

The UK

The UK is not only one country, it is 4 countries. These countries are England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The UK is not a small country, and it is not a big country. It is in the middle. It has about 65 million people. The country is getting bigger - more people come to live in the UK every year.

The UK has different names – United Kingdom, or Great Britain, or Britain.

Britain is an old country. People lived here 10,000 years ago. Different people came to live here – the Romans came from Italy. The Anglo-Saxons came from Germany. The Vikings came from Denmark. Other people came from many other places. Britain has people from many countries. Many families have lived here for more than 1000 years.

Britain has an old Parliament – the first parliament in the world. It has a Queen who comes from a very old family. Her family came here from Europe 1500 years ago.

Britain has many old cities. There are many interesting cities to visit – London, Bath, York, Cambridge, Oxford, Edinburgh. London is the biggest and the oldest city.

Britain has difficult weather. There is often rain, and grey sky. It is often cold, and wet. The sun is not hot, and on many days there is no sun.

But the country is very green because there is a lot of rain. The farmers can make a lot of good food because there is a lot of rain.

Britain is an island. There is a lot of sea around Britain. The coast is very beautiful. There are a lot of fish in the sea around Britain. We can catch a lot of fish around the coast of Britain.

Britain has fast trains. You can go from London to Manchester in only 2 hours. You can go from London to Paris in only 2 hours. You can go from London to Brussels in only 1.5 hours.

Many tourists visit Britain every year. 40 million tourists come to Britain every year - please come and visit!

New words for this article

1	million	1,000,000
2	parliament	the people choose the parliament & the government works with the parliament;
3	coast	where the land meets the sea
4	wet	not dry - the rain is wet
5	tourist	a visitor to a country

Comprehension questions

- 1 What are the other names for Britain?
- 2 Who are the people from Denmark?
- 3 How many tourists come to Britain every year?
- 4 Why is the country very green?
- 5 What can you find in the sea around Britain?

- 5 You can find a lot of fish in the sea
4 Because there is a lot of rain
3 About 40 million tourists come each year
2 The Vikings are from Denmark
1 United Kingdom, UK, Great Britain

Comprehension questions

Answers