Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral

In the Precincts:

There is a glossary at the back to help you with this questionnaire.

Look at the outside of the Cathedral and tick the words which you think describe it best:

☐ magnificent or ☐ mundane  ☐ awful or ☐ awesome
☐ impressive or ☐ insignificant  ☐ huge or ☐ humble

The Cathedral you see in front of you was constructed at many different times and by many different people. It has been mostly made of… (tick the correct word)

☐ Glass  ☐ Wood  ☐ Brick  ☐ Stone  ☐ Concrete  ☐ Aluminium  ☐ Marble

Look at tower in the middle. It was completed in 1498. It is called “Bell Harry Tower” – “Harry” is another name for the English name “Henry”. Do you know which Henry is the most famous English King?

At the South West Door:

Look at the statues on the left and right of the entrance – they are of King Ethelbert and Queen Bertha, who, in the year 597, welcomed Augustine from Rome.

Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

What is Ethelbert holding in his hand? ____________________________________________
Find somewhere to sit, and look around you.

The Nave was rebuilt in the late 14th century in the “Perpendicular” style so the pillars are very tall and slender. Write as many words as you can to describe this place and how it makes you feel:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Look behind you at the Great West Window. This contains some of the oldest stained glass in England.
Find Adam in the bottom row:
This is Adam from the Bible story of the Creation.
What is Adam doing?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Do you know why? If not, maybe you can guess or find out later!

Go to the small Chapel of St Augustine to the right of the West Window. You can see the names of all the Archbishops of Canterbury here.

Who became Archbishop in 1162?
________________________________________________________________________

Walk along the North Aisle, to the other end of the Nave, up a short flight of stairs and go left down some more stairs. You will be in the Martyrdom.
In the Martyrdom:

This is where the martyr Archbishop Thomas Becket was killed in 1170 by four of the king’s men. This was another King Henry – do you know which one?

Look at the modern Altar and cross. How do you think Thomas Becket was killed?

Name the two other Archbishops buried here.

Can you see from the sign who prayed here with Archbishop Robert Runcie in 1982?

Go down the stairs to the Crypt which is the largest Norman crypt in England.

In the Crypt:

NB The Crypt is a quiet place for private prayer: please walk quietly and calmly.

Just look around you and tick when you see the following:

☐ Round Norman arches - the oldest arches in the Cathedral
☐ Candles for prayers
☐ A statue of Archbishop Thomas Becket
☐ The letters I (Jesus) and M (Mary) on the ceiling of the Jesus Chapel
☐ Pillars of dark marble – the site of Thomas Becket’s tomb from 1170 - 1220
☐ The colourful tomb of Archbishop Cardinal John Morton
☐ The Huguenot Chapel, where services are held in French every Sunday

Leave the Crypt and go up to the Quire by the short staircase. Look up into the middle of Bell Harry Tower on your way – but be careful not to fall down the steps!
Look for 6 Kings on the way into the Quire. One of them is holding a Cathedral. Do you remember which King this is?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

In the Quire:

This part of the Cathedral is older than the Nave. Sit down and look around you. Write down in English some of the things you can see and see how many words you know. You can also write words in your language to check in the dictionary later!

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

How are the pillars here different to those in the Nave? Compare the styles.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Look up for the blue roof boss in the middle of the Quire crossing. William of Sens fell from the scaffolding here when he was rebuilding the Quire after a fire in 1174.

What animal is in the boss? ___________________________________________________________________

What bird is holding the Bible on the Lectern underneath this boss?

__________________________________________________________________________

Turn left out of the Quire and then right, up to the Trinity Chapel. You will go up a flight of steps called the Pilgrims’ Steps – pilgrims used to go up them on their knees.
In the Trinity Chapel:

At the top of the steps, on the left, can you see...

☐ A painting of the murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket on the wall?

☐ A picture of Archbishop Thomas Becket in the first stained glass window?
  (This is window number one)

In the middle of this chapel stood the shrine of Thomas Becket from 1220 until 1538 when it was destroyed by King Henry VIII.

Do you know how many wives Henry VIII had?

__________________________________________________________________________

Do you know any of their names?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

People think the shrine looked like this:

What is here now? ____________________________________________________________________

Around the Trinity Chapel are a series of twelve famous “Miracle Windows”, which were completed in 1220 to tell the stories of the miracles which occurred when people prayed to Thomas Becket. He became a Saint in 1173.

Find these two stories by counting round from window number one:

**Window four** shows a picture of King Louis VII of France, in bed wearing his crown! He is being visited in a dream by St Thomas, who tells him to make a pilgrimage to Canterbury. When the King came here in 1179, his son was cured of sickness, and he gave the monks of Canterbury a vineyard near Paris.

**Window seven** shows the story of William Kellett, a carpenter, who cuts his leg. There is a lot of blood! As William sleeps St Thomas comes to him. William’s wife changes his bandage the next day, but the wound has gone! William comes to Canterbury to give thanks at the tomb, and leaves the city, joyfully, to go back to work with his axe.

Find the tomb of Edward, the Black Prince. He was a great hero of the 14th century. Copies of his armour hang above his tomb.
Can you unscramble these to give the correct word for the items hanging here?

Selhid  Goselv  Hetmel  Ticun

Your tour is almost over. On your way back you will pass some very large modern windows. These are the Bossanyi Windows, the newest in the Cathedral, dating from 1956. The big window on the left is called “Salvation” and the one on the right is called “Peace”. Compared to the old windows would you say they are -

- Brighter  - duller  - more realistic  - more symbolic  - more precious  - less precious

Look closely and write some of the things you see in the windows:

Salvation  Peace

Some people do not like them and think they are too modern compared with the medieval windows. Do you like them?

__________________________________________________________________________________

Glossary

Archbishop  The head of the church  Martyr  Someone prepared to die for their beliefs  stone or wood in the roof

Nave  The main part of a church where people worship  Altar  A table of stone or wood used for the Eucharist service

Pillar  A tall structure of wood or stone which holds up the roof  Crypt  An area under the church where the dead were buried

Stained Glass  Coloured glass used in a window  Quire  The place where the monks worshipped/the Choir sing

Chapel  A sanctuary or holy place  Roof Boss  A decorated piece of

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