**Great Britain**

**Location :** The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland lies off the north-west coast of Europe across the English Channel between the North sea and Atlantic ocean. It consists of two large islands (Great Britain and Ireland) and about 5 000 smaller ones (for example: the Isle of Wight, the Isles of Scilly, the Hebrides, the Shetlands and the Channel Islands.  
 The island is dominated by a maritime climate with quite narrow temperature differences between seasons. Politically, Great Britain is part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and constitutes most of its territory.

It is a large island in the North Atlantic Ocean.

**Geography :** England is mostly rolling land. The main mountain regions here are the Cornish Heights (south-west), the Cambrians (Wales), the Pennines and the Cumbrian Mountains. The highest mountain is Ben Nevis 1 342 m and it is in the Highlands of Scotland.

The longest rivers are the Severn and the Thames. The Thames flows threw the capital London into the North sea. The Severn flow into the Bristol Channel.

**People, languages :** The population is about 60 million. We can find the following ethnic groups: English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh, Ulster, Indian, Pakistan and others. The main language is English but we can find minority languages - Welsh, Scottish and Irish Gaelic.

**Polital system, the capital, currency :** Great Britain is a constitutional monarchy with the Queen as the head of state. Her powers are limited by constitution. The present Queen is Elizabeth II. Britain is divided into four parts: England - London, Wales - Cardiff, Scotland - Edinburgh and Northern Ireland - Belfast. Currency is pound.

**Places of interest :** Besides London there are others big cities in England: Oxford and Cambridge are old University towns. Stratford-upon-Avon is the birthplace of William Shakespeare. Then are there Brighton, , Winchester - cathedral town, Bath – where is Roman-built baths, Birmingham - which is at the geographical heart of England and second largest town in Britain, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield and York. Wales is sometimes called the land of castles. The best known are Caernarfon, Conwy and Harlech. cotland is the land of many special traditions which cannot be found elsewhere - playing the pipes, woollen knitwear, wearing kilts made of tartan, producing Scotch whisky.

**Natural wonders :** Seven Sisters cliffs are an iconic sight and a symbol of Britain’s proud island history. Malham Cove is formed by an 80m-high cliff that was created at the end of the last Ice Age by meltwater. ( we could saw Malham Cove in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1) *.*  The North of the Scotland is a large lake and mountains area. There is a world known Loch Ness.

**Sports, food, famous people :** England's national sport is cricket. More popular is football (soccer). Some of England's football teams are world famous. (for example Manchester United, Arsenal, Liverpool). The University Boat Race started between Cambridge uni and Oxford uni and it is held every spring in either late March or early April.

Typical favorite food in Great Britain is fish and chips, then pizza, roast dinner, bread and butter puding and of course typical english breakfast.

The most famous human in Great Britain is definitely Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II. Next one is for example Paul McCartney, Elton John, Robbie Williams, Winston Churchill, Ed Sheeran, J. K. Rowling or Margaret Thatcher.