

Module 4. Great Britain

Lead-In

1. a) *How much do you know about Great Britain? Say whether these statements are true or false.*

- Great Britain is the largest island in Europe.
- London is the capital of England, but not the capital of the United Kingdom.
- Ben Nevis is the longest river in the UK.
- The climate is mild and the temperature in summer is never more than 25 degrees.
- British policemen are called Bobbies.
- Electricity in England is 240 Volts.
- There are more chickens than humans in England.
- Oxbridge is the oldest university in Britain.
- The most popular topics for discussions for Britons are weather and sport.



b) *What do you associate with Britain?*

Reading

1. Practise reading the following geographical names.

The United Kingdom	[ju:ˈnaitɪd kɪŋdəm]	Соединённое королевство
Great Britain	[greɪt ˈbri-tən]	Великобритания
Northern Ireland	[ˈnɔːr-thə(r)n aɪələnd]	Северная Ирландия
British Isles	[brɪtɪʃ aɪlz]	Британские острова
England	[ˈɪŋ-glənd]	Англия
Wales	[ˈweɪlz]	Уэльс
Scotland	[skɒtlənd]	Шотландия
Edinburgh	[ˈe-dən-,bər-ə]	Эдинбург
Belfast	[ˈbel-,fast]	Белфаст
Cardiff	[kɑːdɪf]	Кардиф
The Strait of Dover	[streɪt əv douvə]	Дуврский пролив
London	[lʌndən]	Лондон
Liverpool	[lɪvəpu:l]	Ливерпуль
Glasgow	[glazgəʊ]	Глазго
Ben Nevis	[benˈneɪvɪs]	Бен-Невис
Severn	[sevən]	р.Северн

2. Match the terms with their Russian equivalents. Make use of a dictionary if necessary.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Prime Minister | a) Палата Общин |
| 2) British Parliament | b) премьер министр |
| 3) Patron Saint | c) лейбористская (рабочая) партия |
| 4) The House of Lords | d) Британский парламент |
| 5) The House of Commons | e) партия либералов |
| 6) Head of the State | f) святой покровитель |
| 7) The Labour Party | g) партия консерваторов |
| 8) The Conservative Party | h) Палата Лордов |
| 9) The Liberal Party | i) глава государства |

3. a) You are going to read the text about Great Britain. Complete the table.

<u>Location</u>	
<u>Total area</u>	
<u>Main parts</u>	
<u>Water Resources</u>	
<u>Industry</u>	
<u>Population</u>	
<u>Political System</u>	
<u>Language</u>	
<u>Capital(s)</u>	
<u>The flag</u>	



Great Britain

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) occupies most of the territory of the British Isles. It consists of four main parts: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. London is the capital of England, Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland, Cardiff— of Wales and Belfast — of Northern Ireland.

The UK is a small country with an area of some 244,100 square kilometres. It occupies only 0.2 per cent of the world's land surface. It is washed by the Atlantic Ocean in the north-west, north and south-west and separated from Europe by the North Sea in the east and by the English Channel in the south. The Strait of Dover is the narrowest part of the Channel. The North Sea

and the English Channel are often called "the narrow seas"; they are not deep but are frequently rough.

In the west the Irish Sea and the North Channel separate the UK from Ireland. The seas around Britain provide exceptionally good fishing grounds. The country has many bays favourable for shipping. In their shelter are Britain's main ports such as London, Liverpool, Glasgow and others.

One will not find very high mountains or large plains in Great Britain. Everything occupies very little place. Nature, it seems, has carefully adapted things to the size of the island itself. The highest mountain is Ben Nevis in Scotland, 4,406 feet high. The longest river is the Severn in England.

The population of the United Kingdom is over 57 million people.

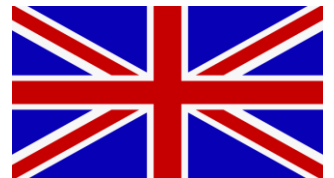
The official language of the United Kingdom is English. But in western Scotland some people still speak Gaelic and in northern and central parts of Wales people often speak Welsh.

The UK is a highly developed industrial country. It is known as one of the world's largest producers and exporters of machinery, electronics, textile, aircraft, and navigation equipment. One of the chief industries of the country is shipbuilding.

The UK is a constitutional monarchy. In law, Head of the State is Queen. In practice, the country is ruled by the elected government with the Prime Minister at the head. The British Parliament consists of two chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

There are three main political parties in Great Britain: the Labour, the Conservative and the Liberal parties.

The flag of the United Kingdom, known as the Union Jack, is made up of three crosses. The big red cross is the cross of Saint George, the patron saint of England. The white cross is the cross of Saint Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland. The red diagonal cross is the cross of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.



4. a) Match the following words to make adjective-noun collocations.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| 1) navigational | a) grounds |
| 2) political | b) monarchy |
| 3) fishing | c) language |
| 4) constitutional | d) equipment |
| 5) official | e) party |
| 6) elected | f) government |
| 7) favourable | g) sea |

8) rough

h) industry

9) shipbuilding

i) conditions

b) Give the Russian equivalents of the phrases above.

5. Match the words with their definitions. State their part of speech.

1) shelter (n)

a) a town by the sea or by a river which has a harbour

2) port

b) protection from bad weather, danger or attack

3) bay

c) a rule, usually made by a government

4) machinery

d) a group of people who form (part of) a parliament

5) law

e) a written mark (x), a long vertical line with a shorter horizontal line across it

6) chamber

f) a part of the coast where the land curves in so that the sea is surrounded by land on three sides

7) cross

g) hardware equipment

8) shipping

h) often

9) frequently

i) moving, transporting

6. a) Fill in the gaps with the words and phrases from the box below.

rainfall	deposits	total area	migrants	forest fires
producer	golf	alcohol	agricultural exports	

Almost 5 million people born overseas live in Australia. More (1)_____ move to Sydney than any other Australian city.

Australia's agriculture sector is very important to its economy. Sales of beef, wheat, (2)_____ and wool account for more than one half of Australia's (3)_____.

Australia's main natural hazards are cyclones (hurricanes), drought and (4)_____. The biggest killer of all has been heatwaves.

Australia has the lowest precipitation of any of the world's continents. 70 percent of Australia gets less than 500 mm (20 inches) of (5)_____ per year.

Australia is the world's smallest continent and the world's sixth largest country. Australia covers (6)_____ of 7,686,900 square kilometres.

Australia has long been known as the lucky country. This is not surprising when you learn it is the world's largest iron ore exporter and (7)_____ of bauxite and alumina. Australia also has the world's largest (8)_____ of silver, zinc, zircon and easily extracted uranium (over 40% of world resources). It also has about 10 percent of the world's gold resources.

Australians are crazy about sport. The most popular participation sports are aerobics, (9)_____ and tennis.

b) Translate the text into Russian.

<i>You should remember the following words and phrases!</i>	
rough	суровый(о климате), бурный (о море)
bay	бухта, залив
favourable	благоприятный
shipping	грузоперевозка
machinery	машинное оборудование, станки
shipbuilding	судостроение
chamber	палата
elect	избирать
shelter	приют, кров
the English Channel	Ла Манш
plain	равнина
navigation equipment	навигационное оборудование
wool	шерсть
constitutional monarchy	конституционная монархия
overseas	за границей
drought	засуха
heatwave	тепловая волна
precipitation	осадки

natural hazard	стихийное бедствие
wheat	пшеница

Grammar

English modal verbs are special verbs that are used to show possibility, ability, permission, and so forth. English Modal Verbs show us the **attitude** of the speaker to what is being said. They are special because they behave differently from other verbs in English:

- 1) English modal verbs are used together with the base form of another verb.
- 2) English modal verbs have only one form. You don't add "-ing", "-ed" or "-s" to them.
- 3) To form questions use the modal verb itself, but change the order.
- 4) To form negative sentences use the modal verb itself and add "not" or "n't" to it.

Modal Verb	Usage	Example
<i>can</i>	ability	I can run.
	possibility	Miracles can happen.
	permission	You can go now.
	informal request	Can you come for a minute?
<i>could</i>	past form of 'can'	I could run fast when I was 5.
	polite request	Could you move your bag, please?
	possibility	It could be that he missed the train.
<i>may</i>	permission (formal)	May I speak?
	possibility	It may rain tomorrow.
<i>might</i>	past form of 'may'	He said he might change his mind.
	possibility	It might rain tomorrow.
<i>must</i>	necessary, important to do	You must obey the law.
	logical/likely to happen	They left so early, they must be home by now.
<i>mustn't</i>	you are not allowed to do it	You mustn't smoke in here.
<i>shall</i>	questions and suggestions for "I" and "we"	Let's continue, shall we?
<i>should</i>	the right thing to do	She should call the police.
	advice	You should stop thinking about it.
	what is likely or expected to happen	We should be back by midnight.
<i>will</i>	future action or states (not plans)	Prices will go up next summer.
	promises and intentions	It's alright, I'll pick it up.
<i>would</i>	past form of "will"	He told me he would come.
	for polite requests, offers and invitations	Would you please sit down?
	to say what you want to do or have	I would like a piece of cake.
<i>ought to</i>	the right thing to do	You ought to apologize.

1. Fill in the gaps with the suitable modal verb. Explain your choice. Translate the sentences into Russian.

- a) You _____ go to Great Britain if you want to learn more about England and the English.
- b) If you want to go from England to France, you _____ catch a plane or drive along the tunnel under the English Channel.
- c) If you ever visit London, you _____ for sure take a ride on the London Eye which is the tallest observation wheel in Europe.
- d) The weather in England _____ not be always favourable for walking trips even in summer.
- e) Next time I go to Great Britain, I _____ definitely go to Wales famous for its beautiful scenery.
- f) I _____ like to see all the popular sight in London including the Trafalgar Square, the Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London.
- g) In London Zoo you _____ feed the animals.
- h) You _____ be polite with local people.
- i) Let's go to Oxford next weekend, _____ we?
- j) During my trip to London in 2008 I _____ understand English people well because my English was quite good.

2. Paraphrase the following sentences using modal verbs.

- a) It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

- b) It is necessary to wear long-sleeved clothes in a Buddhist temple.

- c) Elizabeth I recommended people to wash themselves once every three month whether they need it or not.

- d) A cockroach is able to live several weeks with its head cut off.

- e) It's against the law to burp or sneeze in a church in Nebraska, USA.

- f) Admiral Nelson was never able to find medicine for his sea-sickness.

- g) Some worms intend to eat themselves if they can't find any food.

- h) It is likely that honey is the only food that does not spoil.

- i) It is possible that the average man laughs ten times a day.

3. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English paying special attention to modal verbs.

- a) Специалистам необходимо иметь современное навигационное оборудование, чтобы контролировать грузоперевозки.
- b) При засухе животные Африки могут найти приют в оазисах.
- c) Если море беспокойное, суда обязаны оставаться в порту.
- d) В следующем году в этом регионе ожидается минимальное количество осадков.
- e) Основная масса переселенцев хотела бы жить на побережье, поскольку там они смогли бы найти работу в судостроительной отрасли промышленности.
- f) При конституционной монархии Королева не может управлять страной.
- g) Этот кандидат очень популярен у местного населения, должно быть, он станет следующим премьер-министром.
- h) Давайте закупим санки для нашего завода за границей.
- i) Вам следует выбирать отель на берегу Ла Манша, если вы хотите насладиться свежим морским воздухом.
- j) Практически каждый английский ребенок умеет играть в футбол, так как этот вид спорта - самый популярный в Великобритании.

Writing

1. Read the e-mail from your English penfriend Paul. Is it formal or informal?
How do you know it?

The screenshot shows an email client interface. The email header includes the sender 'ALEX@HOTMAIL.COM', the subject 'HI', and the recipient 'Tahoma'. The body of the email is written in a highly informal, enthusiastic style with all caps and excessive punctuation. The text reads: 'HI ALEX! I WAS GLAD TO GET A LETTER FROM YOU! I AM GREAT))) I AM A STUDENT AT LONDON IMPERIAL COLLEGE NOW, MY MAJOR IS ENGINEERING, IT'S DIFFICULT BUT SOOOOO INTERESTING :) I MET A LOT OF NEW FRIENDS HERE, MOST OF THEM ARE NICE GUYS AND GIRLS, WE GO OUT TOGETHER QUITE OFTEN, YOU KNOW, MOVIES, PUBS AND SO ON... HOW ARE YOU? WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU? TELL ME ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSITY - YOUR STUDIES, TEACHERS, GROUPMATES))) I WAS WONDERING ABOUT YOUR PLANS FOR THE WINTER HOLIDAYS - I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO MY PLACE IN LONDON!! DO YOU WANT TO COME??? OH, PLEASE, DO!!! I'LL SHOW YOU EVERYTHING AROUND HERE, WE'LL HAVE SUCH A GREAT TIME TOGETHER! WHEN ARE YOUR EXAMS? WHEN ARE THE HOLIDAYS? WRITE BACK SOON! PAUL)))'. The interface also shows a sidebar with folders like 'Junk (5)', 'Drafts (1)', and 'Deleted (6) letters', and a taskbar at the bottom with various application icons.

Informal letters are characterized by:

- Contractions (*we'll, it's)

- Exclamations (!!!)
- Emoticons (☺)
- Slang (*guys, movies)
- Simple greetings (Hi Alex!)

2. Write a reply to the e-mail from ex.1 on behalf of Alex, giving the necessary information in an informal style. Accept the invitation.

Speaking

1. Work in pairs. Role play the telephone conversation between Alex and Paul. Pay attention to the role cards below. Make use of the expressions from the help box.

Paul

Start the conversation.

Ask about:

- Arrival date and time
- Length of stay
- Types of preferred activities (hiking, sightseeing, clubbing, sunbathing)

Alex

Ask about:

- Meeting place
- Accommodation
- Things to take
- Places to visit
- Currency

Telephone Conversation Help Box

