

## DUM č. 18 v sadě

### 2. Aj-2 Reálie anglicky mluvících zemí

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Ročník: maturitní ročníky

Anotace DUMu: The Commonwealth of Nations. Společenství národů v číslech. Text se základními údaji a daty sloužící k doplnění znalostí studentů v rámci tématu The Commonwealth of Nations.

Materiály jsou určeny pro bezplatné používání pro potřeby výuky a vzdělávání na všech typech škol a školských zařízení. Jakékoliv další využití podléhá autorskému zákonu.



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ



# THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

## TEACHER'S SHEET

### **Background information:**

- *Basic information*
- *History*
- *Member states of the Commonwealth*
- *The Commonwealth today*
  
- *Basic information: association of 53 independent states*
  - population: 2.2 billion people*
  - area: 29,958,050 km<sup>2</sup>*
  - types of states: 32 republics*
    - 16 constitutional monarchies*
    - 5 monarchies*
  - The Commonwealth Charter – signed by all, equal say*
  - The British monarch – Head of the Commonwealth, in dominions Head of State*
  
- *History: growth of colonialism*
  - decline of colonialism, liberation movement, first dominions*
  - colonial wars*
  - 1931 the British Commonwealth of Nations under the Statute of Westminster*
  - 1949 the Commonwealth of Nations*
  - 1950s and 1960s – new countries (former colonies) members*
  
- *Some of the countries and their way to independence*
  - *Canada 1867, Australia 1901, New Zealand 1907*
  - *Ireland (Civil War 1916-1921, 1921 Irish Free State, 1949 Ireland left Commonwealth)*
  - *India – long struggle, Gandhi, 1947*
  - *South Africa – one of the initial states, 1961 left (apartheid), 1994 back*
  - *only 2 countries were not the colonies (Mozambique, Rwanda)*
  
- *The Commonwealth today : The Commonwealth Games (“Friendly Games”) – every 4 years*
  - cooperation in all fields of economy, civil rights*



**Task:**

**Teacher's notes:**

Print the handout and give it to each student. They read the text about the Commonwealth and complete the text with the numbers and dates. When they are ready, they compare it with their neighbours, finally with the key.

Then they answer some of the following-up questions.

For the homework they should make pairs or small groups and decide which country they will focus on.

**Zdroje:**

<http://thecommonwealth.org/>

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

[www.thecgf.com](http://www.thecgf.com)

[www.royal.gov.uk/monarchandcommonwealth/com](http://www.royal.gov.uk/monarchandcommonwealth/com).

[www.chogm2013.lk/.../commonwealth-countries/](http://www.chogm2013.lk/.../commonwealth-countries/)

archiv autorky

**Commonwealth of Nations in numbers. Read the text and complete it with the right number or date:**

<b>1949 (4x)</b>	<b>thirty-two</b>	<b>1950s</b>	<b>fifty-three</b>	<b>five</b>	<b>2.2 billion</b>	<b>1931</b>
<b>a quarter</b>	<b>29,958,050</b>	<b>1907</b>	<b>1.5 million</b>	<b>1930</b>	<b>sixteen</b>	
<b>1867</b>	<b>two (2x)</b>	<b>1947</b>	<b>four</b>	<b>thirty-one</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>1960s</b>
<b>1901</b>	<b>1961</b>	<b>thirty</b>	<b>second</b>			

The Commonwealth of Nations is a free, voluntary association of \_\_\_\_\_ independent countries. \_\_\_\_\_ of them are classified as small states – with the population size of \_\_\_\_\_ people or less.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ republics (e.g. India), \_\_\_\_\_ monarchies with their own monarch (e.g. Brunei) and \_\_\_\_\_ constitutional monarchies with the British ruler as the Head of State (e.g. Canada, Australia). The area of the Commonwealth member states is more than \_\_\_\_\_ km<sup>2</sup>, almost \_\_\_\_\_ of the world land area, and spans all five continents. The Commonwealth is home to \_\_\_\_\_ citizens and over \_\_\_\_\_ of these are under the age of \_\_\_\_\_.

All members have an equal say, regardless their area or population. They have to subscribe to The Commonwealth Charter, which is the main document of the association. Leaders of Commonwealth member states meet every \_\_\_\_\_ years to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest.

Commonwealth Day is celebrated on the \_\_\_\_\_ Monday of March every year.

The Commonwealth Games, known as “Friendly Games” are held every \_\_\_\_\_ years (in 2014 in Glasgow). The first Commonwealth Games were held in \_\_\_\_\_.

A brief history:

The Commonwealth of Nations is one of the world’s oldest political associations of states. Its roots go back to the colonialism of the British Empire but with the increasing liberation movement in the colonies big changes came, and in \_\_\_\_\_ Canada was the first colony to become a dominion and gain the autonomy. It was followed by Australia in \_\_\_\_\_ and New Zealand in \_\_\_\_\_. The British Commonwealth of Nations was founded in \_\_\_\_\_ under the Statute of Westminster with five initial members – United Kingdom, Canada, Irish Free State, Newfoundland and the Union of South Africa. Ireland left the Commonwealth permanently in \_\_\_\_\_, Newfoundland joined Canada in \_\_\_\_\_, and South Africa left Commonwealth in \_\_\_\_\_ due to its apartheid regime but came back in \_\_\_\_\_. The new era in the history came in \_\_\_\_\_ with the London Declaration, which removed the word British from the title to show that the members are independent and equal. Former colonies were becoming independent, e.g. India joined the Commonwealth after a long and painful struggle for independence in \_\_\_\_\_, other countries joined the Commonwealth mainly in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and there are also \_\_\_\_\_ states which were not the British colonies (Mozambique and Rwanda).



**KEY:**

**Commonwealth of Nations in numbers. Read the text and complete it with the right number or date:**

The Commonwealth of Nations is a free, voluntary association of **53** independent countries. **31** of them are classified as small states – with the population size of **1.5 million** people or less.

There are **32** republics (e.g. India), **5** monarchies with their own monarch (e.g. Brunei) and **16** constitutional monarchies with the British ruler as the Head of State (e.g. Canada, Australia). The area of the Commonwealth member states is more than **29,958,050 km<sup>2</sup>**, almost **a quarter** of the world land area, and spans all five continents. The Commonwealth is home to **2.2 billion** citizens and over **60%** of these are under the age of **30**.

All members have an equal say, regardless their area or population. They have to subscribe to The Commonwealth Charter, which is the main document of the association. Leaders of Commonwealth member states meet every **two** years to discuss issues of mutual concern and interest. Commonwealth Day is celebrated on the **second** Monday of March every year.

The Commonwealth Games, known as “Friendly Games” are held every **four** years (in 2014 in Glasgow). The first Commonwealth Games were held in **1930**.

**A brief history:**

The Commonwealth of Nations is one of the world’s oldest political associations of states. Its roots go back to the colonialism of the British Empire but with the increasing liberation movement in the colonies big changes came, and in **1867** Canada was the first colony to become a dominion and gain the autonomy. It was followed by Australia in **1901** and New Zealand in **1907**. The British Commonwealth of Nations was founded in **1931** under the Statute of Westminster with five initial members – United Kingdom, Canada, Irish Free State, Newfoundland and the Union of South Africa. Ireland left the Commonwealth permanently in **1949**, Newfoundland joined Canada in **1949**, and South Africa left Commonwealth in **1961** due to its apartheid regime but came back in **1994**. The new era in the history came in **1949** with the London Declaration, which removed the word British from the title to show that the members are independent and equal. Former colonies were becoming independent, e.g. India joined the Commonwealth after a long and painful struggle for independence in **1947**, other countries joined the Commonwealth mainly in the **1950s** and **1960s** and there are also **two** states which were not the British colonies (Mozambique and Rwanda).

**Follow-up questions:**

1. What is the Commonwealth of Nations?
2. When was it established?
3. Which and how many were the initial states?
4. What happened in 1949, 1947, 1960s etc?
5. Which country got the independence as first?
6. Who is the head of state in republics?
7. What are “Friendly Games”? How often are they held?
8. When do the people in Commonwealth celebrate their day?
9. What is the main document for all the member countries?
10. What is the population of the Commonwealth of Nations?

**Homework:**

Choose one of the former colonies and today’s member states, find information about its way to independence and prepare a presentation or a poster. Put the posters on the wall in your classroom, compare the other students’ countries and discuss the issues of freedom and cooperation.