

Life in the UK Test: Chapter 2, What is the UK?

15 questions written in our own words from the facts in the handbook "Life in the United Kingdom: A Guide for New Residents", 3rd edition. The answers and explanations are at the end. The same questions, with timed mock exams, are free at britmock.com. BritMock is an independent practice site, not affiliated with the Home Office or GOV.UK.

What is the UK?

1. Which countries make up the United Kingdom?

- A England, Scotland, Wales and the whole of Ireland
- B England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- C England, Scotland and Wales
- D England, Wales and Northern Ireland

2. What is the country's official name?

- A The United Kingdom of England, Scotland and Wales
- B The United Kingdom of Great Britain and the Channel Islands
- C The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- D The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland

3. Which countries does the name 'Great Britain' refer to?

- A England, Scotland and Wales
- B England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- C England and Wales only
- D England, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man

4. True or false: Northern Ireland is part of Great Britain.

- A True
- B False

5. True or false: Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom.

- A True
- B False

6. What is the status of the rest of Ireland, outside Northern Ireland?

- A Part of Great Britain
- B A British overseas territory
- C A Crown dependency
- D An independent country

7. Which TWO of these are Crown dependencies?

Choose two answers.

- A The Isle of Man
- B The Falkland Islands
- C St Helena
- D The Channel Islands

8. True or false: The Isle of Man is part of the United Kingdom.

- A True
- B False

9. What are the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man called?

- A Counties of England
- B British overseas territories
- C Devolved nations
- D Crown dependencies

10. Which of these statements is correct?

- A The Crown dependencies are governed only from Westminster
- B The Crown dependencies have their own governments

11. Which TWO statements about British overseas territories are correct?

Choose two answers.

- A They are linked to the UK
- B They are not part of the UK
- C They are all in the seas close to the UK
- D They are part of Great Britain

12. Which of these is a British overseas territory?

- A St Helena
- B Northern Ireland
- C The Isle of Man
- D The Channel Islands

13. Where does the parliament that governs the UK sit?

- A Westminster
- B Belfast
- C Edinburgh
- D Cardiff

14. True or false: As well as the UK Parliament, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each have a parliament or assembly with devolved powers in certain areas.

- A True
- B False

15. Which TWO of these are part of Great Britain?

Choose two answers.

- A The Isle of Man
- B Wales
- C Northern Ireland
- D Scotland

Answers

1. B: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Four countries form the UK: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Ireland outside Northern Ireland is a separate, independent state.

2. C: The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

The full official name is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, because the UK includes Northern Ireland as well as Great Britain.

3. A: England, Scotland and Wales

'Great Britain' means only England, Scotland and Wales. Northern Ireland is part of the UK but not of Great Britain.

4. B: False

Great Britain covers only England, Scotland and Wales. Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom, but not of Great Britain.

5. A: True

Northern Ireland is one of the four countries of the UK, with England, Scotland and Wales. The rest of the island of Ireland is a separate, independent state.

6. D: An independent country

Only Northern Ireland belongs to the UK. The rest of the island of Ireland is a separate, independent state.

7. A and D: The Isle of Man; The Channel Islands

The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are Crown dependencies. St Helena and the Falkland Islands are British overseas territories.

8. B: False

The Isle of Man has close links with the UK but does not belong to it. Like the Channel Islands, it is a Crown dependency with its own government.

9. D: Crown dependencies

These islands are known as Crown dependencies. They have close links with the UK but do not belong to it.

10. B: The Crown dependencies have their own governments

Both the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man have a government of their own. They are linked with the UK but do not belong to it.

11. A and B: They are linked to the UK; They are not part of the UK

British overseas territories, for example St Helena and the Falkland Islands, are in other parts of the world. They have links with the UK but do not belong to it.

12. A: St Helena

St Helena is a British overseas territory, like the Falkland Islands. The Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are Crown dependencies, and Northern Ireland is part of the UK.

13. A: Westminster

The parliament at Westminster governs the UK. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland each have their own parliament or assembly as well.

14. A: True

Alongside the parliament at Westminster, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have their own parliaments or assemblies, which hold powers passed down to them in defined areas.

15. B and D: Wales; Scotland

Great Britain is England, Scotland and Wales. Northern Ireland is in the UK but not in Great Britain, and the Isle of Man is not part of the UK at all.