city



Drawing by Paul Millard

**STUDENT A**

**Read this article about Liverpool, and prepare 5 questions for your partner. Make sure some of the questions are hard!**

Liverpool is a great place. In fact, you haven't lived if you haven't visited Liverpool. The memory of the Beatles is everywhere, and music and poetry is in everyone's hearts. Lots of songs have been written about Liverpool (unlike Cardiff, or Birmingham, or other British cities). The most famous are "*Ferry Across the Mersey*", "*Penny Lane*", "*Strawberry Fields*", and "*Maggie Mae*"

*Scousers* (people from Liverpool) have their own special words and phrases, which aren't exactly "Queen's English". If you go to Liverpool, you might hear the following:

- It's doing my head in** – It's annoying me
- Keks** – trousers
- I'm skint** – I have no money
- La** – friend
- Ta** – Thank you
- I'm made up** – I'm very happy.

You too can learn to speak Scouse

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/liverpool/localhistory/journey/scouse/talk/scouse.shtml>

The main dish in Liverpool is called "*Scouse*". You can make this with lamb, potatoes, carrots, and water. Another version is called "*Blind Scouse*". This is usually made the day before pay day, and doesn't have any meat in it. In fact, you put whatever you have left in the kitchen. You can also try a "*Butty*" (which means "sandwich"). A *Sugar Butty* is absolutely delicious!

Things to see in Liverpool include its two cathedrals (one shaped a little like a wigwam), and of course the River Mersey. This river used to be so disgusting that bits of old rubbish were nicknamed "*Mersey Trout*" – now it's getting cleaner every day. Catching a ferry across the



Mersey is one of the best things you can do. The Albert Dock situated on the Mersey contains lots of bars, a Beatles exhibition, and a TV studio. The Liver Building is one of the most magnificent buildings in England. On the top, you can see some "*Liver Birds*" (made of stone). One is male, the other female, both looking out to sea.

Finally, with all the famous writers and musicians who have come from this city, it's not surprising that Liverpool is going

to be the European Capital of Culture in 2008. The city is undergoing a true renaissance. There has never been a better time to visit.

**STUDENT B**

**Read this article about the Liverpool Poets, and prepare 5 questions for your partner. Make sure some of the questions are hard!**

The Liverpool poets were a group of very influential writers who came from Liverpool in the 1960s, at the same time that The Beatles were creating a whole new style of music. The most famous were Roger McGough, Brian Patten, and Adrian Henri.



Roger McGough was born in 1937, and has had a very interesting career. As well as writing many books, he was in a pop group called "The Scaffold", and had a number one record in 1968 called "Lily the Pink". He also wrote a lot of the dialogue for The Beatles' animated film "The Yellow Submarine". He was given a CBE (a special medal from the Queen) in 2004.



Adrian Henri (1932-2000) was also a friend of The Beatles. He chose Liverpool as his home, saying that there was nowhere he loved more. One of his famous quotes was "If you think you can do it and you want to do it -- then do it."



Brian Patten was born in 1946, in a poor working-class part of Liverpool, near the docks, and left school when he was 15. Despite this, he has become one of Europe's leading modern poets, with his books translated into Italian, French, Polish, and German. He says that "I was about thirteen when I began writing. It was a way of expressing feelings I felt I couldn't share with the adults who surrounded me."

## Quiz

1. How many people live in Liverpool?

- A) 55,000      B) 440,000      C) 940,000      D) 2,040,000

2. Which river goes through Liverpool?

- a) The Thames    b) the Danube    c) the Mersey    d) the Severn

3. Which of these pop groups does not come from Liverpool?

- a) U2    b) The Beatles    c) The Lightning Seeds    d) The Las

4. What does the Scouse word "Pobs" mean?

- a) a type of football    b) baby food made from milk and bread  
c) a rabbit    d) places where you can drink beer

5. What does the Scouse word "La" mean?

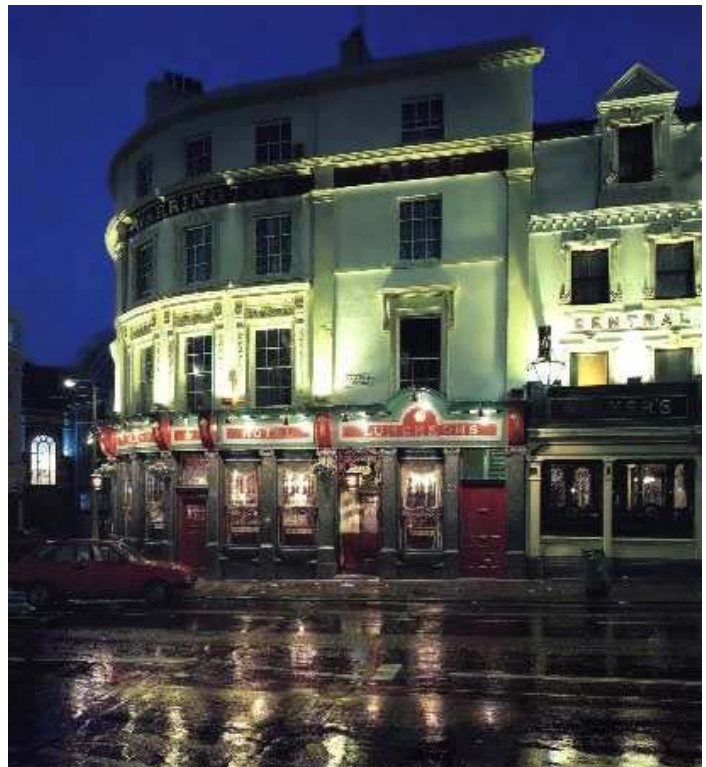
- a) a cartoon animal    b) thank you    c) I have no money  
d) a friend

6. Which of these famous footballers is from Liverpool?

- a) Wayne Rooney    b) Michael Owen  
c) David Beckham    d) Zinedine Zidane

7. What does "Liverpool" mean?

- a) a place where you can buy meat    b) a swimming area  
c) a muddy river  
d) a big castle



## BritLit Cities

### Context

### Webquest: Liverpool, Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh

#### 10 Questions

Choose a city: Liverpool, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Belfast. How quickly can you find the answers? Then write information about your town.

	BritLit City:	Your town
How many people live there?		
What famous people come from, or live there?		
What can you do there tonight?		
What is an important date in its history? Why?		
Which country is it in?		
What interesting things can you see and do there?		
What is the weather like?		
What is the favourite sport there?		
What language or languages are spoken there?		
Find two extra interesting facts.		