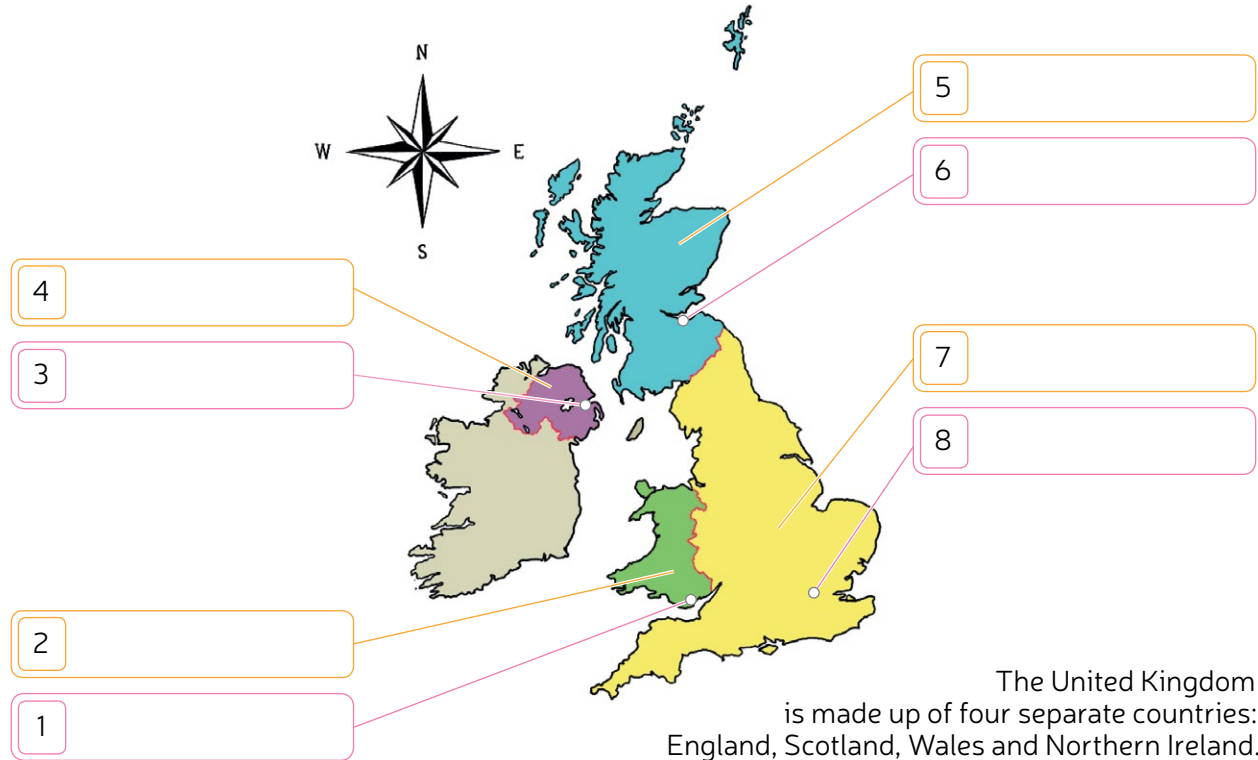


THE UNITED KINGDOM

- 1 Read about the countries in the UK and look at the map. Write the names of the **countries** and their **capitals**.



A **England** is the largest country in the UK. It is located in the south. People who live in England are called the English. The capital city of England is London. It is also the capital city of the UK, and its largest city, too. It lies on the river Thames. There are many famous places, buildings and things in England. Some of them are: the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Big Ben, the Tower of London, red double-decker buses and black London cabs. When the Queen is in London, she lives in Buckingham Palace. Do you know the Queen's name?

B **Scotland** is situated in the north. Its capital city is Edinburgh and its largest city is Glasgow. People who live in Scotland are called the Scots. They speak English, but also Scottish Gaelic and the Scots language. Scotland is famous for its many beautiful mountains and lakes. The highest mountain is called Ben Nevis. It is 1345 metres high. The largest lake is Loch Lomond (loch – lake). But the most famous lake is Loch Ness. People believe that a monster called Nessie lives there. What do you think?

C **Wales** is situated in the west of the UK. People who live in Wales are called the Welsh. Besides English, 20% of the Welsh speak Welsh, or as they call it, Cymraeg. It is a Celtic language that children learn in school. The largest city and the capital of Wales is Cardiff. Wales has a beautiful landscape with many mountains. It is often called the Land of Castles because there are more castles in Wales than in any other country in Europe. Have you ever been to a castle?

D **Northern Ireland** is the smallest UK country. It is located in the northeast of the island of Ireland. Ireland is often called the Emerald Isle because of its beautiful, green countryside. Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland and the second largest city on the island. The famous ship Titanic was built there. People who live in Northern Ireland are called the Irish. Languages spoken in Northern Ireland are English, Irish Gaelic and Ulster Scots. Have you ever heard the Irish language?

2 Is it in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland? Sort it out.

Cardiff • Big Ben • Loch Ness • Oxford • Belfast • Ben Nevis

England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland



CLEVER ME!

Find the pictures of the four capital cities and other places and things from the texts. If you know of some other famous places, things or people from the UK, you can add them, too. Create a real or a virtual poster, or a class exhibition.

3 Read about the flags and the national symbols of the UK countries. Match the texts to the pictures.

1

St Andrew's cross (white diagonal cross on a blue background) is the national flag of Scotland. The national symbol of Scotland is the thistle.

2

St George's cross (a red cross on a white field) is the national flag of England. The red rose is the national flower of England.

3

St Patrick's cross (red diagonal cross on a white background) represents Northern Ireland. Its national symbol is a four-leaf shamrock.

4

There is a red dragon on a white and green background on the national flag of Wales. Daffodils and the leek are its national symbols.



Circle!

I did great! ★★ ★

I did well. ★★

I need more practice... ★