



Lesson 7. Frequently asked questions

1. Can you explain the following quotation [kwəʊ'teɪʃ(ə)n] from a book by George Mikes “How to be an Alien”?

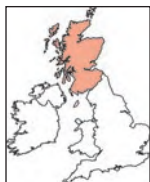
“When people say England, they sometimes mean Great Britain, sometimes the United Kingdom, sometimes the British Isles – but never England.”

2a.   Listen and read the answers to Frequently Asked Questions. Can you explain the quotation?



A. The UK is an abbreviation [əˈbriːvi'eɪʃ(ə)n] of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

B. The UK is made up of four countries – England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. They are not independent countries, but “countries in a country”. They share citizenship (гражданство), the armed forces¹, money, parliament and the capital – London. Nevertheless, each of the countries has its own national flag, emblem, anthem (гимн), and public holidays.

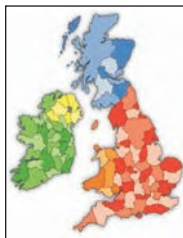


Remember! Only people from England are the English. People from Wales are the Welsh, people from Scotland are the Scottish, people from Northern Ireland are the Irish. But everybody from the UK is the British.

C. GB is an abbreviation for Great Britain. Great Britain is a political term, which means three countries together – England, Scotland and Wales. It is also a geographical term: the largest island in the British Isles is called so.

D. Counties ['kauntiz] (графства) are areas with their own local government (местное правительство), which runs (руководит) education, housing, town planning, rubbish disposal

¹ the armed forces ['ɑːmd 'fɔːsɪz] – вооружённые силы



(утилизация мусора). County governments look after roads, libraries, museums, sports grounds, etc. Counties also give people a sense (чувство) of homeland, its culture and history.

E. Yes, it's true. The UK is a kingdom. Queen Elizabeth II has been the head of state since 1952. In fact (фактически), the country is run by the government, which is made up of ministers. The Prime Minister, who is the head of government, is Boris Johnson (2019).

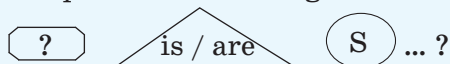
F. Everywhere (езде) in the UK English is the official and common language. Nevertheless, each country of the UK has its own language. In Wales there are two official languages – English and Welsh. Welsh is studied at schools, and nearly a fifth of the people in Wales speak it. Less than 2 per cent of the people in Scotland, mainly in the Highlands and western islands, speak Gaelic ['geɪlɪk]. Only a few people can still speak the Irish form of Gaelic in Northern Ireland.

2b. What are the questions of the FAQ page? Write them in pairs. Listen and compare.

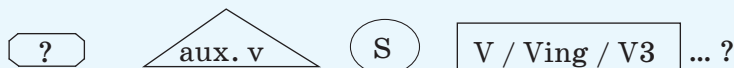


Grammar Revision: *How to ask questions.*

1. In each paragraph find the key sentence, which expresses the main idea.
2. Pay attention to the tense and voice of the sentence.
3. Remember how questions are formed in this tense and voice.
4. Ask questions following the scheme:



What is the UK?



What area does the UK occupy?

What countries is the UK made up of?

3. Do the trivia quiz about the UK.


1. What's the capital of Northern Ireland?
a) Cardiff b) Dublin
c) London d) Belfast
2. Where can you find Loch Ness?
a) In England b) In Wales
c) In Scotland d) In Northern Ireland
3. What is the capital of Scotland?
a) Glasgow b) Aberdeen
c) Edinburgh d) Inverness
4. What is the highest mountain in Britain?
a) Snowdon b) Ben Nevis
c) Ben Macdhui d) Scafell Pike
5. In which part of Great Britain can you find the Lake District?
a) In England b) In Wales
c) In Scotland d) In Northern Ireland
6. Which island lies between England and France?
a) The Isle of Man b) The Isle of Wight
c) The Shetland Islands d) Jersey
7. Which country is not in the flag of the UK?
a) England b) Wales
c) Scotland d) Northern Ireland
8. What is the flag of the UK called?
a) Tricolore b) Union Jack
c) Stars and Stripes d) United Kingdom

4. Divide the class into two teams. Each team makes up 10 questions about the UK.

5. Play trivia quiz in teams. Each correct question and answer is two points.



The Uk quiz

6.  Can you identify any UK's traditions* described in the text of ex. 2? Speak about them.

*1. The UK is a kingdom. 2. ...