

Leuven murder game

Who killed Rik Torfs, rector of the University of Leuven?





### From school to the station area



#### Walk into the direction of the "Martelarenplein".

Q1: What exactly does the monument in the centre of the square remind us of? \_\_\_\_\_

Q2: What is the architect's name? \_\_\_\_\_

Quite impressive is the red brick building that - on its ground level - functions as the bus station. It was designed by the famous Spanish architect Manuel de Sola-Morales.

Q3: When you turn your back to the station building, you will see the other side of the square with a music and concert hall in one of its corners. What's its name? Which concert is programmed on Tuesday 19/5?

\_\_\_\_\_ (name) and \_\_\_\_\_\_ (band name)

## From school to the canal area



#### Walk into the direction of the "Vaartkom" canal zone.

On your way there, you pass by a typical Belgian "Chippy" (but without the fish) on the corner of the *Nerviërstraat*.

Q1: What is the meaning of the first part of this street name (Nerviërs)?

- Q2: What is the name of this "frietkot", the place where they sell Belgian fries?
- Q3: As you walk along the "J.P. Minckelersstraat", try to figure out what Mr. Minckelers invented.

As you reach the canal and its beautiful yachts, you will notice a building called "OPEK".

Q4: What is its purpose? \_\_\_\_

Q5: What can be seen on the 4<sup>th</sup> painting from the left on the far wall inside the café?

Q6: What is the name of the "digging statue" close to the water side? \_\_\_\_



### From school to the Grand Market Place



#### Walk into the direction of the town hall and St. Peter's church.

On your way there, you pass by a bronze statue in the centre of the crossroads of *Diestsestraat* and *Vaartstraat*.

Q1: What is the name of this man and what guild (corporation) does he represent?

\_\_\_ (name) and \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (guild)

Continue your walk until you reach the staircase in front of the city hall.

Leuven's Town Hall is one of the best-known Gothic town halls worldwide and Leuven's pride and joy. Leuven's 'Hall of Fame' features 236 statues: 220 men and 16 women. On the bottom floor are famous Leuven scientists, artists and historical figures. The first floor is reserved for the patron saints of the various parishes of Leuven. Above them the façade is adorned by the counts and dukes of Brabant. The towers feature biblical figures.

Q2: Make a group picture in front of the entrance door.

Enter the ground floor hall.

Q3: How many flags do you count on the inside and what do they represent?

\_\_ (number) and \_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (representation)

Leave the city hall and walk towards the side entrance of St. Peter's church.

Saint Peter's Church is the oldest church in Leuven, presumably founded in 986. The first church burnt down in 1176. A new Romanesque church was built with a crypt at the back of the choir. The westwork was flanked by two towers but due to the swampy soil the church is built on, they could not be finished to their initial height.

Q4: Which famous painting is kept in the church's treasury? Who painted it?

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of the painting) by \_\_\_\_\_\_ (painter)

Get ready to go back to school now but before your enter *Diestsestraat* again, stop at the little statue called "*The Fountain of Wisdom*".

Q5: Copy the statue's name in Latin from the name plate: \_\_\_\_\_

### From school to the Monseigneur Ladeuze square



The square is dominated visually by the monumental library of the University. The building is relatively recent, dating from 1921. The library was a gift from the American people to the city of Leuven, after the original 17th century library near the Grote Markt was burned down by the German occupying forces in August 1914, destroying countless irreplaceable historical manuscripts and books. American charities were stablished to compensate the loss. The carillon originally contained 48 bells. The main bell, which rings every hour on the hour, is named the Liberty Bell of Louvain. In May 1940, in the first year of World War II, the German occupiers again destroyed, almost completely, the (new) University Library. After the war the building was reconstructed almost completely along the original plans. In January 2014 a permanent exhibition on these wartime events was installed over five floors of the bell tower.

Go and stand in front of the library entrance and look up. You will see the *Virgin Mary* wearing a helmet.

Q1: What does she carry in her right hand? What does she have under her right foot?

(in her right hand) and	(under her right foot)
On the left side of the library building you will see a notice in the loca	al dialect. What does it say?
(notice) (Tip: What's the name of the pub o	n the left side of the library?)
ad stand in the middle of the square and look up	

Go and stand in the middle of the square and look up.

Q2:

Q3: What animal are you standing next to? Ask passers-by who made it and why the piece of art is here.

\_\_\_\_\_ (animal), \_\_\_\_\_ (artist) and \_\_\_\_\_

\_ (reason).

### From school to the Old Market square



In the 12<sup>th</sup> century, Leuven's first city hall was situated here. After the current city hall was built in the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century, the Old Market Square was used as green market and parade square to show military armour. The longest bar in the world, that's what Leuven's Oude Markt is called today. Around 40 cafés on one square mean that students and locals never go thirsty. Marktrock (around 15 August) is a three-day (rock) music festival in the city, turning the square into a huge open air concert place.

Go and look for the pub called "The Weerelt". Step back a little and look up.

Q1: What do you see on the roof of the building? \_\_\_\_\_ (on the roof)

Look left. At the south end of the square you will see a large building in neo-classicist style. Ask passers-by to know what the building houses.

Q2: What is in the building on the left of the square (when you face Café De Weerelt)? \_\_\_\_\_

Look right now. Opposite *Café Metrople*, almost hidden between the chairs, there's a bronze bench with a lady serving coffee attached to it. Ask passers-by to know what the statue is called and what it stands for.

Q3: What is the statue's name and what is it (she) a tribute to?

\_\_\_ (her name) and \_\_\_\_\_\_ (in the

honour of)

Go back to Café De Weerelt but turn your back on it now.

Q4: Take a picture of your group in front of the university building, the actual backside of the university hall (registrar's office), in medieval times the sales place for local cloth traders.

### From school to the Fish Market square





The Fish Market (de Vismarkt) dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The market square developed thanks to its position at one of the side arms of the river Dyle (Dijle) and housed the Leuven city harbour. Lots of commercial and trade activities as well as housing facilities for sailors were situated here. The Fish Market square is Leuven's oldest market place.

Go and look for historic proof that

this square used to be a fish market and a harbour. Therefore you will need to look at the façades of the oldest buildings. Some of them used to carry names like "De Vischbank" or "De Drye Heringen".

Q1: Take a picture of the sign "In de Dry Schepen". Tip: the house is now a boutique.

At the entrance of another house you will see two fish, incorporated in the doorway.

Q2: What is the name of the shop carrying the two fish in its doorway (porch)?

To go back to school, please take *Augustijnenstraat*. At the corner of this street with *Vaartstraat* you will pass by a nice looking pub with a white wooden terrace.

Q3: What is the name of this café? \_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of the pub)

Q4: Just across the street you'll see the so-called "Villers College", a former university study hall.

What is it function today? \_\_\_\_\_

Now take *Rijschoolstraat* in the direction of the school.

Q5: What is the function of this building?

\_\_\_\_\_ and its name is \_\_\_\_\_

Now take *Rijschoolstraat* again in the direction of the school. On the left you will come across this white building.

Q6: What is the function of this building? \_\_\_\_\_

Q7: Which folklore festival did it host from 3-6 April 2015?





### From school to Mechelsestraat and Brusselsestraat



In this part of Leuven you'll stand in the very heart of the city. This middle point leads to two nice pedestrian shopping streets: Mechelsestraat (street leading to the city of Malines) and Brusselsestraat (obviously leading up to Brussels). Indeed, Leuven is a mixture of a medieval Burgundian city and a modern infrastructure. In this area 15<sup>th</sup>16<sup>th</sup>-century humanist Desiderius Erasmus founded his Collegium Trium Linguarum, where he studied and taught Greek, Latin and Hebrew. Erasmus, indeed. Does this name ring a bell?

On your way to this point, please follow *Rijschoolstraat* until you reach the *Court of Justice* building.

Q1: Take a group picture on the stairs in front of the building.

Go inside and count the number of stairs leading to the first floor.

Q2: How many stairs do you count? \_\_\_\_\_

Leave the building and turn left, towards *Saint-Peter's church*. Cross the street on the zebra crossing at *Kruidvat*. Today this beautifully restored manor in Flemish neo-renaissance style houses the *Kruidvat* perfume store.

Q3: What used to be its function before the restauration in 2010?

Go through the Jodenstraat (Jewish street) until you reach the little square.

Q4: Take a group picture around the Erasmus statue.

Walk through *Mechelsestraat* and enjoy the atmosphere. Follow *Wandelingstraat*, cross the river *Dijle* and follow *Amerikalaan* until you reach the statue of *Paepe Thoon*, Leuven's hunchbacked fool.

Q5: Take a group picture around Paepe Thoon.

### From school to the Small Beguinage



Leuven's Small Beguinage (Klein Begijnhof) is a city quarter consisting of one street and two cul-de-sac allies in the shadow of the tower of the Saint-Gertrude Abbey Church (Sint-Geertrui-abdij). This Beguinage is the smallest of two Beguinages in Leuven. The other Grand Beguinage (Groot Begijnhof) is UNESCO World Heritage. Until the 19<sup>th</sup> century Beguines [bə'gi:nz] lived here. They were were Christian lay religious orders, particularly in the Low Countries. Their members lived in semi-monastic communities but did not take formal religious vows. Beguines were part of a larger spiritual revival movement of the thirteenth century that stressed imitation of Christ's life through voluntary poverty, care of the poor and sick, and religious devotion.

First turn into J.P. Minckelersstraat and look for the street name sign.

Q1: Who was J.P. Minckelers? \_\_

Walk along this street at turn left into *Mathias Van Den Geynlaan*. Half way you'll see a First World War canon.

Q2: What does it commemorate? \_\_\_\_\_

Follow the map through *Sint-Maartenstraat*, *Lombaardenstraat* and *Vaartstraat*. Turn left into *Halfmaartstraat*. You are now arriving at "Sint-Geertrui" and "het Klein Begijnhof".

Q3: Take a group picture in front of the Small Beguinage.

Have a look at the church tower now. The church is known as one of the miracles of Leuven as the tower was completely built without wood or nails. It is fully made of stone only.

### From school to "Allied Lane"



De Bondgenotenlaan - in English Lane of the Allies" connects Martelarenplein (in English "Martyr Street", square at the station) with the Rector De Somerplein (square in front of Grote Markt). Until 1914 this street was called Statiestraat, or "Station street". During the Second World War the centre of Leuven was completely devastated and there were a lot of casualties among the population. The lane is precisely 1 kilometre long. Together with Diestsestraat it is one of the main shopping streets of Leuven. It's also one of the busiest streets in terms of public transport in Flanders: more than 1500 buses drive by every day, which is more than 1 per minute.

First turn into Louis Melsensstraat and cross Bondgenotenlaan. Go and stand in front of the statue.

Q1: What is the Latin name of this man? \_\_\_\_

Joost Lips was born in Overijse in 1547, not far from Brussels. He went to school in Brussels and Cologne, later studied in Leuven, Jena (Germany) and Leiden (Netherlands) before becoming philosophy and literature professor in Leuven. He kept on travelling throughout Europe to study and teach. According to him, the ideal citizen is someone who acts according to reason, is answerable to oneself, is in control of one's emotions and is ready to fight. These ideas translated into politics laid the foundation of political developments towards the modern organization of the early European states. He died in Leuven in 1606.

Continue your walk in the direction of the town hall until you reach the grand theatre (*stadsschouwburg* in Dutch) at your right-hand side. Posters announce the upcoming concerts and plays.

Q2: What is the name of the Leuven culture office? \_\_\_\_

Walk on to the main square called Pieter De Somerplein.

The square is called after the first head of the Dutch speaking catholic university (Rector). The square connects Bondgenotenlaan, Tiensestraat, Grote Markt and Margarethaplein.

Q3: What is the previous name of this square?

Q4: What is located underneath the square? \_\_\_\_\_