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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 10/05/15

## Geography – The United Kingdom

Today, we will have a brief geography lesson about the United Kingdom (UK). The UK is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The capital is London, which is in the South East of England.

Great Britain is made up of England, Scotland and Wales. Great Britain and Northern Ireland make up the United Kingdom. The British Isles are made up of the above but also include Ireland (not a part of GB or the UK), the Channel Islands (Jersey, Guernsey, etc.) and the Isle of Man.

England can be divided into various regions, like the East of England, the South East, the South West, the West and East Midlands. There is also the North East, the North West, as well as Yorkshire and Humberside. The UK is split into 48 ceremonial counties, for example Essex, Hertfordshire, and Lancashire.

Well known cities include Edinburgh and Glasgow in Scotland; Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Newcastle in the north. In the Midlands you will find Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester and Coventry. In the West of England there is Bristol and Bath. Cardiff and Swansea are in Wales, while in Northern Ireland there is Belfast.

Famous rivers in England include the river Thames in London and the river Trent in Nottingham. The river Severn and the river Avon are both in the West of England. The UK has many canals. These include the Grand Union Canal, the Kennet and Avon canal and the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

In Scotland you will find the Highlands and Ben Nevis. Around Scotland there are the Outer Hebrides, the Orkney Islands and the Shetland Islands. **Continued on page 2...**

### SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about the United Kingdom. Where is it? Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

### Student A questions

- 1) Name three cities.
- 2) Name three rivers.
- 3) Where is Wales?
- 4) What is the capital of Wales?
- 5) Where and what is the Isle of Wight.

### Student B questions

- 1) What and where is Hadrian's Wall?
- 2) Where is the Channel tunnel?
- 3) What and where is Dartmoor?
- 4) Where is the Lake District?
- 5) Where is Birmingham?

*Note: Teachers may like to download some blank outlined maps of the UK and other maps of the UK for this lesson.*

**Category: Geography / United Kingdom / Places to visit**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

### THE ARTICLE - CONTINUED

The Cambrian Mountains, the Brecon Beacons and the Clwydian Hills are located in Wales. In Northern Ireland you will see Giant's Causeway. These are some very interesting shaped rocks.

The Pennines are in the North of England. These small mountains form 'the backbone of England' and separate the North East from the North West. Nearby is the Peak District, as are the North Yorkshire Moors. The beautiful Lake District is located in the North West of England.

The Fens and the Norfolk Broads are both in the East of England. The former are flatlands, the latter an inland waterway. Another interesting area to see is the Cotswolds. These beautiful rolling hills are found to the north and west of London.

In the South West of England you will find Dartmoor, Exmoor and Bodmin Moor. There is also the wonderful Mendip Hills to explore. Just off the tip of Cornwall (a county) are the Isles of Scilly.

In the South East of England are the North and South Downs, in the middle of which is The Weald. In the South of England is the Isle of Wight.

The UK is surrounded mostly by sea. This includes: the North Sea, the English Channel, the Irish Sea, the Celtic Sea, St Georges Channel, the Atlantic Ocean, and the Bristol Channel.

Running north south and through London is the famous Meridian Line that passes through Greenwich, hence Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Other interesting things to see include the Channel Tunnel, Hadrian's Wall and Stonehenge.

### DRAWING – WRITING - SPEAKING

*In pairs/groups.* Draw a large map of the UK on the board. Fill it in with the information from the article. Use Google to assist you!

#### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs.* You meet another tourist in a London pub. Start a conversation about where you have been in the UK. 5 mins.

#### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* - Find out what you can about the following in the UK: (Add to your map) (Maybe use Google!)

- 1) Five rivers.
- 2) Ten counties.
- 3) Five canals.
- 4) Ten cities.
- 5) Five mountains.
- 6) Five islands.
- 7) Five seas.
- 8) Five interesting places to see.
- 9) Five regions.
- 10) Four countries in the UK.

#### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

*Allow 10 minutes – As a class.*

<i>The UK – England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland</i>
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*The teacher can moderate the session.*

#### DISCUSSION

##### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) When you were at school did you learn about the UK?
- 3) Is this a revision lesson for you or something new?
- 4) What is your favourite part of the UK?
- 5) Would you like to visit the UK this year?
- 6) Would you consider seeing more of the UK rather than just London?
- 7) Have you been to London? If yes, when?
- 8) Which is the prettiest part of the UK?
- 9) Which is the hilliest part of the UK?
- 10) Have you learnt anything today?

**GAP FILL: READING**

**Geography – The United Kingdom**

(1)\_\_, we will have a (2)\_\_ (3)\_\_ lesson about the United Kingdom (UK). The UK is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The (4)\_\_ is London, which is in the South East of England.

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England can be divided into (5)\_\_ regions, like the East of England, the South East, the South West, the West and East Midlands. There is also the North East, the North West, as well as Yorkshire and Humberside. The UK is (6)\_\_ into 48 (7)\_\_ (8)\_\_, for example Essex, Hertfordshire, and Lancashire.

**geography / various / brief / ceremonial / split / today / counties / capital**

Well known (1)\_\_ include Edinburgh and Glasgow in Scotland; Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Newcastle in the north. In the (2)\_\_ you will find Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester and Coventry. In the West of England there is Bristol and Bath. Cardiff and Swansea are in Wales, while in Northern Ireland there is Belfast.

(3)\_\_ rivers in England include the river Thames in London and the (4)\_\_ Trent in Nottingham. The river Severn and the river Avon are (5)\_\_ in the West of England. The UK has many (6)\_\_. These include the Grand Union Canal, the Kennet and Avon canal and the Leeds and Liverpool (7)\_\_.

In (8)\_\_ you will find the Highlands and Ben Nevis. Around Scotland there are the Outer Hebrides, the Orkney Islands and the Shetland Islands.

**canal / famous / both / Scotland / Midlands / cities / river / canals**

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

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England can be divided (5)\_\_ various regions, like the East of England, the South East, the South West, the West and East Midlands. There is (6)\_\_ the North East, the North West, (7)\_\_ Yorkshire and Humberside. The UK is split into 48 ceremonial counties, (8)\_\_ example Essex, Hertfordshire, and Lancashire.

**as well as / also / which / into / but / or / we / for**

Well known cities include Edinburgh and Glasgow (1)\_\_ Scotland; Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Newcastle in the north. In the Midlands (2)\_\_ will find Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester and Coventry. In the West of England there is Bristol and Bath. Cardiff and Swansea are in Wales, (3)\_\_ in Northern Ireland there is Belfast.

Famous rivers in England include (4)\_\_ river Thames in London and the river Trent in Nottingham. The river Severn and the river Avon are both in the West (5)\_\_ England. The UK has (6)\_\_ canals. (7)\_\_ include the Grand Union Canal, the Kennet and Avon canal and the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

In Scotland you will find the Highlands and Ben Nevis. Around Scotland there are the Outer Hebrides, the Orkney Islands (8)\_\_ the Shetland Islands.

**while / these / in / many / you / and / the / of**

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

### Geography – The United Kingdom

Today, we will have a brief \_\_\_\_\_ about the United Kingdom (UK). The UK is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The capital is London, which is in the South East of England.

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\_\_\_\_\_ include the river Thames in London and the river Trent in Nottingham. The river Severn and the river Avon are both in the West of England. The UK has many canals. These include the \_\_\_\_\_, the Kennet and Avon canal and the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

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## SPEAKING

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Which islands in the British Isles might you like to visit? Why?
- 3) Would you like to visit Wales, Northern Ireland or Scotland?
- 4) What makes the UK special?
- 5) Have you visited Hadrian's Wall, Stonehenge or the Channel Tunnel?
- 6) Would you consider hiring a car to see some of the UK?
- 7) How else might you see the UK?
- 8) Would you consider a walking holiday in the hills or perhaps a boating holiday in the UK?
- 9) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

### GAP FILL READING

- 1) brief
- 2) geography
- 3) capital
- 4) exceptions
- 5) namely
- 6) various
- 7) split
- 8) counties

### ANSWERS

- 1) cities
- 2) Midlands
- 3) famous
- 4) river
- 5) both
- 6) canals
- 7) canal
- 8) Scotland

### SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) mountains
- 2) backbone
- 3) flatlands
- 4) explore
- 5) wonderful
- 6) just
- 7) middle
- 8) mostly
- 9) through
- 10) beautiful

### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) brief
- 12) geography
- 13) capital
- 14) exceptions
- 15) split
- 16) counties
- 17) famous
- 18) namely
- 19) include
- 20) while

Geography – The United Kingdom – *10<sup>th</sup> May 2015*