

READ THE TEXT

The United Kingdom is a country in the north-west of Europe. It is often called the UK but the full name is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. All the people of the United Kingdom are British. The UK consists of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; the rest of Ireland is an independent Republic called Eire. London is the capital of England and the people are the English. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland and the people are the Scots. Cardiff is the capital of Wales and the people are the Welsh. Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland and the people are the Northern Irish.

There are lots of differences between the four countries. Wales has its own language, Welsh and is officially bilingual. In Scotland and Northern Ireland some people speak the old Celtic language called Gaelic.

The national flag of the United Kingdom is called the Union Jack and dates back to 1601. It consists of Three Crosses: the Red Cross of Saint George of England, the White Cross of Saint Andrew of Scotland and the Blue Cross of Saint Patrick of Ireland. Wales has its own flag, it is green and white with a red dragon. The British National Anthem is God Save the Queen. The words and the tune first appeared in 1745 but nobody knows who wrote them. The United Kingdom is a parliamentary democracy; the Queen is the head of state, but she doesn't take part in politics. The government and its ministers run the country. The Queen of England is also the head of the Commonwealth, a voluntary association of 53 independent states, including Canada, India, New Zealand and most of Great Britain's former colonies.

The official currency of the UK is the pound, divided into 100 pence. The singular of pence is the penny and its symbol is "p". The banknotes are those of 5, 10, 20 and 50 pounds. On all British coins and banknotes there is the Queen's face.

COMPLETE THE CHART

COUNTRY	CAPITAL	PEOPLE
England		
		Scots

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

- In Wales some people speak.....
- In Scotland and Northern Ireland some people speak.....
- The UK is in the North-West of.....
- Gaelic is the old.....language

CHOOSE THE RIGHT OPTION

1 The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is often called

- ☐ Britain ☐ the UK ☐ Great Britain

2 England Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland form

- ☐ Great Britain ☐ Eire ☐ the United Kingdom.

3 The Union Jack is

- ☐ the popular name for the British flag ☐ the national anthem ☐ the British currency

4 The national flag consists of

- ☐ green and white stripes ☐ a red dragon ☐ three crosses

5 The government of the UK is

- ☐ a monarchy ☐ a federation ☐ a parliamentary democracy.

6 The Commonwealth is

- ☐ a former colony of the UK ☐ an association of independent states
☐ a country in northern Europe

7 The British currency is

- ☐ the pence ☐ the pound ☐ the dollar

8 "God Save the Queen" is

- ☐ the English Channel ☐ a British poem ☐ the national anthem.

FIND THE RIGHT WORD

The song of a nation

A series of musical notes

A small piece of metal used as money

The unit of money in Britain

The symbol of a country

The head of the UK

A voluntary association of independent States

A piece of paper money.

QUEEN

COIN

BANKNOTE

COMMONWEALTH

ANTHEM

FLAG

TUNE

POUND