UNIT 1

Welcome to the British Isles

1. England is
   a. [ ] an island in Great Britain.
   b. [ ] a country in Great Britain.
   c. [ ] the capital of Great Britain.

2. Which of these countries is in Great Britain?
   a. [ ] Ireland.
   b. [ ] Northern Ireland.
   c. [ ] Wales.

3. Northern Ireland is part of
   a. [ ] Great Britain.
   b. [ ] The United Kingdom.
   c. [ ] England.

4. The United Kingdom is
   a. [ ] a state.
   b. [ ] an island.
   c. [ ] part of England.

2. Read the texts and check your answers.

Great Britain (GB)
Great Britain is the name of the largest island of the British Isles. It is made up of the two kingdoms of England and Scotland and the principality of Wales.

United Kingdom (UK)
The United Kingdom is a sovereign state that includes Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The official name of the state is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. London is the capital city of both England and the UK.

British Isles
The British Isles include the island of Great Britain, the island of Ireland and about 6,000 smaller offshore islands, e.g. Isle of Wight, Isle of Man and Shetland.
Spotlight on Great Britain

1. Read the text quickly and match the correct heading to each paragraph.

   a. Britain’s inhabitants
   b. Britain’s location
   c. Britain’s landscapes
   d. Britain’s climate
   e. Britain’s water sources

2. Complete the fact file about Great Britain.

   - The tallest mountain: ..........................................
   - The biggest lake: ............................................
   - Climate: ...........................................................
   - Population: ....................................................
   - Capital city: ....................................................

   The Gulf Stream in the Atlantic Ocean controls Britain’s climate. It is temperate, which means that it is not too hot or too cold. The average temperature in London is 2.5 degrees Celsius in January and 23 degrees Celsius in July. The west of Britain has a lot of rain because of the Atlantic Ocean.

   Great Britain is very crowded and has a population of just under 65 million people. There are many important cities on the island but the largest is the UK’s capital city in the south, London. Other large cities include Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester in England and Glasgow and Edinburgh in Scotland.
Mark the following places on the map of Britain.

The Lake District • Snowdon • Scafell Pike • Ben Nevis • Loch Ness • River Thames • River Severn • Sherwood forest

 никогда не называйте шотландца, валлийца, или норthernа Ирландского английскими: они могут возмутиться! Они живут в Великобритании, и так они британцы, но они также имеют свой родной язык например шотландский и британский. Они гордятся своими отделенными национальными идентичностями!
Lesson 2

Ancient England, Scotland and Wales

1. Read the text and complete it with the missing words.
   - monument • stones • Wales • prehistoric • transported • Archaeologists • circle

### Stonehenge

Stonehenge is one of Britain’s most famous landmarks. It is a monument near Salisbury in southwest England. It is a collection of enormous standing stones, some of which are nearly 7 metres tall. Archaeologists think Stonehenge was built between 3000 and 1500 BC (Before Christ). It is a mystery how the neolithic people built such an impressive circle with only simple tools. The larger stones came from the local area but the smaller stones in the centre, the ‘Bluestones’, probably came from, over 250 km away. Nobody knows why Stonehenge was built or how these two to five ton stones were transported here. Stonehenge became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986.

### Historic castles in Scotland

Stirling Castle is in Stirling, in southern Scotland. It is one of the country’s biggest and most important castles. It has a very strategic position, sitting on a big rock called Castle Hill, and surrounded by steep cliffs. Most of it was built in the 15th and 16th centuries. Many Scottish kings and queens were crowned here, including Mary Queen of Scots in 1542.

People say that Eilean Donan is Scotland’s most famous and beautiful castle. It is situated in the romantic island of the Scottish Highlands on the west coast. The impressive castle was built in the 13th century on an island surrounded by three large sea lochs. It is near to the majestic Isle of Skye.
The place with the longest name in Europe is in the Welsh language. It belongs to a village on Anglesey, an island off the west coast of Wales.

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch is 58 letters long!

The four castles of King Edward the First in Gwynedd are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wales was once independent from England. In 1277 English King Edward the First invaded Wales and built these castles between 1282 and 1289 to control the rebellious Welsh. Then he put English immigrants in the castles to administer the territories.

1. Harlech Castle is built on a rock above a sea cliff close to the Irish Sea.
   - a. has eight towers.
   - b. is unfinished.
   - c. is on a coastal cliff.
   - d. has polygonal towers.

2. Impressive Conwy Castle on the coast of North Wales has eight enormous towers, a great hall and two fortified gateways.

3. Beaumaris Castle, on the Isle of Anglesey, has perfectly symmetrical walls and round towers but the building was never completed.
   - a.

4. Caernarfon Castle is in Snowdonia, in north-west Wales. It is near the west coast on the river Seiont. It is considered to be one of the finest castles in the world. It has polygonal towers.

Read the text and match each Welsh castle to its description.
Lesson 3
Spotlight on Ireland

1. Read the text and answer the questions.

Ireland is Europe’s second largest island. It is located in the North Atlantic to the west of Great Britain. Britain and Ireland are separated by the North Channel, the Irish Sea and St. George’s Channel. Ireland’s nickname is the Emerald Isle because it is very green.

The island of Ireland is divided into two nations, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

1. What separates Ireland from Great Britain?
2. Why is Ireland called the Emerald Isle?
3. Is Northern Ireland part of the Republic of Ireland?
4. What percentage of Ireland’s landmass is Northern Ireland?
5. What are the currencies of Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland?

2. Read the text and match each photo to the correct paragraph.

- Northern Ireland
- The Emerald Isle
- The Giant’s Causeway
- The biggest lake in the British Isles, Lough Neagh, is located in Northern Ireland.

There are 1.7 million people living in Northern Ireland. Its capital, Belfast in the north-east of the country, is its biggest city. The world’s most famous ship, the Titanic, was built in the Belfast shipyards.

London, often called Derry, is the second largest city of Northern Ireland. It was founded in 1610 by English settlers from London and is one of the oldest cities in Ireland. The historic City Walls of Derry are a popular tourist attraction.

The Giant’s Causeway is a mass of over 40,000 basalt columns coming out of the sea. It was created by volcanic eruptions about 60 million years ago. Legend says that a giant called Fionn MacCool created the causeway to walk to Scotland to fight his rival giant, Benandonner. The Giant’s Causeway and the Causeway Coast are both UNESCO Heritage Sites.

The biggest lake in the British Isles, Lough Neagh, is located in Northern Ireland.
Welcome to the British Isles

The top 5 places to visit in ROI

The Cliffs of Moher
The most spectacular part of Ireland’s west Atlantic coastline is the area of the Cliffs of Moher. The (1) are almost eight kilometres long and nearly 214 metres high. From the cliffs there are (2) ordinary • amazing views. This site has nearly one million visitors travelling there every year.

Trinity College, Dublin
Trinity College is Ireland’s oldest (3) . The college was founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth the First and the beautiful, historic buildings are hundreds of years old. Its old library is very interesting and here you can see the Book of Kells, a (4) illuminated book of the gospels in Latin dating from 800 AD.

St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dublin
St. Patrick’s (5) is Ireland’s largest church. It was originally a very small church, where St. Patrick baptised pagans in 5 AD, and in 1191 the (6) modern • historic cathedral you see today was built on the site.

The Ring of Kerry
The Ring of Kerry has everything that people want to see when they think of Ireland. There are many ancient (7), historic villages and castles. There is a very (8) coastline and beautiful countryside.

The Aran islands
In the Galway area, there are the (9) crowded • peaceful Aran islands, a group of small (10) where life has stayed the same for centuries.

Read about the top 5 places to visit in the Republic of Ireland and fill in the gaps with the missing words from the list. Then choose the correct adjective.

monuments • Cathedral • university • islands • cliffs

Now listen and check your answers.
Lesson 4

Exam practice

http://www.seescotlanddifferently.co.uk/

Scottish Islands tour

Iona and Mull tour £750 per person

Day One By sea to Mull
You begin your journey by ferry from the Scottish mainland port of Oban to the island of Mull.

Day Two The island of Mull
Mull is a small island with a lot of wildlife and beautiful landscapes. There are many miles of coastline with fantastic beaches with clear, turquoise water – particularly at Calgary and Ardlanish. You can also take a boat trip to visit the famous Fingal’s cave on Staffa island.

Tobermory is its biggest village. The houses are all painted in different colours and there is a very pretty harbour.

Day Three Day trip to the island of Iona
From the little port of Fionnphort in the south west, you can take a short ferry ride to Iona. This tiny island is a very important spiritual place. Travellers have come to Iona on Christian pilgrimages for more than a thousand years.

Iona dates back to the time of St. Columba, who founded a monastery here and helped to spread Christianity throughout Scotland.

Iona Abbey dates from the eleventh century. There are special events every day in the summer months. The island is also famous for its dramatic cliffs, with beautiful views over to Mull. There is lots of wildlife, such as wild flowers and rare sea birds and seals.

Day Four Whale watching
Off-shore Mull is one of Europe’s best habitats for whales and dolphins. Join our full day whale watch with marine biologists who will help you find whales, sharks and dolphins.

You will also have fresh fish for lunch on the boat. Please note that we cannot guarantee that you will see whales on every trip.

GLOSSARY
journey = viaggio
mainland = terraferma
harbour = porto turistico
ferry = traghetto
seal = foca
whale = balena
shark = squalo
Welcome to the British Isles

Read the text and answer the following questions.

1. Where is Oban situated?
2. What is Mull?
3. Which famous place is located on Staffa Island?
4. What is Mull’s largest village called?
5. What is Tobermory like?
6. Which other island can you visit by ferry from Mull?
7. Why have people visited Iona for centuries?
8. Who founded Iona Abbey?

Complete the five conversations. Choose the correct answer.

0. Excuse me, how do I get to the station?
   a. ☐ Yes, you do.
   b. ☑ Go straight on.
   c. ☐ No, not today.

1. Where are you from?
   a. ☐ Home.
   b. ☐ Dublin.
   c. ☑ On holiday.

2. Whose map of Wales is this?
   a. ☐ It’s me.
   b. ☑ It’s mine.
   c. ☐ Yes, please.

3. Excuse me, can you take a photo of us?
   a. ☐ Yes, of course.
   b. ☐ No, I don’t.
   c. ☑ Yes, it is.

4. Would you like to go on the boat trip?
   a. ☐ Twice a year.
   b. ☐ I like it.
   c. ☑ I’d love to.

5. What’s the Lake District like?
   a. ☐ No, I don’t.
   b. ☐ Not really.
   c. ☑ It’s very beautiful.

Answer this email from your new Welsh pen friend (about 50 words). Remember to answer her questions and ask her a few questions about herself too.

Dear Anna,
I hope you are very well. I’m from Aberystwyth on the west coast of Wales. I love living here. There is a famous castle and there are great beaches. I like surfing in the sea and jazz dancing. Where do you live? What’s it like? Do you like living there? What do you like doing? Please write soon.
Love from
Bronwen

You are going to talk for two minutes about your best holiday. Prepare to talk about the following topics.

- Where you went on holiday
- When you went there
- How you travelled
- Who you went with
- What you saw and did
- What the place looked like
- What the weather was like
- Why it was the best holiday

N.B. Start the talk with: I’m going to talk to you about...
Giovanni is an Italian teenager. He is going to Britain for three months as part of a cultural exchange programme. It’s his first time in the UK and he is at the train station. He wants to take a train to the host family’s home near London, but he doesn’t understand where to buy a ticket. So, he asks a man for help.

1. Write each word under the correct photo.
   credit card • change • ticket machine • ticket

2. Watch the video. Which of the things above is not mentioned in the video?

3. Watch the video again and choose the correct answer.

   1. You can buy train tickets from a
      a. shop.
      b. bar.
      c. machine.
   2. Do the ticket machines give change?
      a. Yes.
      b. No.
      c. Doesn’t say.
   3. Do you need to validate the ticket?
      a. Yes.
      b. No.
      c. Doesn’t say.
   4. What is described as a single or return?
      a. Train.
      b. Ticket.
      c. Price.

4. Giovanni arrives at the station near to the host family’s house. He telephones Mrs Jones. Watch him talking and fill in the missing information with the words below.
   left (x2) • right (x2) • bus • driver

   1. You buy tickets on the ......................
   2. You buy bus tickets from the ....................
   3. When you cross the roads in Britain, you look .................... then .................... again.
   4. In Britain you drive on the ....................
The dialogue is in a mixed up order. Number the conversation in the correct order. Watch the video again and check your answers.

☐ MRS JONES Oh, good. There’s a bus stop right outside the station opposite the newsagent’s. Catch the number 22 bus, and after about five minutes, you’ll get to the bus stop on our road; Oak Avenue. Get off the bus, turn left and our house is a two-minute walk from there. We’re number 46.

☐ MRS JONES Hello.
GIOVANNI Hi. It’s Giovanni.

☐ MRS JONES See you soon, bye, Giovanni!
GIOVANNI Bye bye, Mrs Jones.

☐ MRS JONES No, you buy the ticket on the bus, from the driver. He can tell you when to get off too.
GIOVANNI Oh, right. Thank you.

☐ GIOVANNI OK. Umm, so I take the number 46 bus, and you live at number 22, right?
MRS JONES No, Giovanni. It’s the number 22 bus and we live at number 46!
GIOVANNI Ah right, thank you. But where do I buy the bus ticket? From the ticket machine?

☐ MRS JONES It’s Mrs Jones here. Is that Giovanni Pucci?
GIOVANNI Yes it’s me! I am at Bromley South train station, but I can’t remember which bus I have to take...

☐ MRS JONES Oh, and Giovanni. Be careful when you cross the roads here. Remember that we drive on the left so you need to look right, then left, then right again!
GIOVANNI Oh yes! Thank you.

In pairs. Practise the dialogue from exercise 5.

In pairs. Write a phone dialogue following these instructions. Use the expressions given in the Phrase Box.

YOU
• Saluta.
• Rispondi. Comunica che sei alla stazione di Liverpool Street a Londra.
• Ringrazia e chiedi dove puoi comprare il biglietto del bus.
• Assicura che non si deve preoccupare e che sarai lì a breve.
• Ringrazia e saluta.

A FRIEND’S MOTHER
• Rispondi al saluto e chiedi chi è.
• Digli di prendere il bus 26 e scendere a Hoxton. La casa è di fronte alla fermata.
• Digli che serve una Oyster card e che la può comprare alla stazione. Ricordagli come si attraversa la strada in UK.
• Saluta.

Phrase Box

GREETING: Hello?
INTRODUCTION: It’s (Sarah) here. NOT I am...
WHO ARE YOU SPEAKING TO: Is that (John)? NOT are you...?
ANSWER: Yes. It’s me. / No, it’s (Mark).
GREETING: See you soon / Bye!
1. Do you know why the British always talk about the weather?
2. Do the Scottish and Welsh get on? Oh yes... they both hate being called English!
3. Here, Nessie, Nessie!

Match the correct caption to each cartoon.

a. □
b. □
c. □

You are going to make a poster for an English tourist information centre.

**STEP 1** Visit this website: http://www.visitbritain.com/en/EN and select the Destinations & Maps pages. Go to the Countries section. Choose England and write down three interesting things to do there.

1. 
2. 
3. 

**STEP 2** Go back to the Destinations & Maps homepage. Look at Places to Visit section. There is an interactive map. Choose two of the places indicated in England. Click on View destination guide. Read the description of the place and complete the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>A tourist attraction there</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**STEP 3** Find good photos on the Internet for the places you have looked at.

**STEP 4** Using the information and photos you have found in steps 1-3, create a poster with the title Visit England!

**STEP 5** Put your posters up in the classroom and vote which one is the best.