

Listening Comprehension: Questions and Answers

Q1: What does this text say a sea is?

A1: Parts of the oceans which are near to land.

Strategy: Listen carefully for the word 'sea'. Think about the information you are given immediately after you first hear the word.

Q2: Which are the two coldest oceans?

A2: The Arctic Ocean and the Southern Ocean.

Strategy: Listen to the part of the text under the heading 'Oceans'. You might want to jot down the names you hear.

Q3: Why do you think this text has a glossary?

A3 To explain the meaning of some of the words people may not know and understand.

Strategy: Listen to the whole text, considering the question. Think about what you already know about glossaries. Does that help you to answer the question?

The United Kingdom

- 1 The United Kingdom is also called the UK and it is made up of four different **countries**: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Southern Ireland is a different country. Each of the countries in the UK has many of its own **laws**, made by its own **parliament**, but they also share some of their laws.

7 *Capital cities*

Each of the four countries has its own capital **city** which is where its **parliament** is. London is the capital city in England, Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland and Cardiff is the Welsh capital city. London is the capital city for the UK because that is where the UK parliament makes the shared laws as well as the English laws.



15 *Language*

The English language is spoken throughout the UK and all of the laws in each of the countries are written in English. However, even in England, not everyone speaks English. Many people in Cornwall, in the south-west of England, speak an old language called Cornish. Some people in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland also speak a language that was spoken in those countries before English became the main language. Many people in Wales speak the Welsh language, and it is taught in Welsh schools for those who only speak English. Away from the big cities, in the north of Scotland and in the mountains and the islands, people often speak the old Scottish language called Gaelic. Scottish Gaelic is different from the Irish Gaelic which is still spoken in parts of Northern Ireland, although more people in Northern Ireland speak Irish.

25 *Countryside*

Although there are cities in all of the countries in the UK, there is also a lot of countryside. All the countries have areas with hills and mountains, they all have **forests**, farming land, rivers and **coasts**. They all have areas of countryside which are very beautiful.

29 *Weather*

All of the countries in the UK have the same four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter but the countries have slightly different weather. Scotland is further north than England, so it is usually a bit colder and the Scottish cities and mountains have more snow in winter than the English, Welsh and Northern Irish cities and mountains. Wales and Northern Ireland are in the west of the UK and those places usually have more rain than places in the east of the UK.

35 *Islands*

All of the countries of the UK have some smaller **islands** which are separated from the mainland by a short distance of sea. People go to the islands for holidays because most islands are peaceful and they have good beaches that people enjoy exploring.

Glossary

City- a place with a lot of buildings where people live and work.

Coast- where the land and sea meet.

Country- cities, towns and countryside which share laws and a government.

Laws- the rules for a country that people have to obey.

Parliament- the place where laws are made.

Name:

Class:

Date:

1. Which countries are part of the United Kingdom?

2b

☐

1 mark

2. What does the word "*capital*" tell you in the phrase "*capital city*"?

The name of a country ☐

The city where the parliament is ☐

The biggest city in a country ☐

The place where the queen lives ☐

2a

☐

1 mark

3. Why is London the capital city of the UK?

2b

☐

1 mark

4. Do you think most of the people who speak Gaelic in Scotland live in big cities?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Explain your answer using ideas from this text.

2d

☐

1 mark

5. Draw lines to match the languages spoken with the country.

Gaelic and English

Wales

Irish and English

Scotland

Cornish and English

Northern Ireland

Welsh and English

England

2b

☐

1 mark

6. How is the weather in Scotland different from the weather in England, Northern Ireland and Wales?

Scotland has four seasons. ☐

Scotland is usually a bit colder. ☐

Scotland is further north. ☐

Scotland has more rain. ☐

2h

☐

1 mark

7. Write a fact from the text about the weather of places in the west of the UK.

2b

☐

1 mark

8. Write **one** fact from the text that is the same about the UK's islands.

2b

☐

1 mark

9. Put one tick in each row of the table to show whether the fact is true or false

	True	False
All laws are the same in all parts of the UK.		
Cardiff is Welsh for 'Capital City'.		
Some people in Scotland speak Gaelic.		
There are islands off the coast of each of the four countries in the UK.		

2c

☐

1 mark