

# **The Euro**

## **Article summary**

The article I read was about one of the greatest advancements in European unification in history: the Euro. Ever since its invention it has caused great commotion and controversy among all Europeans. However, neither the early debate and anticipation nor the arrival of the Euro as a digital currency were any match in importance and spectacularity for the events that followed the January 1st release of the Euro bank note. As expected, the people's responses to the new currency were varied, and ranged from avid enthusiasm to utter rejection. Objectively, though, there is no way to label the arrival of the Euro as either positive or negative. The consequences of a unified currency replacing all the current currencies in the European union's countries have both their advantages and their drawbacks, and only time will tell on which side the scale will tilt. One thing is certain right now, though - the Euro marks the approach of a brave new world, in which borders will be erased and merchandise freely exchanged. Whether or not such a world is worth living in is anyone's decision.

## **22 unknown words**

1. CURRENCY (n) – the system of money used in a country
2. DOWNRIGHT (adj) – (of sth undesirable) thorough; complete
3. RURAL (adj) - of, relating to, or characteristic of the country;
4. GRUBBY (adj) – causing moral disapproval; sordid
5. MORTGAGE (n) – an agreement by which money is lent by a building society, bank, etc for buying a house or other property, the property being the security
6. STH DISCORD (n) - tension or strife resulting from a lack of agreement;
7. FLIT (v) – to fly or move lightly and quickly from one thing or place to another
8. CUSHION (n) – a small bag filled with soft material, feathers, etc. Cushions are used to make a seat more comfortable, to kneel on, etc
9. SCRUB (v) – to clean sth thoroughly by rubbing it hard, esp with a brush and soap and water
10. QUOTIDIAN (adj) - everyday; commonplace;
11. GRIME (n) – dirt, esp in a thick or solid layer on a surface
12. MONUMENT (n) – a building, column, statue etc built to remind people of a famous person or event

13. DISDAINFUL (adj) – contemptuous
14. RIOT (n) – a wild or violent protest by a crowd of people
15. PONDER (v) – to consider
16. BARGAIN (n) – a thing bought or sold for less than its usual price when this is to the advantage of the buyer
17. FIDDLY (adj) – small and awkward to do or use
18. PROWESS (n) – outstanding skill or ability
19. PERPLEXED (adj) – confused or worried
20. MERCHANT (n) – a person involved in trade or commerce
21. EXERT (v) – to use or apply a quality, skill, pressure, etc
22. RELUCTANT (adj) – unwilling and therefore show to act, agree, etc