

PET READING - United Kingdom

Read the short passage and answer the questions about the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom is a large island located in Europe. It also includes part of the island of Ireland. It is made up of four nations: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Over 60 million people live in the United Kingdom. The vast majority of the population, however, lives in England. The government of the United Kingdom is considered a constitutional monarchy. A constitutional monarchy is a government in which the monarch (king or queen) is head of state. Queen Elizabeth II is the monarch of the United Kingdom. In reality, however, she exercises very little political power.

The history of the United Kingdom is full of wars, invasions, revolutions, and interesting rulers. Numerous castles, fortifications, old cathedrals, and ruins are evidence of the kingdom's past. The "UK," as it is often called, was once the world's most powerful nation. Canada, Australia, India, Pakistan, and even the United States are among nations that used to be controlled by the United Kingdom. It is also the birthplace of the English language.

There are many remarkable landmarks to see in the United Kingdom such as the Tower of London, Big Ben, Oxford University and the mysterious Stonehenge. Oxford University, founded sometime in the 12th century, is the oldest university in the English speaking world. Many of the United Kingdom's former prime ministers attended Oxford. Stonehenge, located near Salisbury, England, is a group of giant standing stones arranged in a circular formation. Archaeologists believe the formations are over 4,500 years old. No one knows exactly what Stonehenge is meant to represent.

1. What continent is the United Kingdom in?

- Asia
- England
- Scotland
- Europe

2. Which of the following is not a country that makes up the United Kingdom?

- London
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

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3. Which of the following is NOT an example of a Constitutional Monarchy?
A country with a queen
A country with a king
A country with a president
4. Which of the following would PROBABLY not be evidence of United Kingdom's past?
Old churches and cathedrals
Castles and fortifications
Computers and technology
Stonehenge
5. Which of the following nations was NOT once controlled by the United Kingdom
USA
Canada
Australia
Russia
6. Why is Stonehenge mysterious?
It is old
No one knows what it supposed to represen
The stones are heavy
The stones are mostly grey
7. Which of the countries in the United Kingdom has the highest population?
England
Wales
Scotland
Northern Ireland
8. The term "UK" is an example of....
A synonym
An antonym
An abbreviation
A homophone
9. Which of the following is NOT true?
The United Kingdom's queen is named Elizabeth II.
The queen really doesn't make political decisions.
The United Kingdom was the birthplace of the English language.
The United Kingdom is made up of Wales, England, Ireland, and Scotland.
10. Which of the following does not apply to Oxford University?
It is the oldest university in the world.
Many prime ministers of the United Kingdom attended Oxford University.

It is the oldest university in the English-speaking world.
It was founded in the 12th century.

ANSWERS

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Europe

2. Which of the following is not a country that makes up the United Kingdom?

London

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A country with a president

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Computers and technology

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The stones are mostly grey

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England

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An abbreviation

9. Which of the following is NOT true?

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