

CCC UK Chatroom: A Chat over Tea — Banter and Brexit

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Host – *Phoebe Hemsley*

Time – *Sunday 18:00-19:00*

Date	Topic	Focus
Week1 4/12	Gardening culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Gardens on properties◆ British Gardens and Parks◆ Garden centres, front garden/back garden culture
<p>What is an "English Garden"? What is a garden centre and why are they so popular in Britain? What is the actual difference between a front garden and a back garden, apart from the fact that one is at the front and one is at the back? Learn about gardening culture in the UK!</p>		
Week 2 4/19	Seaside culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Geographical and historical influences on seaside culture (Victorian), seaside towns (Brighton)
<p>What do the Victorian times have to do with the beaches of the UK today? Which seaside towns are the best in the UK? Find out these and more!</p>		
Week 3 5/3	British humour and conversation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Irony, sarcasm, dark humour, use in everyday life and TV shows◆ Stereotypes about small talk
<p>What is "British humour"? What are irony, sarcasm, and dark humour, and what shows can you watch with these types of humour? How do you make "small talk", and do you really talk about the weather? Hopefully you'll learn something in this class about British humour (and I promise you don't have to find it funny)!</p>		
Week 4 5/10	Politeness in the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Verbal politeness, gestures, table manners, taboos, politeness in conversation
<p>Table manners? Apologising? Queuing? Are the British truly obsessed with all of these? Come find out in this very polite session, if you'd like, please and thank you.</p>		

<p>Week 5 5/17</p>	<p>Brexit I</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Influences and portrayal of the EU in media leading up to the referendum, campaigning
<p>Brexit. How do we even start? Well, in this session we look at the events leading up to Brexit, and talk about some possible reasons why the UK voted to leave.</p>		
<p>Week 6 5/24</p>	<p>Brexit II (tentatively with UK discussant)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Public opinions, post-Brexit struggles ◆ What has changed after Brexit
<p>In this second session about Brexit, I bring in my good friend Nathan to talk about the aftermath of Brexit. How have the past three years worked out? What has changed?</p>		
<p>Week 7 5/31</p>	<p>Tea culture (tentatively with UK discussant)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Tea drinking habits and traditions, afternoon tea, popularity of bubble tea
<p>Everyone knows that Britain is obsessed with tea! But by how much? What rituals and customs are there? And has bubble tea made any impact on the UK? I, tea lover, bring in my friend Nathan (coffee zombie and bubble tea nerd) to talk about the subject.</p>		
<p>Week 8 6/7</p>	<p>Public services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Introduction to British postal, train and bus service; strikes; privatisation
<p>Public services such as postal and train services are publicly owned or managed by the government in Taiwan, what about in the UK? Do trains really go on strike? We find out in the last class of this semester.</p>		