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(ГОбПОУ «Лебедянский педагогический колледж»)

Соединенное Королевство Великобритании и Северной Ирландии

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The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is the official name of the state that is geographically situated on the British Isles.

On official occasions they call it the United Kingdom and in everyday speech it is shortened to the UK. The name Britain is usually used in press.



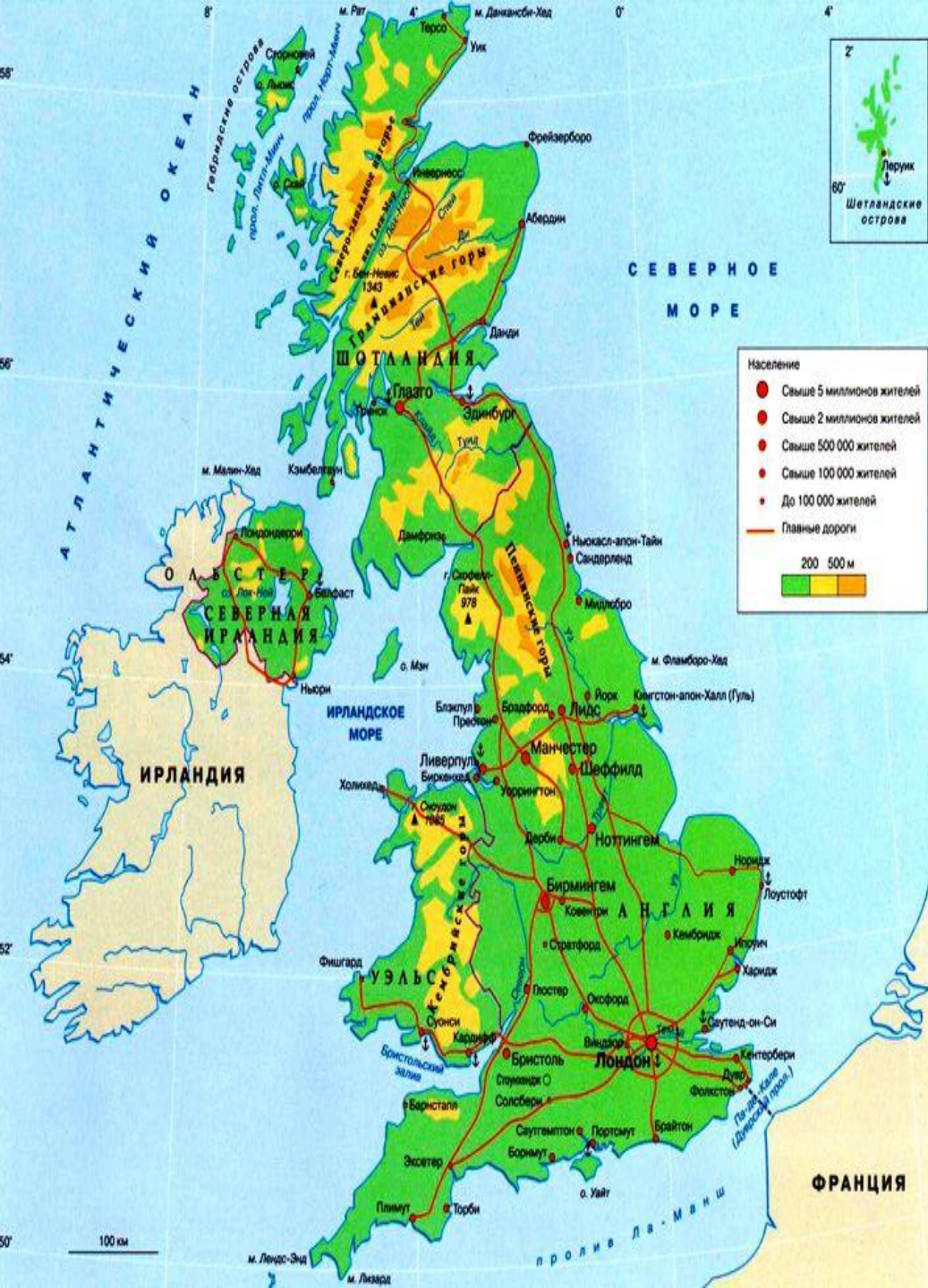
Great Britain is the geographical name of the largest Island in the British Isles which comprises England, Wales and Scotland.

The island of Ireland is mainly occupied by the Irish Republic and the remaining part of the island is occupied by Northern Ireland. Great Britain and Northern Ireland form the UK.

The capital of the UK is London.



The British Isles is a geographical name of an archipelago which is situated to the northwest of continental Europe and is separated from France by only 34 kilometers of water and is made up of two large islands - Great Britain and Ireland and a number of smaller islands.





the Shetland Islands



the Orkney Islands



the Hebrides



Lundy Island



Isles of Scilly

Isle of White

Channel Island



Isle of Man

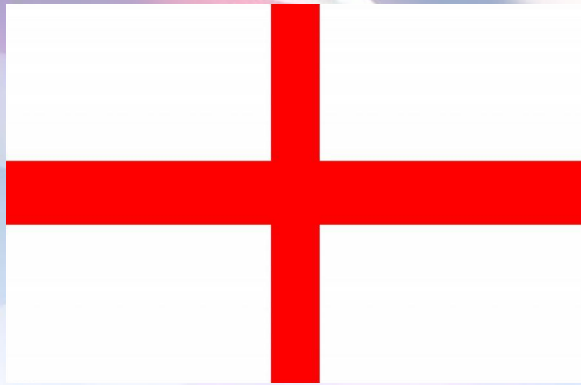




The UK is one of the smallest countries in the world. In size it is twice smaller than Spain or France. Its total area is about 245,000 square kilometers, but the population of the UK is over 60 million people.



Four countries that make up the UK are:



England



Scotland



Northern Ireland



Wales



England is situated in the central and southern part of Great Britain. Historically it's the most important part of the country. It's also the biggest and the most populated part of the UK.

Scotland is the northern part of Great Britain and it is much smaller than England. Scotland is very close to the Arctic circle. Because of its geographical position Scotland is less populated than England.

Wales is situated in the western part of the island.

Northern Ireland is the smallest part of the UK. It has only one-sixth of the territory of Ireland island.



There is the Greenwich Royal Observatory in London, England, that is a truly unique place. The Meridian that passes through the principal Transit Instrument at the Observatory is the Prime Meridian or Longitude Zero degrees. It became the official starting point for every time zone in the World since the conference was held in Washington DC, USA in October 1884. So, it is a place that sets time and sets place. Although GMT has been replaced by atomic time, GMT is still traditionally widely regarded as the correct time for every international time zone.



The Island of Great Britain is comparatively small, but it has a surprisingly various landscapes. The British landscapes can be divided roughly into two kinds of terrain. We can say that there are two main regions- Lowland Britain and Highland Britain.



The UK is well known for its wide variety of landscape and scenery. There are various kinds of vegetation in this country as well. The flora here is less rich as that in southern countries.







Robin Redbreast is the national bird of the UK