

Read the text and answer the questions.

1. Which activity is sometimes illegal?
2. Which activity can you learn about on a course?
3. Which activity was unpopular in the past?

## Green fingers

### Allotment gardening

In Britain, more and more people want to grow their own fruit and vegetables. If you don't have a garden you can grow your own food on an allotment. An allotment is a small piece of land used specifically for gardening. In the past some people thought that allotment gardening was boring and just for old men. Now allotments are in fashion and everyone wants one. There are more than 100 000 people on allotment waiting lists in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

### Guerrilla gardening

Guerrilla gardening is political gardening generally practiced by environmentalists. It involves using abandoned areas of land to grow plants and is not always legal. Some guerrilla gardeners work in secret at night to grow vegetable or flower gardens. Others work more openly in the daytime and they ask local communities to help them. In 2000, guerrilla gardeners organised a mass gardening action in Parliament Square in the centre of London. Thousands of gardeners occupied the square and planted vegetable and flowers. More recently, local people and guerrilla gardeners converted Leaf Street in Manchester, in the north of England into a thriving community garden.

### Foraging

Foraging (finding food to eat in the wild) is an alternative to a supermarket trip for some people in Britain. There are more than 400 edible plants in the UK. How do you know which ones you can eat? One option is to do a course to learn all about foraging for food. A foraging course can teach you about when raspberries are in season, how to find wild garlic, which mushrooms are safe to eat and where to find snails. Hugh Fernley-Whittingstall, TV cook and expert forager, believes that food found in the wild is healthier and tastier than anything you can buy in the supermarket. What do you think?

### Glossary:

**Waiting list** – a list of names of people waiting for something not available now

**Thriving** – full of life

**Edible** – something you can eat