**2. Great Britain**



Pic. 48

**1. Study the following words from the text:**

isles mild area south-east

foggy reputed unofficially temperature reserved referred zero haughty

surround canal steady separate shallow castle continent lake

prefer sea routes mountain focus

climate highest monarchy crossways

industrialised supreme Prime Minister person

legislative mining Parliament manufacturing Commons textile executive constitutional

**2. Range this words into two columns: one is describing the geological location, the nature and another is describing the government.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NATURE** | **GOVERNMENT** |
| isles | industrialised |

**3. Knowing the words from the text can you predict about what is it?**

**4. Read the text, translate and entitle it.**

Great Britain is situated on the British Isles. It consists of three parts. Their names are England, Scotland and Wales. Scotland is situated in the north of Great Britain, Wales - in the south-west and England - in the south-east. The United Kingdom consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Great Britain surrounded by seas on all sides is separated from the continent by the North Sea and the English Channel. It lies on the crossways of the sea routes from Europe to the other parts of the world. Thanks to the Gulf-Stream the clima­te of Great Britain is mild.

The rivers in Great Britain are not long, but many of them are deep. The Severn is the longest British river. Many of the rivers have been joined one to another by means of canals, so that it's quite possible to travel by water from one end of the country to the other.

The capital of Great Britain, London, is situated on the Thames River. There are many lakes in Scotland. The most beautiful is Loch Lomond. In the north of England and in Scotland there are many mountains, but they are not very high. The highest mountain is Ben Nevis.

The total area of the country is 93.5 thousand square mi­les. The population numbers over 68 million people.

Great Britain lives by manufacture and trade. Its agricul­ture provides only half the food it needs, the other half of its food has to be imported.

Britain is one of the most highly industrialised countries of the world: for every person employed in agriculture, eleven are employed in mining, manufacturing and building. The UK exports machinery, vessels, motors and other goods. One of its main industries is the textile industry. The industrial centres of Great Britain are London, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield and others.

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy. The head of the state is a King or a Queen. Elizabeth II is a queen from 1952. The supreme legislative body is the Parliament. It has two Houses - the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The highest executive power is the Cabinet. The Cabinet consists of the Prime Minister and 18 ministers of the first rank. The Prime Minister and ministers of all ranks form the Government.

The main political parties are: the Conservative Party (Tories), the Labour Party and the Liberal Party.

**5. Are these statements true or false?**

1. Great Britain lives by agriculture and trade.

2. Ben Nevis is the longest British river.

3. Great Britain consists of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

4. English Channel separates Great Britain from the continent.

5. The head of the state is the Parliament.

6. The main executive power in the country belongs to the Parliament.

7. The supreme legislative body is the Cabinet.

8. The Cabinet consists of two Houses.

9. The Government consists of the Cabinet and ministers of all ranks.

**6. Find English equivalents and use them in the sentences, of your own:**

британские острова, на севере, со всех сторон, на пересечении морских путей, две палаты, премьер-министр, одна из самых развитых стран, благодаря

**7. Open the brackets:**

1. Great Britain (находится) on an island.

2. Its agriculture (обеспечивает) only half the food it needs.

3. Great Britain (состоит из) three parts.

4. Great Britain (окружена) by seas.

5. Great Britain lies on the crossways of (морских путей).

6.  (благодаря) the Gulf-Stream the climate of the country is mild.

7. The climate of Great Britain is (мягкий).

8. The United Kingdom is (конституционная монархия).

9. (высший законодательный орган) is the Parliament.

10. (высшая исполнительная власть) is the Cabinet.

11. London (находится) on the Thames river.

12. (общая площадь) is 93,5 thousand square miles.

**8.** **In pairs. Ask and answer your own questions using information from the text.**

**9. Give the summary of this text using your answers.**

**10. Look at the list of words. What do you think we are going to talk about?**

*financial exchange industry trade central bank production*

**11. Put these words into the gaps.**

1. London is Europe's largest … centre.

2. The [Bank of England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bank_of_England) is the […](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_bank) of the United Kingdom.

3. Based on market … rates, the United Kingdom is today the fifth largest economy in the world.

4. The [British motor …](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_motor_industry) is a significant part of this sector.

5. The [Industrial Revolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_Revolution) started in the United Kingdom with an initial concentration on heavy industries such as [shipbuilding](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shipbuilding), [coal mining](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal_mining), [steel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steel) … .

**12. Explain the following words using dictionary. Choose any five to make sentences.**

power; [market](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Market); global; production; economy; engine; reserves; resources; generator; consumption; gasification; reprocessing; plant; reactor; destination.

**13.** **Match the beginnings of the sentences with their endings.**

1. [Rolls-Royce](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolls-Royce_plc) holds a major share of the global ...

2. Manufacturing remains a significant part of …

3. Civil and defense aircraft production is led by …

4. An alternative to [coal-fired](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal#Coal_as_fuel) [electricity generation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_generation) is …

5. Great Britain is expected to launch the building of new nuclear reactors to …

6. The [Thames](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Thames) is the major …

7. The service sector is dominated by …

A. aerospace engines market.

B. [financial services](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_services), especially in banking and insurance.

C. replace existing generators.

D. the economy.

E. the United Kingdom's largest aerospace firm.

F. [underground coal gasification (UCG)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underground_coal_gasification).

G. waterway in England.

**14. Read and translate the following text paying attention to the vocabulary:**

[exchange rates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exchange_rate) – валютные курсы

initial concentration – начальная (исходная) концентрация

borehole – скважина

onshore – прибрежный

labor force – рабочая сила

banking – банковское дело

insurance - страхование

**Economy**

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:City_of_London_Skyline_from_Canary_Wharf_-_Sept_2008.jpg) Pic. 49. London is Europe's largest financial centre and one of the world's three largest financial centres alongside [New York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City) and [Tokyo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tokyo).

The UK, a leading trading power and financial center. Based on [market](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Market) [exchange rates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exchange_rate), the United Kingdom is today the fifth largest economy in the world and the second largest in Europe after [Germany](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germany). The [Industrial Revolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_Revolution) started in the United Kingdom with an initial concentration on heavy industries such as [shipbuilding](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shipbuilding), [coal mining](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal_mining), [steel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steel) production, and [textiles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Textile). Manufacturing remains a significant part of the economy. The [British motor industry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_motor_industry) is an important part of this sector. Civil and defense aircraft production is led by the United Kingdom's largest aerospace firm, [BAE Systems](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BAE_Systems). [Rolls-Royce](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolls-Royce_plc) holds a major share of the global aerospace engines market. The chemical and pharmaceutical industry is strong in the UK, with the world's second and sixth largest pharmaceutical firms ([GlaxoSmithKline](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GlaxoSmithKline) and [AstraZeneca](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AstraZeneca), respectively) being based in the UK.

[](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Oil_platform.jpg) Pic. 50. [North Sea oil and gas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Sea_oil) supply most of the UK's energy needs.

The UK has a small [coal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal) reserve along with significant, yet continuously declining [natural gas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_gas) and [oil reserves](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oil_reserves). An alternative to [coal-fired](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal#Coal_as_fuel) [electricity generation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_generation) is [underground coal gasification (UCG)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underground_coal_gasification). UGC involves injecting steam and oxygen down a borehole, which extracts gas from the coal and draws the mixture to the surface - a potentially very low carbon method of exploiting coal. Identified onshore areas that have the potential for UGC amount to between 7 billion tonnes and 16 billion tonnes. Based on current UK coal consumption, these volumes represent reserves that could last the UK between 200 and 400 years.

As of 2006, the [United Kingdom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) operates 24 [nuclear reactors](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_reactor) generating one-fifth of its electricity (19.26% in 2004). The UK also has major [nuclear reprocessing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_reprocessing) plants, including [Sellafield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sellafield). Great Britain is expected to launch the building of new nuclear reactors to replace existing generators and to boost UK's energy reserves.

Agriculture is intensive, highly mechanized, and efficient by European standards, producing about 60% of food needs with less than 2% of the labor force. Around two-thirds of the production is devoted to [livestock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Livestock), one-third to [arable](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agronomy) crops. The main crops that are grown are wheat, barley, oats, oilseed rape, maize for animal feeds, potatoes and sugar beet. New crops are also emerging, such as linseed for oil and hemp for fibre production. The main livestock which are raised are cattle, chickens (the UK is the second largest [poultry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poultry) producer in Europe after [France](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France)) and sheep. Agriculture is subsidised by the European Union's [Common Agricultural Policy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Agricultural_Policy).

Transport in the United Kingdom is facilitated by well-developed road, air, rail, and water networks. Urban rail networks are also well developed in London and several other cities, including the [Manchester Metrolink](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester_Metrolink) and the [London Underground](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Underground). The London Underground is the oldest and most extensive underground railway in the world, and as of 2007 consists of 407 km (253 mi) of line and serves 275 stations. [London Heathrow Airport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Heathrow_Airport) is England's largest airport, the largest airport by passenger volume in Europe and one of the [world's busiest airports](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World%27s_busiest_airport). [London Gatwick Airport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Gatwick_Airport) is England's second largest airport, followed by [Manchester Airport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manchester_Airport).

There are around 7,100 km (4,400 mi) of navigable waterways in England. An estimated 165 million journeys are made by people on Britain's waterways annually. The [Thames](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Thames) is the major waterway in England, with imports and exports focused at the [Port of Tilbury](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_of_Tilbury), one of the three major ports in the UK. The UK retains a significant, although vastly reduced, fishing industry. Its fleets bring home fish ranging from [sole](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sole_(fish)) to [herring](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herring). [Kingston upon Hull](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingston_upon_Hull), [Grimsby](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grimsby), [Fleetwood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fleetwood), [Great Yarmouth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Yarmouth), [Peterhead](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peterhead), [Fraserburgh](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraserburgh), and [Lowestoft](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lowestoft) are among the coastal towns that have [fishing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fishing) industries.

The UK [service sector](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tertiary_sector_of_the_economy), however, has grown substantially, and now makes up about 73% of GDP. The service sector is dominated by [financial services](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_services), especially in banking and insurance. [Tourism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourism_in_the_United_Kingdom) is very important to the British economy. With over 27 million tourists arriving in 2004, the United Kingdom is ranked as the sixth major tourist destination in the world. London, by a considerable margin, is the most visited city in the world with 15.6 million visitors in 2006, ahead of 2nd placed Bangkok (10.4 million visitors) and 3rd placed Paris (9.7 million).

**15. Find English equivalents and use them in the sentences, of your own:**

поголовье скота; пахотная земля; зерновые культуры; пшеница; овес; ячмень; масличные культуры; кукуруза; сахарная свекла; льняное семя; конопля; волокно; крупный рогатый скот; камбала; сельдь.

**16. Find synonyms to the words from the text.**

however; dominate; important; rank; considerable; significant; reduce; volume; product; sector; journey; major; efficient; amount; expect.

**17.** **Are these statements true or false? Correct wrong statements.**

1. The United Kingdom is the first largest economy in the world.

2. The [Industrial Revolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_Revolution) started in the United Kingdom with an initial concentration on the agriculture sector.

3. The branches of the heavy industry are banking and insurance.

4. The [British motor industry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_motor_industry) is an important part of the manufacturing sector.

5. [Rolls-Royce](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolls-Royce_plc) holds a major share of the automobile production.

6. The chemical and pharmaceutical industry is underdeveloped in the UK.

7. [BAE Systems](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BAE_Systems), this is the world's second and sixth largest pharmaceutical firms based in the UK.

8. The [underground coal gasification](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underground_coal_gasification) is an alternative to [coal-fired](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coal#Coal_as_fuel) [electricity generation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_generation).

9. The volume of current UK coal consumption represents reserves that could last the UK about 300 years.

10. [Sellafield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sellafield) is the major [nuclear reprocessing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_reprocessing) plants in the UK.