

# The British Isles Overview

## 1

### Time to Read!

The British Isles are situated on the west side of Europe. Geographically they are made up of two main islands, Great Britain and Ireland. Politically they are made up of: the United Kingdom, which includes Great Britain (with England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland; the Republic of Ireland, in the southern part of Ireland. The population of the UK is about 59 million. About 10-12 million people live in London, its capital. London is about twice as big as Athens. The Republic of Ireland has a population of 3.7 million. One third of its people live in its capital, Dublin.

## 2

### Let's Discuss These Interesting Questions!

- 1 Where are the British Isles located?
- 2 How many main islands make up the British Isles?
- 3 What countries are included in the United Kingdom?
- 4 Which part of Ireland is not part of the UK?
- 5 How many people live in the UK?
- 6 What is the population of London, the capital of the UK?
- 7 Is London bigger or smaller than Athens?
- 8 How many people live in the Republic of Ireland?
- 9 What is the capital of the Republic of Ireland?
- 10 What is the national flower of the Republic of Ireland?

## 3

### Pick the Right Answer!

- 1 **Where are the British Isles situated?**
  - a East side of Europe
  - b West side of Europe
  - c North side of Europe
  - d South side of Europe

**2 What are the two main islands that make up the British Isles?**

- a Great Britain and Ireland
- b England and Scotland
- c Wales and Northern Ireland
- d London and Dublin

**3 Which countries are included in the United Kingdom?**

- a England, Scotland, and Wales
- b Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- c Republic of Ireland and Wales
- d England, Scotland, and Republic of Ireland

**4 How many people live in the United Kingdom?**

- a 59 million
- b 10-12 million
- c 3.7 million
- d One third of the population

**5 Where is the capital of the United Kingdom located?**

- a London
- b Dublin
- c Athens
- d Great Britain

**6 What is the population of the Republic of Ireland?**

- a 59 million
- b 10-12 million
- c 3.7 million
- d One third of the population

**7 Where do one third of the people in the Republic of Ireland live?**

- a London
- b Dublin
- c Athens
- d Great Britain

**4**

**Can You Tell which Sentences are True and which are False?**

- 1 The British Isles are located on the east side of Europe.
- 2 Geographically, the British Isles consist of three main islands.
- 3 The United Kingdom includes England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
- 4 The population of the United Kingdom is approximately 59 million.
- 5 London is the capital of the United Kingdom.
- 6 The Republic of Ireland is located in the northern part of Ireland.
- 7 Dublin is the capital of the Republic of Ireland.
- 8 The population of the Republic of Ireland is about 10-12 million.
- 9 London is smaller than Athens.
- 10 One-third of the population of the Republic of Ireland lives in Dublin.

5

### Which Title Fits Best?

- 1 How Many People Live in London?
- 2 The Geographical and Political Composition of the British Isles
- 3 The Cultural Significance of Dublin

6

### Make Sentences from These Words!

- 1 Europe / London / capital



- 2 England / Scotland / Wales



- 3 Northern Ireland / Queen / head



- 4 Big Ben / famous / clock tower



5 Monarchy / parliamentary / government



6 Fish and chips / popular / dish



7 Rainy weather / lush / green landscapes



8 Pound sterling / currency / used



9 Rich / history / famous landmarks



10 United Kingdom / rich / history



## 7

### Time to Discover Some Interesting Facts!

- 1 The official name of the UK is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- 2 The UK has a constitutional monarchy with Queen Elizabeth II as the head of state.
- 3 London, the capital of the UK, is home to over 8 million people.
- 4 The UK is made up of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
- 5 English is the official language of the UK.
- 6 The British pound is the currency used in the UK.
- 7 The UK is known for its iconic landmarks like Big Ben, Stonehenge, and Buckingham Palace.
- 8 The national dish of the UK is fish and chips.
- 9 The UK has a temperate climate, meaning it has mild temperatures and frequent rainfall.
- 10 The UK's primary exports are manufactured goods, machinery, and chemicals.

## Can You Fill in the Blanks?

that's, each, has (2), is (2), the (2), live (2), includes

Visit the British Isles!

The British Isles are situated on the west side of Europe.

Geographically the British Isles are made up of two main islands, Great Britain and Ireland.

Politically the two islands are made up of:

\_\_\_\_(1) United Kingdom, which \_\_\_\_ (2) Great Britain (with England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland

\_\_\_\_(3) Republic of Ireland, in the southern part of Ireland. The population of the United Kingdom \_\_\_\_ (4) about 59 million. \_\_\_\_ (5) 6 times more than Greece. About 10-12 million people \_\_\_\_ (6) in London, its capital. London is about twice as big as Athens. The Republic of Ireland \_\_\_\_ (7) a population of 3,7 million. One third of its people \_\_\_\_ (8) in its capital, Dublin.

\_\_\_\_ (9) country \_\_\_\_ (10) a national flower. The national flower of England \_\_\_\_ (11) the rose; for Wales, the daffodil; for Scotland, the thistle and for the Republic of Ireland, the shamrock.



## Correct Answers

### 3 Correct Answers:

- 1 b    2 a    3 a    4 a    5 a    6 c    7 b

### 4 Correct Answers:

- 1 False -- The British Isles are located on the west side of Europe.
- 2 False -- Geographically, the British Isles consist of two main islands.
- 3 True
- 4 True
- 5 True
- 6 False -- The Republic of Ireland is located in the southern part of Ireland.
- 7 True
- 8 False -- The population of the Republic of Ireland is 3.7 million.
- 9 False -- London is about twice as big as Athens.
- 10 True

### 5 Correct answer:

2

### 6 Possible answers:

- 1 The United Kingdom is located in Europe.
- 2 London is the capital city of the United Kingdom.
- 3 The United Kingdom is made up of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.
- 4 The Queen of England is the head of state for the United Kingdom.
- 5 Big Ben is a famous clock tower in the United Kingdom.
- 6 The United Kingdom has a monarchy and a parliamentary system of government.
- 7 Fish and chips is a popular dish in the United Kingdom.
- 8 The United Kingdom is known for its rainy weather and lush green landscapes.
- 9 The pound sterling is the currency used in the United Kingdom.
- 10 The United Kingdom has a rich history and many famous landmarks.

### 8 Correct Answers:



1 the 2 includes 3 the 4 is 5 that's 6 live  
7 has 8 live 9 each 10 has 11 is