



GEOGRAPHY OF THE UK

Lecture 2

Plan

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1. General information

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy in northwestern Europe, officially the United Kingdom

Constitutional

Monarchy



The powers of the ruler are held in check by laws or constitution.

1. General information

Great Britain is the largest island in the cluster of islands, or archipelago, known as the British Isles. England is the largest and most populous division of the island of Great Britain, making up the south and east.



1. General information

Wales is on the west and Scotland is to the north. Northern Ireland is located in the northeast corner of Ireland, the second largest island in the British Isles. The capital of the United Kingdom is the city of London, situated near the southeastern tip of England.



1. General information

The United Kingdom is a small nation in physical size.

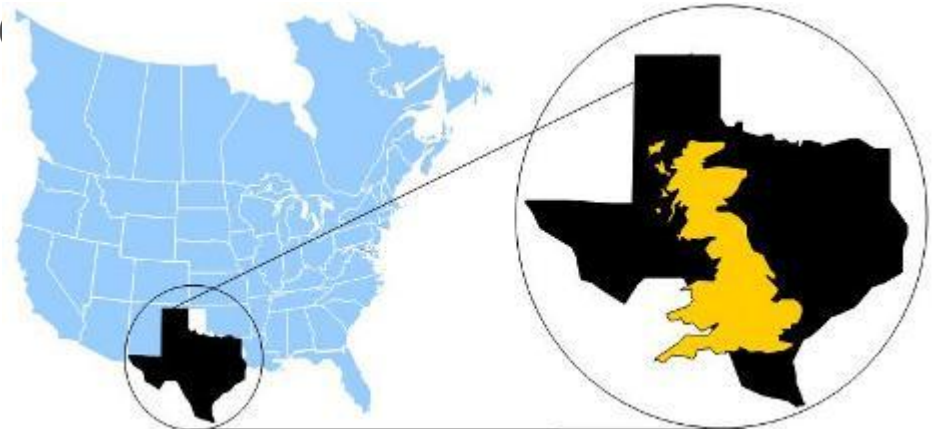
At

244,110 sq km (94,251 sq mi), the United Kingdom is roughly the size

of Oregon or Colorado, or twice the size of New York State.

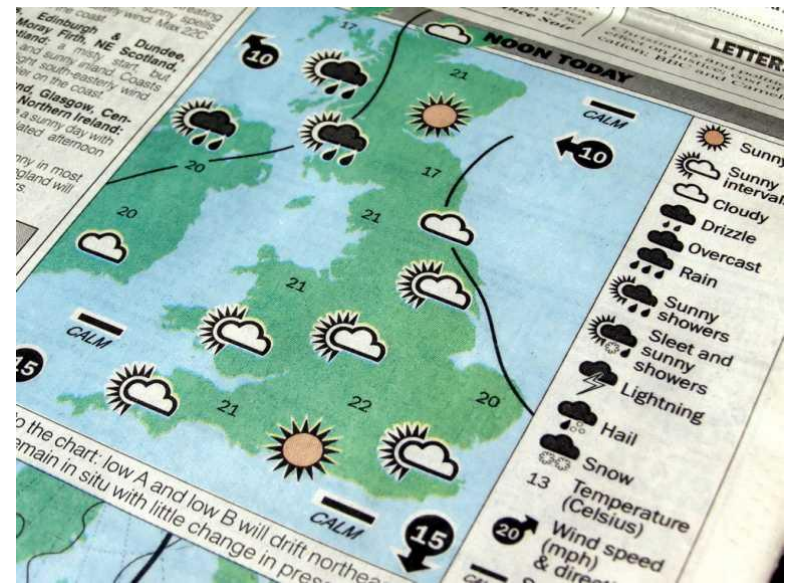
To

compare, Ukraine has an area of **233,100** sq mi (603,700 km).



1. General information

The climate, in general, is mild, chilly, and often wet. Rain or overcast skies can be expected for up to 300 days per year. These conditions make Britain lush and green, with rolling plains in the south and east and rough hills and mountains to the west and north. Despite its relatively small size, Britain is highly populated, with an estimated population density of 251 persons per sq km (650 per sq mi) in 2006.



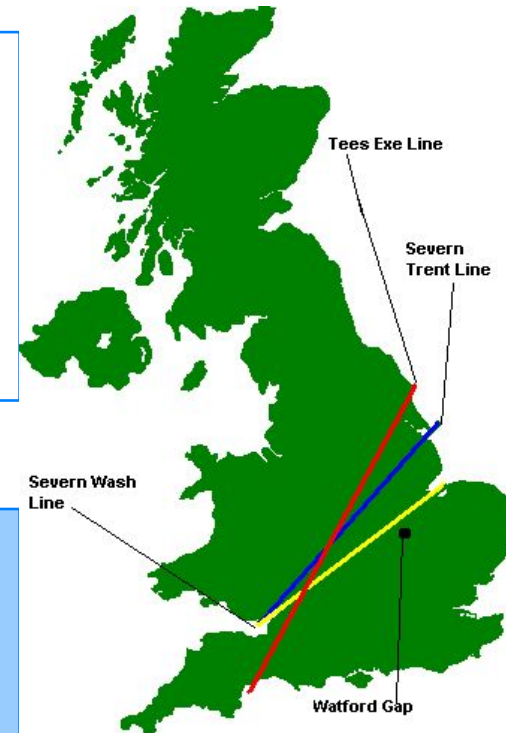
1. General information

The United Kingdom is divided into four constituent parts,
commonly referred to as the home nations: England,
Wales, Scotland,
and Northern Ireland.



1. General Information

Most of England consists of **rolling lowland terrain**, divided east from west by more **mountainous terrain** in the northwest (Cumbrian Mountains of the Lake District) and north (the **upland moors** of the Pennines) and **limestone hills** of the Peak District by the Tees-Exe line.



Камберлендские горы (англ. **Cumbrian Mountains**) — горный массив на западе Великобритании. Высшая точка массива — гора Скофел-Пайк (978м).

Пеннинские горы — невысокие горы в Великобритании, расположенные в северной Англии. Отделяют Северо-Западную Англию от Йоркшира и Северо-Восточной Англии.

Пик-Дистрикт — возвышенная местность в центральной и северной Англии

Озёрный край — горный регион в Северо-Западной Англии, в графстве Камбрия. Территория историко-культурной области практически совпадает с Камберлендскими горами. Озёрный край знаменит своими живописными горными и озёрными ландшафтами.

1. General information

The main rivers and estuaries are the Thames, Severn and the Humber Estuary.

Се́верн — самая длинная река в Великобритании. Длина течения реки составляет 354 километра.

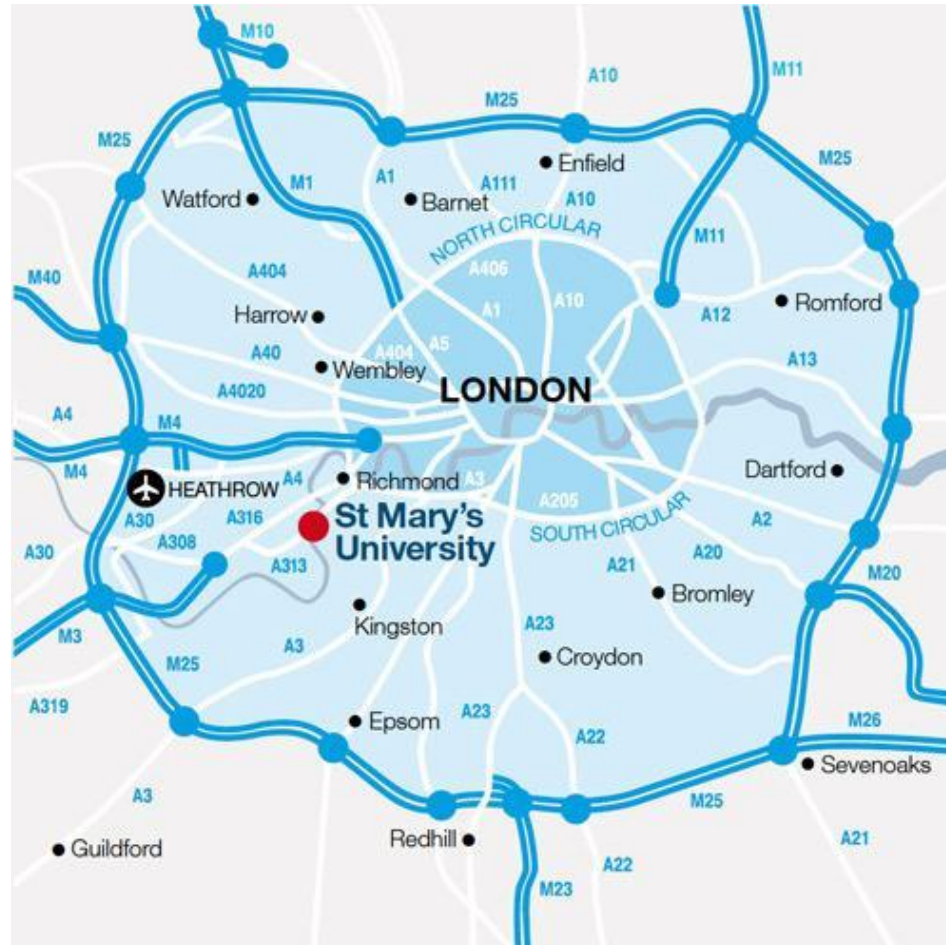


Ха́мбер — эстуарий на восточном побережье, образованный реками Трент и Уз в Англии.

Те́мза — река на юге Великобритании. Длина — 334 км, площадь бассейна — 15,3 тыс. км².

1. General Information

The largest urban area is Greater London.



1. General Information

Near Dover, the Channel Tunnel links the United Kingdom with France. There is no peak in England that is 1000 metres (3,300 ft) or greater. To the southwest of England are the Isles of Scilly, and to the south is the Isle of Wight.

Силли — небольшой архипелаг в 45 км к юго-западу от графства Корнуолл

Евротоннель, тоннель под Ла-Маншем — железнодорожный двухпутный тоннель, длиной около 51 км, из которых 39 км проходит под проливом Ла-Манш. Соединяет континентальную Европу с Великобританией железнодорожным сообщением



Дувр — город и порт в Великобритании, в английском графстве Кент, у пролива Па-де-Кале, связан железнодорожным паромом с Дюнкерком.

Остров Уайт — самый большой остров у побережья Англии





1. General Information

Scotland's geography is varied, with lowlands in the south and east and highlands in the north and west, including Ben Nevis, the UK's highest mountain at 1343 metres (4,406 ft). There are many long and deep-sea arms, firths, and lochs.

A multitude of islands west and north of Scotland are also included, notably the Hebrides, Orkney Islands and Shetland Islands. The capital city is Edinburgh, the centre of which is a World Heritage Site. The largest city is Glasgow.

Бен-Невис — гора в Грампианских горах

Гебри́дские острова́ — архипелаг в Атлантическом океане у западных берегов Шотландии.

Оркне́йские острова́ — архипелаг в 16 км от северной оконечности Шотландии, состоящий из более 70 островов, из которых обитаемы около 20

Шетла́ндские острова́ — архипелаг на северо-востоке Шотландии.



1. General Information

- Wales is mostly mountainous, the highest peak being Snowdon at 1085 metres (3,560 ft) above sea level. North of the mainland is the island of Anglesey. The largest and capital city is Cardiff, located in South Wales

Сно́удон — самая высокая гора Уэльса, высочайшая вершина Великобритании южнее Шотландского высокогорья.

А́нглси — остров в Уэльсе, на котором расположена унитарная административная единица Уэльса со статусом графства Айл-оф-Англси





1. General Information

- Northern Ireland, making up the north-eastern part of Ireland, is mostly hilly. The main cities are Belfast and Londonderry (also known as Derry). The province is home to one of the UK's World Heritage Sites, the Giant's Causeway, which consists of more than 40,000 sixsided basalt columns up to 40 feet (12 m) high. Lough Neagh, the largest body of water in the British Isles, by surface area (396 square kilometres), can be found in Northern Ireland.



«Мостовая гигантов», или Доро́га гигáнтов — памятник природы из примерно 40 000 соединённых между собой базальтовых колонн, образовавшихся в результате древнего извержения вулкана

Лох-Ней — пресноводное озеро в Северной Ирландии.





1. General Information

- In total it is estimated that the UK includes around 1098 small islands, some being natural and some being crannogs, a type of artificial island which was built in past times using stone and wood, gradually enlarged by natural waste building up over time

2. Geographical components and borders

The United Kingdom is bordered on the south by the English Channel, which separates it from Europe. It is bordered on the east by the North Sea, and on the west by the Irish Sea (the North Channel and St George's Channel) and the Atlantic Ocean. The United Kingdom's only land border with another nation is between Northern Ireland and Ireland.



2. Geographical components and borders

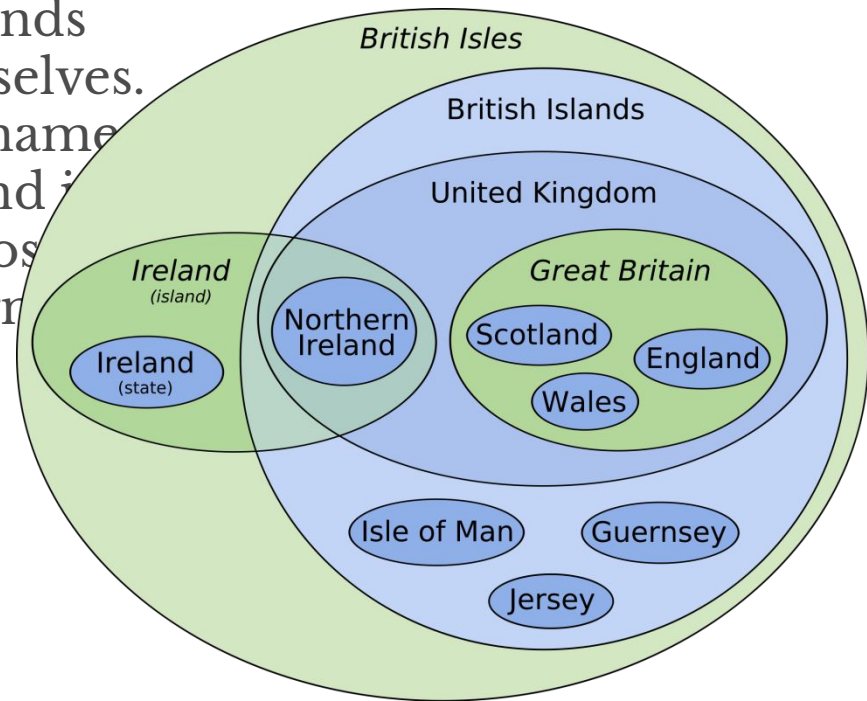
- Several dependencies and dependent territories are associated with the United Kingdom. The dependencies, located close to Britain, are the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea and the Channel Islands off the northern coast of France. These dependencies, while not technically part of the United Kingdom, maintain a special relationship with it. The Channel Islands – the two largest islands being Jersey and Guernsey – were once part of the Duchy of Normandy and retain much of their original French culture. The Isle of Man, controlled by Norway during the Middle Ages, came under English rule in the 14th century. Both dependencies are largely self-governing and have their own legislative assemblies and systems of law. Britain is responsible for their international relations and defense

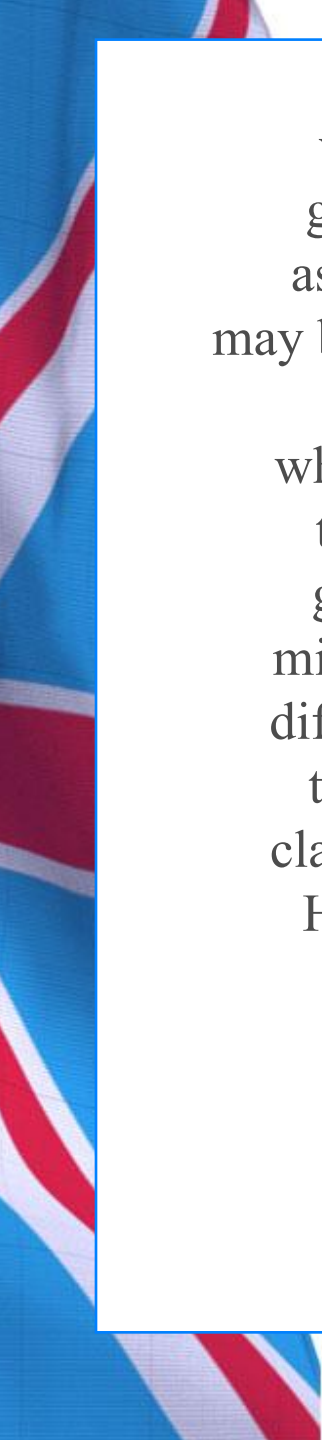


2.2. The correct usage of the names of the country

As a matter of fact, the various terms used to describe the different (and sometimes overlapping) geographical and political regions of the islands traditionally referred to collectively as the British Isles are often a source of confusion for people from other parts of the world, and even for the inhabitants of those islands themselves.

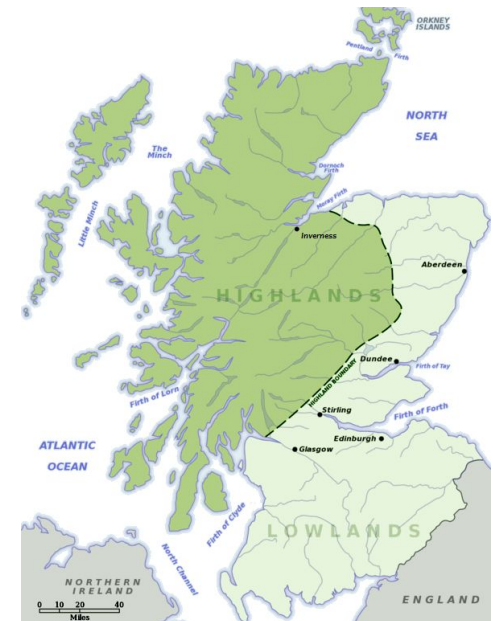
The following brief list of names explaining the meanings of and in those terms



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- Britain's dependent territories are scattered throughout the world and are the remains of the former British Empire. They are generally small in area and without many resources. Today Britain assists the territories economically, with the understanding that they may become independent when they wish. Most are locally self-governing, although the queen appoints a governor for each territory who is responsible for external affairs and internal security, including the police and public service. The ultimate responsibility for their government rests with the foreign and commonwealth secretary, a minister in the British Cabinet. The United Kingdom has experienced difficulties with some of its territories – Argentina has made claims to the Falkland Islands (Spanish *Islas Malvinas*) and Spain has made claims to Gibraltar. China's claim to the former dependent territory of Hong Kong was satisfied in July 1997 when Britain's lease ran out and China assumed control of the area.

3. Natural regions and topography

The traditional division of Great Britain is into a Highland and Lowland zone. A line running from the mouth of the River Exe, in the southwest, to that of the Tees, in the northeast, is a crude expression of this division. The course of the 700-foot (213-metre) contour, or of the boundary separating the older rocks of the north and west from the younger southeastern strata, provides more appropriate indications of the extent of the Highlands.



4. Plant life

