

# languageiseverything

"Places and languages quiz" (Correct answers in red)

*Howden Civic Society, 5th March 2008*

1) Roughly how many 'living languages' are there in the world?

- a) 900
- b) 1,800
- c) 3,000
- d) 7,000**

2) Howden is at the same latitude as which of the following cities?

- a) Atlanta (Georgia), USA
- b) Hamburg, Germany**
- c) Helsinki, Finland
- d) Osaka, Japan

3) The top four languages with the highest number of native speakers are Chinese Mandarin, Spanish, English and Arabic. Which language is ranked fifth?

- a) French
- b) German
- c) Hindi**
- d) Swahili

4) In 1080, the French-speaking William the Conqueror granted Howden to the Bishops of Durham. Today, French is an official language in how many countries?

- a) 8
- b) 14
- c) 20
- d) 32**

5) Which of the following is NOT an official language of the United Nations?

- a) Arabic
- b) Chinese Mandarin
- c) Portuguese**
- d) Russian

6) Howden is at the same longitude as Ouagadougou, the capital of which country?

- a) Burkina Faso**
- b) Cameroon
- c) Mozambique
- d) Tanzania

7) How many official languages does the European Union have?

- a) 6
- b) 15
- c) 23**
- d) 39

8) In a world gazetteer, Howden is listed very close to Howlong. Where is Howlong?

- a) Australia**
- b) China
- c) Ireland
- d) Malaysia

9) The top two countries of birth for British residents born outside the British Isles are India and Pakistan. Which country is ranked third?

- a) Australia
- b) Bangladesh
- c) China
- d) Germany**

10) The Howden Civic Society has installed a blue plaque on the house where Nevil Shute Norway lodged in the 1920s. Changing the subject slightly: how do you say "Thank you" in Norwegian?

- a) Dank u
- b) Falemnderit
- c) Takk**
- d) Teşekkür ederim