

# Gotowa lekcja

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## Mind The Gap

UNDERGROUND



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# Mind The Gap

**Activity 1: Read the following facts about the Tube. Try to remember them**

1. **Oldest Underground Network:** The London Underground opened in 1863 and was the first underground railway system in the world. The initial stretch was just 3.5 miles long, running between Paddington and Farringdon.
2. **Mouse Population:** There's an interesting population living in the Tube—mice! It's estimated that millions of mice inhabit the underground tunnels.
3. **The Roundel:** The iconic red circle with a blue bar across it, known as the roundel, is the symbol of the London Underground. It was introduced in 1908 and is instantly recognizable worldwide.
4. **Tube Stations as Air Raid Shelters:** During World War II, many Tube stations were used as air raid shelters. At its peak, the Tube housed around 177,000 people during a single night in 1940.
5. **Tube Etiquette:** There's an unspoken set of rules or etiquette for riding the Tube, including standing on the right side of escalators to allow others to pass and giving up seats for those in need.





**Activity 2: Recall the previous text and try to fill in the gaps.**

1. **Oldest Underground Network:** The London Underground opened in 1863 and was the first underground railway system in the world. The (1). \_\_\_\_\_ stretch was just 3.5 miles long, running between Paddington and Farringdon.
2. **Mouse Population:** There's an interesting population living in the Tube—mice! It's (2). \_\_\_\_\_ that millions of mice inhabit the underground tunnels.
3. **The Roundel:** The iconic red circle with a blue bar across it, known as the roundel, is the symbol of the London Underground. It was introduced in 1908 and is instantly recognizable (3). \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. **Tube Stations as Air Raid Shelters:** During World War II, many Tube stations were used as air raid shelters. At its (4). \_\_\_\_\_ , the Tube housed around 177,000 people during a single night in 1940.
5. **Tube Etiquette:** There's an (5). \_\_\_\_\_ or etiquette for riding the Tube, including standing on the right side of escalators to allow others to pass and giving up seats for those in need.

**Activity 3: Watch the video until 4.54 and come up with the adjectives that reflect woman's feelings. VIDEO**

**Activity 4: Read the following text about Oswald Laurence and his wife. Then finish watching the video answer the following questions.**

Oswald Laurence was born on 25 March 1929 in Hamburg, Germany. He was a theatre actor and he was also the person who made the recordings for the Northern line in the late 1960s for the London Underground System.

Oswald lived in London with his wife, Dr Margaret McCollum, until his death in 2007 at the age of 78.

Margaret was devastated at the loss of her husband, but one place where she could relive the happy memories was on the platform at Embankment station, where she would sit and listen to Oswald's voice. One day in November 2012, she made her regular visit to the platform only to find her husband was no longer there as the PA system had been updated. Deeply saddened by what had happened, Margaret was comforted by station staff, who were unaware of the value the previous recording held for her.

As the PA system had now been digitalized, it seemed an almost impossible ask to retrieve the tapes and reinstate the announcement with Oswald's voice. However, Transport for London staff delved deep into the archives and found the old tapes, which were digitalized and restored.

This story therefore has a happy ending, because if you ever visit the Northbound platform of the Northern line at Embankment station, the voice of Oswald Laurence lives on to the present day. What to many may seem just a regular safety announcement, the Mind the Gap message brings much happiness to one special person.



1. Who was Oswald Laurence?
2. What would his wife do when he died?
3. Why did his voice disappear from the Tube?
4. How did the story end?

**Activity 5: Discuss the following questions**

1. Who was Oswald Laurence?
2. What would his wife do when he died?
3. Why did his voice disappear from the Tube?
4. How did the story end?

