KEYS

Chapter 01 Land & People

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- 1) fairness; generosity
- 2) 169; 4

2

1) T; 2) F

- Seen in polar regions, also known as the Aurora Borealis, the lights occur when electrically charged solar particles enter the earth's atmosphere at tremendous speed and collide with the highest air particles. The air then lights up, its colors reflecting the gases. The Northern Lights are most visible on clear nights between November March in Tromso and Finnmark.
- 2) A Viking was one who lived near a creek. The first Norwegians were Germanic tribes who followed the seasonal migrations of reindeer herds around 11,000 BCE. Around 500 BCE Norway's previously nomadic population settled into farming communities. Harald the Fairhaired united Norway around 885 CE. The sea played an

important role in the life of early Norwegians and led to a long tradition of seafaring and shipbuilding. Although the Vikings are mostly known for pillaging Britain and Ireland, many of them settled there, influencing the language and culture of there new homes.

Chapter 02 Values and Attitudes

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- 1) 1913; 1981
- 2) 1905
- 3) three (consecutive) weeks

2

1) F; 2) F

- A history of survival in a difficult, isolated landscape and often harsh climate has forged a people that are hardworking, ruggedly selfsufficient, and reserved. Namely, the qualities that feature in the character of Norwegians are: cooperation, fairness, equality, punctuality, patience, generosity, and a love and respect for nature.
- 2) Norway was the first country to appoint a Gender Equality Ombudsman and for the last twenty years women have made up almost half of Norwegian government and 60 percent of university

graduates. The law also protects the working rights of pregnant women and new mothers. Compared with many other countries, Norway is doing well in the equality stakes. However, disparities still remain. There is much work to be done.

Chapter 03 Customs and Traditions

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1) New Year 2) 14–15

2

1) F; 2) T; 3) F

- It is Norway's traditional costume for special occasions like National Day. These folk costumes vary in color and design from region to region but women usually wear an embroidered woolen skirt and waistcoat, perhaps with a bonnet, shawl, or white apron. Men wear a shirt, fitted black jacket, knee-length trousers, and stockings.
- 2) Norway's official Protestant State Church is Evangelical Lutheran and has the monarch as its head. Religious freedom is guaranteed to all. The Church is allocated funding from general taxes, based on its list of affiliated members. While roughly 90 percent of Norwegians belong to the Church of Norway, only 10 percent attend church services or meetings with any regularity.

- As a relatively young country, at least in terms of its present constitution, Norway has needed to establish its identity over the last century. One of the ways it has done this is through the fostering of customs and traditions. While many of these are religious in origin and therefore not specifically Norwegian, it is the way in which they are celebrated that provides the national flavor.
- 2) Norway's national day, May 17, is the anniversary of the day in 1814 that the Norwegian constitution was laid down. The day begins with a parade of all the schoolchildren, accompanied by their teachers and school bands. All along the route, lined by townsfolk, they sing traditional songs and wave flags. Families assemble and enjoy a good meal together. This day of national celebration is a joyful and unifying occasion.

Chapter **04** Making Friends

economical sport; leisure

2

1) T 2) T 3) F 4) F

6

1) Wine is not a common gift because of Norway's laws regarding

alcohol. Not only are there strict regulations governing the times at which alcohol may be sold, but wine and spirits are available for sale only at designated state-controlled wine shops. Because of the distance between the shops and the high tax on alcohol, visitors may not always be able to buy wine.

2) With only 4.5 million others speaking their language, Norwegians are well aware that to communicate with the world they must be the ones making the effort to learn other languages. English is taught from the first year of schooling. All but the most elderly people have a basic level of English. German is usually the third language, although many also learn French in school.

Chapter 05 The Norwegians at Home

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1) the family home 2) Over 60

3) one month; two months' 4) ten

2

1) F 2) T

3

 Harsh winters are kept firmly outside by the use of effective insulating materials, and most modern houses are built in an open-plan design, which allows the heat to circulate. Wood burning stoves are popular

and give off a very powerful heat. A woodpile stacked with logs is a common sight outside most rural and suburban homes. Electricity is used for heating in Norwegian homes. Under-floor heating is very common, especially in hallways, bathrooms, and laundry rooms.

2) Mortgages to buy are arranged through the banks and a minimum deposit of 20 percent is required. Prospective buyers are invited to viewings when information about the property will be available. Those seriously interested in the property after viewing leave their name and contact number. They will be called when someone has opened the bidding. Officially registering the purchase of the property costs 2.5 percent of the purchase price and there is also an official stamp duty payment.

Chapter 06 Time Out

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- 1) functional exercise; leisure pursuit
- 2) Value-added tax

2

1) F 2) F 3) T

6

1) Norwegians in shops, banks, restaurants, and bars are polite and helpful, but influenced by a culture of equality for all, they may serve

their customers with a business-like attitude, showing less warmth and efficiency than their counterparts in other countries. There is just little culture of service in the country.

2) Skiing is certainly the most popular winter sport, if not a passion. The origins of skiing lies in necessity as it enables Norwegians to make the most of thousands of miles of trails across the winter landscape, including the many frozen lakes. It was just over a hundred years ago that interest in skiing as a sport began to develop. Today ski marathons and festivals are held in the major resorts throughout the winter.

Chapter 07 Getting Around

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- 1) driver's license; bank cards
- 2) 30 km/h or 19 mph
- 3) slower; inexpensive

2

1) T 2) T 3) F

3

 There has been a move to reduce use of studded tires, particularly in southern towns where snow is less frequent, since they damage the surfaces of roads, and the resulting dust has been linked to an

increase in asthma.

2) Norway's health service is state funded, and all Norwegian residents are automatically covered. A small fee is paid at point of service by those between the age of seven and sixty-seven. However, there is an annual payment ceiling. The facilities of Norway's national health service are available to all E.U. nationals. Foreign visitors from non-E. U. states should take out medical insurance before departure.

Chapter 08 Business Briefing

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- 1) self-sufficiency
- 2) discussion; compromise; argument; straight voting

2

1) F 2) F

- There is a sense of shared responsibility in Norwegian businesses. Individuals rarely make decisions. It is the role of the group or team to make a decision only after many meetings and much discussion. If a mistake is made, it is made by the company, not by an individual, and the company will put it right.
- 2) A good presentation is well-researched, precise, backed up with charts, figures, and analysis. Facts, benefits, and profitability should be emphasized. It is also wise to leave time for questions and answers

at the end of a presentation.

3) Offices and organizations are non-hierarchical. Status and position are not of prime importance. There are no individual office at all. Meeting rooms are available for use when necessary.Titles are rarely used, but first names are. Dress is casual. There is a sense of shared responsibility in Norwegian businesses, and they operate with a noblame culture.

Chapter 09 Communicating

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- 1) smaller
- 2) priority mail; economy/mass mailings
- 3) telephones

2

1) T 2) F 3) F

3

 Norwegian is a Germanic language. The ancient Norwegian language has developed into many different dialects because of the isolation of communities. After the split from Denmark, the Norwegian language entered a period of evolution and integration. In fact, there are two official languages, *bokmal* (literally book language) and *nynorsk*(new Norse), both of which have equal status in official use and in

education. *Bokmal* is the language taught in most schools and is used in the majority of newspapers and television broadcasts. Many people write in *bokmal*, but speak *nynorsk*.

2) The phrase refers to a cold, non-active face. It is used in the passage to describe Norwegians at some official occasions, as they often look very serious, showing little emotion, let alone smiling.