







Read the following text and answer the questions.

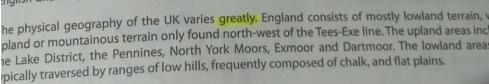
UNITED KINGDOM

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.

t 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.



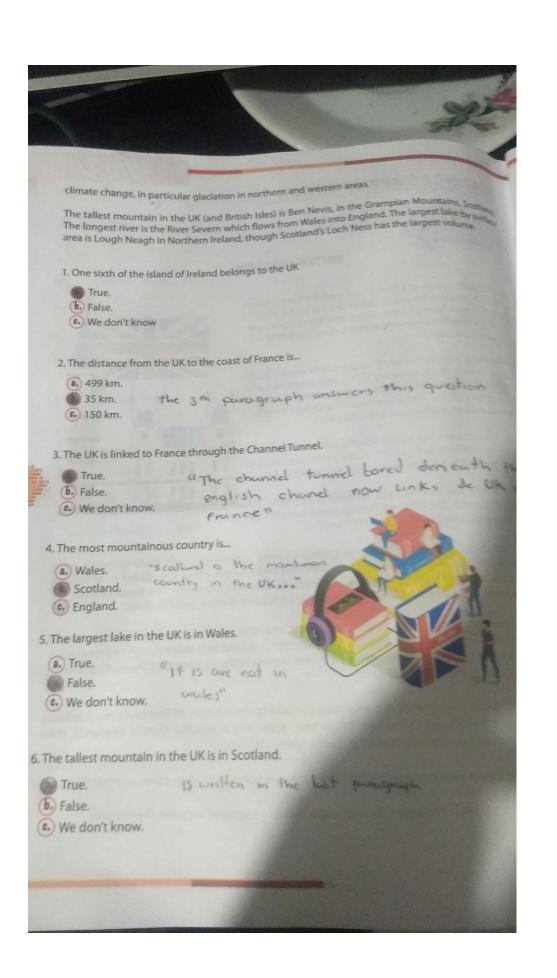
cotland is the most mountainous country in the UK and its physical geography is distinguish the Highland Boundary Fault which traverses the Scottish mainland from Helensburgh to Stone are faultline separates the two distinctively different regions of the Highlands to the north and the Lowlands to the south and east.

e Highlands are predominantly mountainous, containing the majority of Scotland's moundscape, while the Lowlands contain flatter land, especially across the Central Lowlands land and mountainous terrain located at the Southern Uplands.

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

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







England are by far the most successful of the Home Na-tions, having won the 1966 World Cup and the British Home Championship outright thirty-four times, as many noutright altogether.

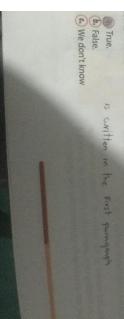
is the other three nations have

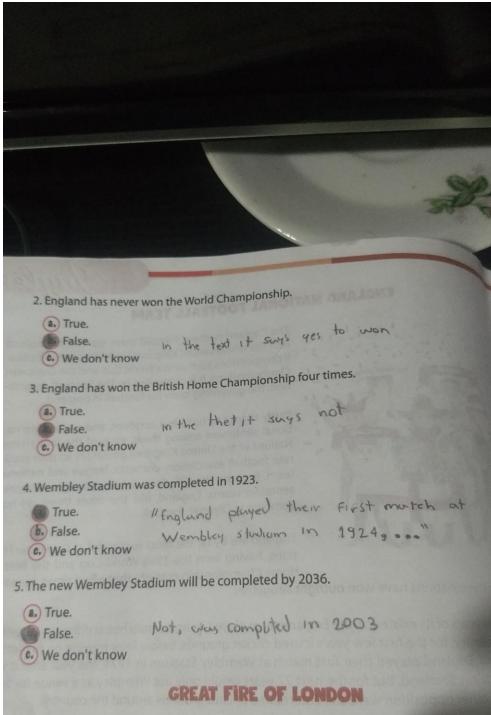
For the first 80 years of its existence, the England team played its home matches at different venues all around the country; for the first few years it used cricket gounds, before later moving on to football clubs' stadiums. England played their first match at Wembley Stadium in 1924, the year after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

1 May 1951, Argentina became the first team other than Scotland to be entertained at Wembley, nd by 1960 nearly all of England's home matches were being played there. Between 1966 and 1995, 19land did not play a single home match anywhere else.

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

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





ireat Fire of London was a major conflagration that swept through the central parts f London, from Sunday, 2 September to Wednesday, 5 September 1666.

re gutted the medieval City of London inside the old Roman city wall. It threatens the aristocratic district of Westminster, Charles II's Palace of Whitehall, and most burban slums. It consumed 13,200 houses, 87 parish churches, St Paul's Cathed ost of the buildings of the City authorities. It is estimated to have destroyed to of 70,000 of the City's 80,000 inhabitants.