

UNITED KINGDOM

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, or UK, is in Western Europe. It **comprises** the island of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the northern one-sixth of the island of Ireland (Northern Ireland), together with many smaller islands.

The mainland areas lie between latitudes 49°N and 59°N (the Shetland Islands reach to nearly 61°N), and longitudes 8°W to 2°E. The Royal Greenwich Observatory, **near** London, is the defining point of the Prime Meridian. The United Kingdom has a total area of approximately 245,000 km².

The UK lies between the North Atlantic and the North Sea, and comes **within** 35 km (22 mi) of the northwest coast of France, from **which** it is separated by the English Channel.

It shares a 499 km international land boundary with the Republic of Ireland. The Channel Tunnel **bored** beneath the English Channel, now links the UK with France.



The physical geography of the UK varies **greatly**. England consists of mostly **lowland terrain**, with **upland** or mountainous terrain only found north-west of the Tees-Eve line. The **upland** areas **include** the Lake District, the Pennines, North York Moors, Exmoor and Dartmoor. The **lowland** areas are typically traversed by **ranges** of low hills, frequently **composed** of chalk, and flat plains.

Scotland is the most mountainous country in the UK and its physical geography is distinguished by the **Highland Boundary Fault** which traverses the **Scottish mainland** from Helensburgh to Stonehaven. The **faultline** separates the two **distinctively** different regions of the Highlands to the north and west, and the Lowlands to the south and east.

The Highlands are predominantly mountainous, containing the majority of Scotland's mountainous landscape, while the Lowlands contain **flatter** land, especially **across** the Central Lowlands, with **upland** and mountainous terrain **located** at the Southern Uplands.

Wales is mostly mountainous, though south Wales is less mountainous than north and mid Wales.

Northern Ireland consists of mostly hilly landscape and its geography includes the **Mourne**

climate change, in particular glaciation in northern and western areas.

The tallest mountain in the UK (and British Isles) is Ben Nevis, in the Grampian Mountains, Scotland. The longest river is the River Severn which flows from Wales into England. The largest lake by surface area is Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, though Scotland's Loch Ness has the largest volume.

1. One sixth of the island of Ireland belongs to the UK

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-It comprises the island of Great Britain and the Northern one sixth of the Island of Ireland.

2. The distance from the UK to the coast of France is...

- a. 499 km.
- b. 35 km.
- c. 150 km.

R-The UK lies between the North Atlantic and the North Sea, and comes within 35 km of the northwest coast of France.

3. The UK is linked to France through the Channel Tunnel.

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- a. True.
 - b. False.
 - c. We don't know.

R-The Channel Tunnel bored beneath the English Channel now links the UK with France.

4. The most mountainous country is...

- a. Wales.
- b. Scotland.
- c. England.

R-Scotland is the most mountainous country in the UK.



5. The largest lake in the UK is in Wales.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-The largest lake by surface area is Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, though Scotland's Loch Ness has the largest volume.

6. The tallest mountain in the UK is in Scotland.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-The tallest mountain in the UK is Ben Nevis, in the Grampian Mountains, Scotland.

Vocabulary

Text 7 United Kingdom

comprises: compromisos

near: cerca

within: dentro

which: cual

bored: aburrido

beneath: bajo

upland: meseta

greatly: muy

low land: tierra bajas

terrain: terreno

include: incluir

ranges: rangos

composed: compuesto

chalk: tiza

Highland: tierras altas

Boundary: Perímetro

Scottish: escocés

mainland: continente

Faultline: linea de falla

distinctive: diferentemente

flatter: mas plano

across: a través de

located: situado

Mourne: morne

western: occidental

Tallest: mas alto

flow: fluye

surface: superficie

ENGLAND NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM



The England national football team represents England (not the whole United Kingdom) in international football competitions such as the World Cup and the European Championships. It is controlled by The Football Association, the governing body for football in England.

Partly thanks to historical accident, and continuing national sentiment among them, each of the four Home Nations of the United Kingdom possesses its own separate football association, domestic league and national team. Because the IOC does not accept regional representative teams, England, like the other three, do not compete in Olympic football.

England are by far the most successful of the Home Nations, having won the 1966 World Cup and the British Home Championship outright thirty-four times, as many as the other three nations have won outright altogether.

For the first 80 years of its existence, the England team played its home matches at different venues all around the country; for the first few years it used cricket grounds, before later moving on to football clubs' stadiums. England played their first match at Wembley Stadium in 1924, the year after it was completed, against Scotland, but for the next 27 years would only use Wembley as a venue for Scotland matches; other opposition were still entertained at club grounds around the country.

In May 1951, Argentina became the first team other than Scotland to be entertained at Wembley, and by 1960 nearly all of England's home matches were being played there. Between 1966 and 1995, England did not play a single home match anywhere else.

England's last match at Wembley before its demolition and reconstruction was against Germany on October 7, 2000, a game which England lost 1-0. Since then the team has played at 14 different venues around the country, with Old Trafford having been the most often used. The FA have ruled that when the new Wembley is completed in mid-2006, England's travels will end, and the team will play all of their home matches there until at least 2036. The main reason for this is financial. The FA did not buy the old Wembley stadium, but it does own the new one, and has taken on debts of hundreds of millions of pounds to pay for it. Thus it needs to maximise the revenue from England matches, and does not wish to share it with the owners of other grounds.

1. The Football Association is the governing body for football in England.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know

R-It is controlled by the Football Association, the governing body for football in England.

2. England has never won the World Championship.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-England are by far the most successful of the home nations, having won the 1966 World Cup.

3. England has won the British Home Championship four times.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-British Home championship outright thirty-four times.

4. Wembley Stadium was completed in 1923.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-England played their first match at Wembley Stadium in 1924.

5. The new Wembley Stadium will be completed by 2036.

- a. True.
- b. False.
- c. We don't know.

R-the new Wembley Stadium is completed in mid-2006.

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such: semelante

Governing: gobernanте

partly: parcialmente

sentiment: sentimento

among: entre

each: cada

Possesses: posee

successful: exitoso

outright: total

altogether: en total

matches: partidos

Venues: lugares

Cricket: boliche

against: en contra

still: todavía

mentioned: mencionado

grands: Jardines

around: alrededor

nearby: por poco

anywhere: en cualquier lugar

vumble:

Trafford:

debts: deudas

hundreds: Cientos

pounds: libras

maximise: Maximizar

owners: Propietarios.