

MODULE 4. GAME: THE EU IN OUR DAILY LIVES

QUESTIONS FOR PUPILS

	QUESTION FOR THE PUPILS	SOLUTION	EXPLANATION
1.	What policy level decides the speed limit on the highway?	Not EU	Traffic rules differ between EU member states, e.g., in Ireland, Malta and Cyprus people drive on the left-hand side of the road. However, traffic codes are coordinated on a European level and the European drivers' licence is valid throughout the whole of the EU.
2.	Who determines that you get at least a two-year guarantee when you buy a new laptop?	EU level	Consumer protection: under EU legislation, manufacturers must provide at least a two-year warranty on electronic devices like smartphones, printers, laptops, vacuum cleaners, coffee machines, etc.
3.	Who decides when the trash gets picked up?	Not EU	It is mostly the local level that decides when the trash gets picked up. This makes the most sense: if the EU were responsible for trash pick-ups, this would create chaos because the EU is not in the right position to be familiar with each city's specific needs.
4.	Who decides the information you see on a can of soda: Ingredients, calories, producer contact information, etc.?	EU level	Consumer protection: the EU wants people to have correct and complete information about what they consume. That is why product labels for food and cosmetics have to include certain information, such as ingredients and the name of the manufacturer.
5.	Which government level determines the safety standards that your smartphone has to meet?	EU level	Single market and consumer protection: the EU determines the safety standards for products sold within the European Economic Area (EEA).
6.	Who decides what you need to have learned at the end of each school year?	Not EU	The EU does not determine the way in which education is organised and what the content is. As a consequence, the final attainment goals differ between the EU Member States (and sometimes between regions).
7.	Who has the competence to send military troops to conflict areas in the world?	Not EU	The EU does not have an army. Foreign and defence policy is a national competence. The member states do coordinate missions at European level, as well as within the NATO.
8.	Who determines the minimum of 20 days paid leave annually for a full-time employee?	EU level	The EU Working Time Directive, originally introduced in 1993, gives workers the right to 'paid annual leave of at least four weeks'. Each sector and/or Member State can increase the entitlement, but the minimum is 20 days.
9.	Who determines the conditions for driver training and the conditions needed to pass a driving test?	Not EU	Although the EU does not determine these conditions, your drivers' licence is immediately valid throughout the entire EU and has a standard EU format.
10.	Which level of government introduces a ban on throwaway plastics, such as plastic straws and single-use plastic cutlery, from 2021 onwards?	EU level	The EU has approved a new law banning single-use plastic items such as disposable plates, cutlery, straws and cotton bud sticks. The ban will be in place from 2021 onwards.

11.	Which level of government determines the minimum target for energy coming from renewable sources, such as solar and wind energy?	EU level	To facilitate the transition from fossil fuels to cleaner energy and to deliver on the EU's Paris Agreement commitments, the EU has set a binding target for at least 32 % of the EU's energy mix to come from renewable energy sources by 2030. This percentage varies depending on the situation in each Member State.
12.	Which policy level issues building permits for houses?	Not EU	It is mostly the local authorities that issue building permits for private homes.
13.	Who do you pay your taxes to?	Not EU	The EU does not collect taxes directly from its citizens. Each member state pays an annual contribution to the European budget.
14.	Who makes decisions about our public holidays: which dates and how many days?	Not EU	The national states usually make these decisions.
15.	Who determines the maximum amount of fine particles that are allowed to be in the air?	EU level	The EU determines lots of environmental measures – e.g. water quality in rivers, lakes and seas.
16.	Where do you register your marriage?	Not EU	It is mostly the local authorities who are responsible for population registration and civil status.