

Unit

13



Pronunciation

7 TRACK 24. Read after the speaker.

Northern Ireland, Northwest England
the British Isles, the Straits of Dover,
the English Channel, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh,
Belfast, the Highlands, the River Thames, the River Severn, Gloucester,
Gloucestershire.



Vocabulary

8 Study the following words and expressions.

The British Isles — Британские острова

the Straits of Dover — пролив Па-де-Кале

sheep-breeding — овцеводство

scenery — пейзаж

moor(land) — вересковая пустошь

plain — равнина

sovereign — монарх

to reign — править

fertile — плодородный

populated — населенный

mountainous — гористый

vast — обширный

rocky — скалистый

coastal — прибрежный

valley — долина

machinery — машиностроение

food processing — пищевая

промышленность

industry — отрасль

Reading

9 Read the text.

Some Facts About the UK

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with an area of 244,000 square miles is situated in the British Isles, which are separated from the European continent by the North Sea, the Straits of Dover and the English Channel.



A Glimpse of Britain

It consists of four parts – England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The population of the UK is over 62 million. Four out of five people live in towns. The largest cities in the country are London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Nevertheless, agriculture is also well-developed, especially sheep-breeding in Scotland.

The territory of the country is small but it has a wide variety of landscape and scenery. There are moors, rivers, lakes, mountains, hills and plains there.

Politically the UK is a monarchy: the head of state is the King or Queen. In practice the Sovereign reigns, but does not rule: Great Britain is governed by the Government. The present Sovereign is Queen Elizabeth II. The real ruler of the country is the Prime Minister representing the party in power.

The heart of the UK is England. It is the richest, the most fertile and most populated in the country. The north and the west of England are mountainous, but the remainder of the territory is a vast plain. In Northwest England there are many beautiful lakes with green, wooded or grassy shores and grey mountains all around.

The smallest country is Wales. The largest part of Wales is covered with rocky mountains, which are difficult to climb. Most people in Wales live in the coastal plains.

Scotland is a land of mountains, wild moorlands, narrow valleys and plains, famous lakes, known as lochs and no end of large and small islands. The Highlands of Scotland are among the oldest mountains in the world. One third of the people in Scotland live in or near its capital, Edinburgh, and its great industrial centre, Glasgow.

Northern Ireland became a part of the United Kingdom in 1920. The land is mountainous and has few natural resources. Farming, machinery and equipment manufacturing, food processing, textile and electronics manufacturing are the leading industries. Belfast is the capital and the largest city.

The capital of the UK, London, stands on the Thames. The Thames is the busiest and the most important river in the UK, but it is not very long.



Unit 13

10 Are these statements true or false? Correct the false ones.

1. Great Britain consists of three parts.
2. The territory of the country is large: 244,000 square miles. (Transform it into square kilometres: 1 mile = 1,609 km.)
3. The smallest part is Wales.
4. Most people in Wales live in the mountains.
5. The Highlands are the oldest mountains in the world.
6. They are situated in Wales.
7. Glasgow is a great agricultural centre.
8. Northern Ireland is rich in natural resources.
9. The real ruler of the country is the Queen.
10. The United Kingdom is a parliamentary republic.



Listening



11 TRACK 25.

Listen to the sentences and match the dates with the events. Listen again and check.

- a. 1588
- b. 1805
- c. 1689
- d. 1847
- e. 1707
- f. 1790s
- g. 1815
- h. 1853 – 56
- i. 122
- j. 1783

1. The Duke of Wellington defeated Napoleon.
2. The period of the Crimean War.
3. Hadrian's Wall was built.
4. The Invincible Armada was destroyed.
5. Britain was engaged into the Napoleonic Wars.
6. The Ten-Hours' Bill was issued.
7. The Kingdom of Great Britain was formed.
8. Britain recognized American independence.
9. The naval Battle of Trafalgar was fought.
10. King James landed in Ireland.