

# UK Population

True or False

The following figures all come from

[www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

In pairs, decide if these sentences are true or false

1. 16 % of the UK populations is aged 65 or over
2. The major religion of the UK is Christianity.
3. Islam is the fourth biggest religion in the UK.
4. There are 5 million children in the UK.
5. 22% of children in the UK live in single parent families.
6. There are nearly 20 million people in the UK.
7. There is a UK census every eight years.
8. Census Data is collect on the Internet.
9. 20% of the British population are from ethnic minorities.
10. The most popular name for a baby is Jack.

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# The Jedi Story.

In the 2001 census of the UK seven out of every thousand people said that their religion was 'Jedi'. However, this is not an official religion and is not even a religion at all.

Jedi is a fictional religion based on a series of very popular American films.

A campaign on the internet claimed - wrongly - that Jedi, the belief system at the heart of the Star Wars films, would receive official government recognition as a religion if enough people wrote it on their Census forms. An email in support of the campaign, quoted by BBC News, invited people to 'do it because you love Star Wars... or just to annoy people.

Just over 390,000 of the 52,000,000 people in England and Wales wrote in 'Jedi' on their census form.

The 'Jedi' response was most popular in Brighton and Hove, with 2.6 per cent of Census respondents quoting it, followed by Oxford (2.0 per cent), Wandsworth (1.9), Cambridge (1.9), Southampton (1.8) and Lambeth (1.8).

It was least popular in Easington, on the north-east coast of England between Sunderland and Hartlepool with only 0.16 per cent. Sedgefield, Knowsley, Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr Tydfil and Wear Valley all show less than 0.2 per cent of respondents quoting 'Jedi'.

Director of reporting and analysis at the Office for National Statistics, John Pullinger said: 'Whatever its motive, the Jedi campaign may have worked in favour of the Census. Census agencies worldwide report difficulties encouraging those in their late teens and twenties to complete their forms.

'We think that the Jedi response was most common in this age group. The campaign may have encouraged people to complete their forms and help us get the best possible overall data.'

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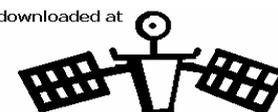
## Match the words and definitions from the text

1. Census	a) Not real
2. fictional	b) People who answered the census
3. form	c) Fill in or finish
4. Encourage	d) Count up of all the people
5. Respondent	e) A smart word for say
6. Quote	f) Motivate
7. Recognition	g) Official approval
8. Complete (verb)	h) Reason for doing something
9. Motive	i) In favour of
10. In support of	j) Document with your personal details on it.

## Please answer the questions about the text

1. What is a Jedi?
2. Why did people write that their religion was 'Jedi'?
3. How did people know to write down 'Jedi' on their census form?
4. Which part of the UK had the largest percentage of Jedi?
5. Which part of the UK had the lowest proportion of Jedi?
6. Why was the Jedi campaign good for the national census?

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How to run this lesson:	
Level:	Elementary - Intermediate
Time:	60 mins
Materials Needed:	Worksheets
Target Grammar:	none
Target Vocab:	Census, fictional, forms, encourage, in favour of, in support of, respondent, quote, recognition, motive, population, single parent family, ethnic minority
Target Skill:	Discussion with partner, guessing, reading for specific information
Procedure:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ask students a few demographical questions about the UK, how many people live there?, What are the ethnic minorities? Don't give them the facts.</li> <li>2. Have students decide if the statements are true or false in pairs or groups.</li> <li>3. Give the answers to the group, elicit discussion.</li> <li>4. Tell students about star wars films and Jedi (uncountable noun)</li> <li>5. Have them read the text and then complete the worksheets.</li> <li>6. Give out answers</li> <li>7. Food for thought: Can you make up your own religion?</li> </ol>
Notes	.

## Answers

In pairs, decide if these sentences are true or false

1. 16 % of the UK populations is aged 65 or over? True
2. The major religion of the UK is Christianity. True
3. Islam is the fourth biggest religion in the UK. False, it's the second
4. There are 5 million children in the UK. False, there are 11.7 million
5. 22% of children in the UK live in single parent families. True
6. There are nearly 20 million people in the UK. False, there are nearly 60 million.
7. There is a UK census every eight years. False- it's every ten years
8. Census Data is collect on the Internet. False, it's done by filling in a form.
9. 20% of the British population are from ethnic minorities. False, it's 7.9 % with Indians making 1.9% as the largest ethnic minority.
10. The most popular name for a baby is Jack. True and it's been the same for 11 years.

Match the words and definitions from the text

1. Census	Count up of all the people
2. fictional	Not real
3. form	Document with your personal details on it
4. Encourage	Motivate
5. Respondent	People who answered the census
6. Quote	A smart word for say
7. Recognition	Official approval
8. Complete (verb)	Fill in or finish
9. Motive	Reason for doing something
10. In support of	. In favour of

Please answer the questions about the text

1. What is Jedi? A fictional religion based on the Star Wars films.
2. Why did people write that their religion was 'Jedi'? To annoy people, because they love Star Wars, for a laugh.
3. How did people know to write down 'Jedi' on their census form? Because of an e-mail campaign.
4. Which part of the UK had the largest percentage of Jedi? Brighton and Hove.
5. Which part of the UK had the lowest proportion of Jedi? Easington
6. Why was the Jedi campaign good for the national census? More teenagers and young people filled in the form.

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