

# **Lecture 1**

## **The land & the people**

### **The UK**



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# Plan

- Geographical position
- Population
- Climate
- Vegetation and wildlife
- The UK and its constituent parts and their emblems and flags
- England. Scotland. Wales. Ireland.



# THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

- England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- the Isle of Wight
- the Orkneys
- Hebrides and Shetlands
- the Isles of Scilly

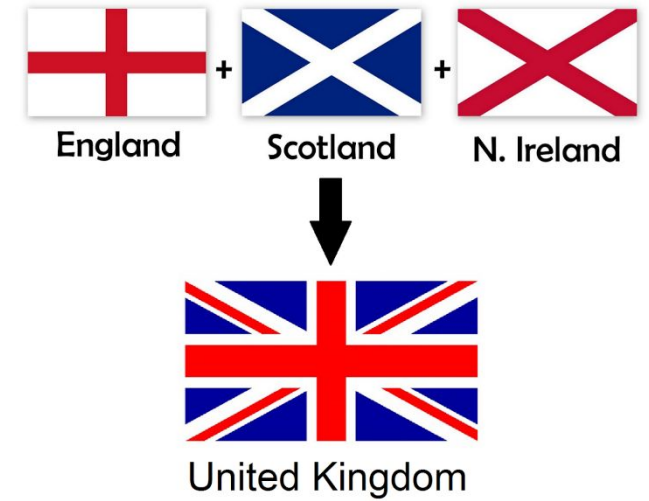


# Formation

- a name was introduced in 1501
- the whole of Ireland was united with Great Britain from 1801 up until 1922
- Republic of Ireland was formed in the South
- Northern Ireland became part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



# The Union Jack



- The upright Red Cross is the cross of St. George, the patron saint of England.
- The white diagonal cross is the cross of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland.
- The red diagonal cross is the cross of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.
- St. David is the patron saint of Wales.



# Location

- an island state
- 5,500 islands
- 244,100 square kilometres
- Lowland Britain and Highland Britain
- Ben Nevis is 1,343 metres and Snowdon is 1.085 metres
- the Severn (354 kilometres)
- the Lake District





# Climate

- Mild
- Humid
- Changeable



# Vegetation and Wildlife

- the poppy is the symbol of peace
  - the red rose is the national emblem of England
  - the thistle is the national emblem of Scotland
  - the daffodils and the leek are the emblems of Wales
  - the shamrock is the emblem of Ireland.
- 
- oak, beech, pine, marshland, moors
  - blackbirds, sparrows and starlings, Redbreast
  - ducks, geese and other water fowl
  - partridges, pheasants
  - gulls, geese





# Population

- over 57 million people
- Over 46 million people live in England, a little over 5 million live in Scotland, over 3 million in Wales and about 1,5 million in Northern Ireland.
- The Celts from Europe.
- The Romans from Italy.
- The Angles and Saxons came from Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands (Angle-land).
- The vikings arrived from Denmark and Norway, the Normans invaded from France.



# Scotland

- 80 thousand square kilometres
- Edinburgh
- over 5 million people
- The Cheviot Hills
- The Highlands, the Lowlands, the Southern Uplands
- Glasgow



# Clans and tartans

- Kilt
- Clan - family, descendants
- McDonalds and McKenzies, the Campbells and the Lindsays
- “Mc” means “son of”
- Campbell or Cameron
- Angus, Donald or Duncan
- Morag, Fiona or Jean
- Jimmy and Jock



# Gaelic

- Welsh and Gaelic
- Scots Gaelic - 80,000 people
- "Wee", meaning small
- "wee laddie" - small boy.
- "A bonnie lass" is a pretty girl
- "bairn" is a child.



# Edinburgh

- The 15<sup>th</sup> century
- George Gordon Byron, Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Burns, and Arthur Conan Doyle
- Edinburgh Festival of Music and Drama
- In 1947





# Wales

- Cymru, Cymry
- the Welsh Mountainous area, Industrial South Wales and the Welsh Borderland
- Snowdonia
- Snowdon





# Cardiff

- 1955
- Coal, iron and steel
- Llandaff cathedral
- the National Museum of Wales
- St. David's Hall
- the New Theatre
- the Taff River
- Swansea



# Welsh

- The Welsh Language Act of 1967
- 50 per cent of the population
- The 800-year-old National Eisteddfod
- South Wales (even years)
- North Wales (uneven years)





# The Welsh National Game

- Rugby Union
- 15 players
- The Welsh National anthem, Land of my Fathers



# Names

- Charles Baker, Margaret Thatcher;
- Jack Long, Mary Little
- Robin Williamson (Robin, son of William), Peter Richardson.
- Dylan Thomas, Roger Davies (a form of David), Geoffrey Jones (from John), David Williams
- Taffy
- Druidism, Druids



# Northern Ireland

*Ireland*

- 6 of 9 countries of the historic province of Ulster
- Belfast
- The greenness
- The Mourne Mountains
- Lough Neagh
- Shannon
- 1.5 million people
- 53 %
- agriculture, textiles and shipbuilding



# Gaelic Names

- "bally" - town, "slieve" - mountain, "glen" - valley
- Sean [ʃɔ:n], same as John
- Seamus [ʃeɪməs], same as James
- Liam [liəm], same as William
- Seanna [ʃɔ:nə], same as Joanna
- Brid [brɪd], same as Bridget
- Paddy (short of Patric) and Micky (short for Michael)
- O'... meaning from the family of (eg O'Brien, O'Neil)
- Fitz... meaning son of (eg Fitzwillian, Fitzgerald)
- Mac... meaning son of (eg MacMahon, MacHugh)
- Kil... meaning son of (eg Kilmartin)
- Gil... meaning son of (eg Gilmurrey)





# Belfast

- 400,000 people
- linen, rope-making, engineering, tobacco and the sea-trade
- the Falls Road and Shankill Road
- Art Gallery
- Belfast Cathedral



# N United Kingdom



**Thank you  
for your attention!**

