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**Level 3 – 13th August, 2019**

## **United Kingdom could break up, warns ex-leader**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

### **Contents**

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A former prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into oblivion". He also warned of a serious economic disaster ahead after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote about the dangers of the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the four nations of the UK could be in trouble. He is blaming nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their independence. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a totally united kingdom.

The United Kingdom consists of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the fourth being Northern Ireland. The full title for all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people in each country want independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are talks of a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible physical border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism is now driving British politics."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-49309113>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7345459/Growing-nationalism-pulling-UK-apart-sleepwalks-oblivion-Gordon-Brown-warns.html>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2019/aug/10/gordon-brown-says-no-deal-brex-it-would-be-calamity-for-united-kingdom>

# WARM-UPS

**1. THE UNITED KINGDOM:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the United Kingdom. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

former / prime minister / union / sleepwalking / oblivion / dangers / deal / nationalist countries / England / Scotland / Wales / Northern Ireland / independence / border

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. UNION:** Students A **strongly** believe the four countries of the UK should stay together in their union; Students B **strongly** believe it is better if they split up. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. UK / GB...:** What do you know about these countries, etc.? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Great Britain		
England		
Scotland		
Wales		
Northern Ireland		
Ireland		

**5. DISASTER:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "disaster". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. VOTING:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most important things to vote for at the top at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- jobs
- lower taxes
- environment
- security
- leader's personality
- education
- health
- welfare

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. former       | a. Giving responsibility for a fault or wrong.   |
| 2. union        | b. Having previously filled a particular role or been a particular thing.  |
| 3. sleepwalking | c. A sudden event, such as an accident or a natural catastrophe, that causes great damage or loss of life.         |
| 4. oblivion     | d. The action or fact of joining or being joined together.   |
| 5. disaster     | e. The state of being unaware or unconscious of what is happening.   |
| 6. deal         | f. An instance of walking around while asleep; moving forward into a situation without thinking about the dangers. |
| 7. blaming      | g. An agreement entered into by two or more people, businesses or countries.                                       |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 8. consists      | h. Be composed or made up of.   |
| 9. nation        | i. A love of your country (and perhaps wanting your country to be free from outside control). |
| 10. independence | j. Country.   |
| 11. vote         | k. Came together or caused to come together again after a period of separation or disunity.   |
| 12. border       | l. Free from outside control; having the power to do what you want.                           |
| 13. reunited     | m. Make a choice for a leader or a decision.  |
| 14. nationalism  | n. A line between two countries or two areas.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The UK's prime minister has warned the UK might break up. **T / F**
- b. The UK will leave the EU on Halloween. **T / F**
- c. A former leader said the UK would be in trouble with a no-deal Brexit. **T / F**
- d. A former prime minister said the UK is not a united kingdom. **T / F**
- e. The United Kingdom is a union of three countries. **T / F**
- f. Gordon Brown said Brexit has increased Scottish calls for independence. **T / F**
- g. There are no worries about an Irish border. **T / F**
- h. Gordon Brown said globalization was driving British politics. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. <b>former</b>      | a. accept        |
| 2. <b>warned</b>      | b. agreement     |
| 3. <b>serious</b>     | c. is made up of |
| 4. <b>deal</b>        | d. remain        |
| 5. <b>totally</b>     | e. cautioned     |
| 6. <b>consists of</b> | f. potential     |
| 7. <b>nations</b>     | g. ex-           |
| 8. <b>stay</b>        | h. completely    |
| 9. <b>possible</b>    | i. countries     |
| 10. <b>recognize</b>  | j. grave         |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. A former prime                            | a. of four countries  |
| 2. He also warned of a serious economic      | b. for independence   |
| 3. the four nations of the UK could          | c. united kingdom     |
| 4. many people in each country want          | d. disaster ahead     |
| 5. the United Kingdom is no longer a totally | e. border             |
| 6. The United Kingdom consists               | f. minister           |
| 7. Most people in Scotland voted             | g. politics           |
| 8. There are talks of a vote                 | h. their independence |
| 9. a possible physical                       | i. against Brexit     |
| 10. nationalism is now driving British       | j. be in trouble      |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A (1) \_\_\_\_\_ prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into (3) \_\_\_\_\_". He also warned of a serious economic disaster ahead after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote about the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the European Union on October 31st (which is also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a (6) \_\_\_\_\_, the four nations of the UK could be in trouble. He is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their independence. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ united kingdom.

*deal*  
*oblivion*  
*blaming*  
*union*  
*leave*  
*totally*  
*former*  
*dangers*

The United Kingdom (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the fourth (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Northern Ireland. The full (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people in (12) \_\_\_\_\_ country want independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are talks of a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible physical (14) \_\_\_\_\_ between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism is now (16) \_\_\_\_\_ British politics."

*border*  
*consists*  
*driving*  
*being*  
*each*  
*possible*  
*vote*  
*title*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

- 1) Northern Ireland is sleepwalking \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. into oblivion
  - b. into oblivious
  - c. into rebellion
  - d. into reveling
- 2) He wrote about the dangers of the UK \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. leave in the EU
  - b. leaf in the EU
  - c. leaving the EU
  - d. leafing the EU
- 3) Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. without ideal
  - b. wither a deal
  - c. without a deal
  - d. with out ideal
- 4) the four nations of the UK could \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. being trouble
  - b. be in trouble
  - c. bee in trouble
  - d. been trouble
- 5) He said the United Kingdom is no longer a \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom
  - a. totally united
  - b. totally untied
  - c. totally untitled
  - d. totally unite it
- 6) The United Kingdom consists of four countries - the \_\_\_\_\_ Great Britain
  - a. three nationals of
  - b. three nations off
  - c. three nation of
  - d. three nations of
- 7) They want to stay in the EU. There are talks of \_\_\_\_\_ independence
  - a. a vote form
  - b. a vote fore
  - c. a vote of
  - d. a vote for
- 8) There are also worries over a possible \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. physique all border
  - b. physical border
  - c. physicality border
  - d. physical borders
- 9) People are talking about a possible \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. reunion Ireland
  - b. united Ireland
  - c. reunited Ireland
  - d. you knighted Ireland
- 10) We must recognize that nationalism \_\_\_\_\_ British politics
  - a. is now driving
  - b. is now driven
  - c. is now drive in
  - d. is now driven in

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "(2) \_\_\_\_\_". He also warned of a serious economic disaster ahead after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU (4) \_\_\_\_\_, the four nations of the UK could be in trouble. He (5) \_\_\_\_\_ thinking. He said many people in each country want their independence. He said the United Kingdom is no (6) \_\_\_\_\_ united kingdom.

The United Kingdom (7) \_\_\_\_\_ countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the fourth being Northern Ireland. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_ all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people (9) \_\_\_\_\_ want independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible (11) \_\_\_\_\_ Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism (12) \_\_\_\_\_ British politics."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

1. What is the name of the former UK prime minister in the article?
2. What did the former leader say the UK was "sleepwalking" into?
3. When will the UK leave the EU?
4. What is there a danger of the UK leaving the EU without?
5. What did the former leader say the UK was no longer?
6. How many countries is the UK made up of?
7. What did the former leader say Brexit had made people want?
8. What did most people in Scotland vote against?
9. What might there be between Ireland and Northern Ireland?
10. What did the former leader say was now driving British politics?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

- 1) What is the name of the former UK prime minister in the article?
  - a) Tony Blair
  - b) Gordon Brown
  - c) Theresa May
  - d) Margaret Thatcher
- 2) What did the former leader say the UK was "sleepwalking" into?
  - a) the sea
  - b) a lamp post
  - c) a bright future
  - d) oblivion
- 3) When will the UK leave the EU?
  - a) October 31st
  - b) November 30th
  - c) September 30th
  - d) December 12th
- 4) What is there a danger of the UK leaving the EU without?
  - a) money
  - b) insurance
  - c) a deal
  - d) a border
- 5) What did the former leader say the UK was no longer?
  - a) a great Britain
  - b) a united kingdom
  - c) Great Britain
  - d) England
- 6) How many countries is the UK made up of?
  - a) four
  - b) three
  - c) six
  - d) five
- 7) What did the former leader say Brexit had made people want?
  - a) money
  - b) freedom
  - c) independence
  - d) more police
- 8) What did most people in Scotland vote against?
  - a) Brexit
  - b) England
  - c) their leader
  - d) Europe
- 9) What might there be between Ireland and Northern Ireland?
  - a) a border
  - b) peace
  - c) a trade deal
  - d) mountains
- 10) What did the former leader say was now driving British politics?
  - a) a popular leader
  - b) globalization
  - c) multiculturalism
  - d) nationalism

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

## **Role A – More Jobs**

You think more jobs is the most important thing to vote for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lower taxes, better education or the environment.

## **Role B – Lower Taxes**

You think lower taxes is the most important thing to vote for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): more jobs, better education or the environment.

## **Role C – Better Education**

You think better education is the most important thing to vote for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lower taxes, more jobs or the environment.

## **Role D – The Environment**

You think the environment is the most important thing to vote for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lower taxes, better education or more jobs.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'united' and 'kingdom'.

<b>united</b>	<b>kingdom</b>
---------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• former</li><li>• sleepwalking</li><li>• disaster</li><li>• dangers</li><li>• blaming</li><li>• longer</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• consists</li><li>• full</li><li>• made</li><li>• against</li><li>• border</li><li>• driving</li></ul>
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# THE UNITED KINGDOM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the United Kingdom in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# THE UNITED KINGDOM DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'united'?
3. What do you know about the United Kingdom?
4. Should the countries of the United Kingdom stay together?
5. Should the UK leave the European Union?
6. Why is the UK leaving the EU?
7. What are the benefits of the UK leaving the EU?
8. What happens in a serious economic disaster?
9. What do you think of nationalism?
10. How proud are you of your country?

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# THE UNITED KINGDOM DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'kingdom'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why is the UK a kingdom when it has no king?
15. Why do people in Scotland want independence?
16. What is the history of your country's independence?
17. Should Ireland and Northern Ireland be reunited?
18. What are the best things about the UK?
19. What can your country learn from the UK?
20. What questions would you like to ask Gordon Brown?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A (1) \_\_\_\_\_ prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into (2) \_\_\_\_\_". He also warned of a serious economic disaster (3) \_\_\_\_\_ after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote about the dangers (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a (5) \_\_\_\_\_, the four nations of the UK could be in trouble. He is blaming nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their independence. He said the United Kingdom is no (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a totally united kingdom.

The United Kingdom (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the fourth (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Northern Ireland. The full title for all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people in (9) \_\_\_\_\_ country want independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible physical border (11) \_\_\_\_\_ Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism is now (12) \_\_\_\_\_ British politics."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |              |               |              |               |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) framer   | (b) firmer    | (c) farmer   | (d) former    |
| 2.  | (a) obliging | (b) oblivious | (c) oblige   | (d) oblivion  |
| 3.  | (a) pre      | (b) ahead     | (c) forward  | (d) future    |
| 4.  | (a) on       | (b) at        | (c) of       | (d) by        |
| 5.  | (a) deal     | (b) dealt     | (c) dealer   | (d) deals     |
| 6.  | (a) longer   | (b) longing   | (c) lengthen | (d) long      |
| 7.  | (a) desists  | (b) insists   | (c) resists  | (d) consists  |
| 8.  | (a) being    | (b) been      | (c) be       | (d) become    |
| 9.  | (a) all      | (b) each      | (c) whole    | (d) single    |
| 10. | (a) speaks   | (b) speeches  | (c) talks    | (d) discusses |
| 11. | (a) among    | (b) middle    | (c) between  | (d) edge      |
| 12. | (a) sailing  | (b) driving   | (c) flying   | (d) riding    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. sleepwalking into lovibion
2. serious economic isastder
3. the four aitnons of the UK
4. if the UK leaves the EU without a lade
5. blaming ntinalaoist thinking
6. want their dipednneecne

## Paragraph 2

7. The United Kingdom snciotss of four countries
8. The full lteti for all four countries
9. people in Scotland toved against Brexit
10. a possible hspciyal border
11. a possible einutred Ireland
12. driving British tlpioics

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) independence. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a totally united kingdom.
- ( ) leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is
- ( ) of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people in each country want
- ( ) disaster ahead after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote about the dangers of the UK
- ( **1** ) A former prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union
- ( ) independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are talks
- ( ) of a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible physical border
- ( ) The United Kingdom consists of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland
- ( ) also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the four nations of the UK could
- ( ) and Wales) and the fourth being Northern Ireland. The full title for all four countries is "The United Kingdom
- ( ) between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited
- ( ) of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into oblivion". He also warned of a serious economic
- ( ) be in trouble. He is blaming nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their
- ( ) Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism is now driving British politics."

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

1. into union that Warned oblivion . sleepwalking the is
2. a of economic warned also disaster . He serious
3. the the The UK of leaving dangers EU .
4. each independence . people Many want country their in
5. united . United no The Kingdom totally longer is
6. four The for countries . title all full
7. independence . country made Brexit each want in people
8. possible There worries border . physical a are over
9. Ireland . are People reunited possible a about talking
10. politics . now driving British Recognize is nationalism that

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A *former / firmer* prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the *onion / union* of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into *oblivious / oblivion*". He also warned of a serious *economic / economy* disaster ahead after the UK *leave / leaves* the European Union. He wrote about the dangers *of / at* the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is *alas / also* Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the four nations of the UK could be *on / in* trouble. He is blaming nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their *independence / independent*. He said the United Kingdom is no *longer / lengthy* a totally united kingdom.

The United Kingdom *contrasts / consists* of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the *forth / fourth* being Northern Ireland. The *full / fully* title for all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown *beliefs / believes* that Brexit has made people in *each / all* country want independence. Most people in Scotland *voting / voted* against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are *talked / talks* of a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also *worries / worrying* over a possible physical border *between / among* Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that *national / nationalism* is now driving British politics."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A f\_r m\_r p r\_m\_ m\_n\_s t\_r \_f\_ t h\_ U n\_t\_d K\_n g  
d\_m h\_s w\_r n\_d t\_h\_t t\_h\_ \_n\_\_ n \_f\_ E n g l\_n d ,  
S c\_t l\_n d , W\_l\_s \_n d N\_r t h\_r n I r\_l\_n d \_s " s  
l\_\_ p w\_l k\_n g \_n t\_ \_b l\_v\_\_ n " . H\_ \_l\_s\_ w\_r n\_d \_f\_  
\_ s\_r\_\_s \_c\_n\_m\_c d\_s\_s t\_r \_h\_\_ d \_f t\_r t\_h\_ U K  
l\_\_ v\_s t\_h\_ E\_r\_p\_\_ n U n\_\_ n . H\_ w\_r t\_ \_b\_\_ t t  
h\_ d\_n g\_r s \_f\_ t\_h\_ U K l\_\_ v\_n g t\_h\_ E U \_f t\_r B  
r\_x\_t . T\_h\_ U K w\_l l l\_\_ v\_ t\_h\_ E\_r\_p\_\_ n U n\_\_ n  
\_n O c t\_b\_r 3 1 s t ( w h\_c h \_s \_l\_s\_ H\_l l\_w\_\_ n ) .  
M\_r B\_r\_w n b\_l\_\_ v\_s t\_h\_t \_f\_ t\_h\_ U K l\_\_ v\_s t  
h\_ E U w\_t h\_\_ t \_d\_\_ l , t\_h\_ f\_\_ r n\_t\_\_ n s \_f\_ t  
h\_ U K c\_\_ l d b\_ \_n t r\_\_ b l\_ . H\_ \_s\_ b l\_m\_n g  
n\_t\_\_ n\_l\_s t t\_h\_n k\_n g . H\_ s\_\_ d m\_n y p\_\_ p l\_  
\_n \_\_ c h c\_\_ n t\_r y w\_n t t\_h\_\_ r \_n d\_p\_n d\_n c\_ .  
H\_ s\_\_ d t\_h\_ U n\_t\_d K\_n g d\_m \_s n\_ l\_n g\_r \_  
t\_t\_l l y \_n\_t\_d k\_n g d\_m .

T\_h\_ U n\_t\_d K\_n g d\_m c\_n s\_s t\_s \_f\_ f\_\_ r c\_\_ n t  
r\_\_ s - t\_h\_ t\_h\_r\_\_ n\_t\_\_ n s \_f\_ G\_r\_\_ t B\_r\_t\_\_ n  
( E n g l\_n d , S c\_t l\_n d \_n d W\_l\_s ) \_n d t\_h\_ f\_\_ r  
t\_h\_ b\_\_ n g N\_r t h\_r n I r\_l\_n d . T\_h\_ f\_l l t\_t l\_  
f\_r \_l l f\_\_ r c\_\_ n t\_r\_\_ s \_s " T\_h\_ U n\_t\_d K\_n g  
d\_m \_f\_ G\_r\_\_ t B\_r\_t\_\_ n \_n d N\_r t h\_r n I r\_l\_n d " .  
G\_r d\_n B\_r\_w n b\_l\_\_ v\_s t\_h\_t B\_r\_x\_t h\_s  
m\_d\_ p\_\_ p l\_ \_n \_\_ c h c\_\_ n t\_r y w\_n t \_n d\_p\_n d\_n  
c\_ . M\_s t p\_\_ p l\_ \_n S c\_t l\_n d v\_t\_d \_g\_\_ n s t B  
r\_x\_t . T\_h\_y w\_n t t\_ s\_t\_y \_n t\_h\_ E U . T\_h\_r\_  
\_r\_ t\_l k\_s \_f\_ \_v\_t\_ f\_r \_n d\_p\_n d\_n c\_ f\_r S c\_t l\_n  
d . T\_h\_r\_ \_r\_ \_l\_s\_ w\_r r\_\_ s \_v\_r \_ p\_s s\_b l\_ p\_h\_y  
s\_c\_l b\_r d\_r b\_t w\_\_ n N\_r t h\_r n I r\_l\_n d \_n d t  
h\_ R\_p\_b l\_c \_f\_ I r\_l\_n d . P\_\_ p l\_ \_r\_ t\_l k\_n g \_b\_\_  
t \_ p\_s s\_b l\_ r\_\_ n\_t\_d I r\_l\_n d . M\_r B\_r\_w n s\_\_  
d : " W\_ m\_s t r\_c\_g n\_z\_ t\_h\_t n\_t\_\_ n\_l\_s m \_s  
n\_w d\_r\_v\_n g B\_r\_t\_s h p\_l\_t\_c s . "

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

a former prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union of england scotland wales and northern ireland is sleepwalking into oblivion he also warned of a serious economic disaster ahead after the uk leaves the european union he wrote about the dangers of the uk leaving the eu after brexit the uk will leave the european Union on october 31st which is also halloween mr brown believes that if the uk leaves the eu without a deal the four nations of the uk could be in trouble he is blaming nationalist thinking he said many people in each country want their independence he said the united kingdom is no longer a totally united kingdom

the united kingdom consists of four countries the three nations of great britain england scotland and wales and the fourth being northern ireland the full title for all four countries is the united kingdom of great britain and northern ireland gordon brown believes that brexit has made people in each country want independence most people in scotland voted against brexit they want to stay in the eu there are talks of a vote for independence for scotland there are also worries over a possible physical border between northern ireland and the republic of ireland people are talking about a possible reunited ireland mr brown said we must recognize that nationalism is now driving british politics"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom.html>

A former prime minister of the United Kingdom, Gordon Brown, has warned that the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is "sleepwalking into oblivion". He also warned of a serious economic disaster ahead after the UK leaves the European Union. He wrote about the dangers of the UK leaving the EU after Brexit. The UK will leave the European Union on October 31st (which is also Halloween). Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the four nations of the UK could be in trouble. He is blaming nationalist thinking. He said many people in each country want their independence. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a total united kingdom. The United Kingdom consists of four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the fourth being Northern Ireland. The full title for all four countries is "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland". Gordon Brown believes that Brexit has made people in each country want independence. Most people in Scotland voted against Brexit. They want to stay in the EU. There are talks of a vote for independence for Scotland. There are also worries over a possible physical border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Mr Brown said: "We must recognize that nationalism is now driving British politics."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. THE UNITED KINGDOM:** Make a poster about the United Kingdom. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. BREXIT:** Write a magazine article about the United Kingdom staying in the European Union. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on the United Kingdom. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on the UK. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. b    2. d    3. f    4. e    5. c    6. g    7. a  
8. h    9. j    10. l    11. m    12. n    13. k    14. i

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F    b T    c T    d T    e F    f T    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. former      | a. ex-           |
| 2. warned      | b. cautioned     |
| 3. serious     | c. grave         |
| 4. deal        | d. agreement     |
| 5. totally     | e. completely    |
| 6. consists of | f. is made up of |
| 7. nations     | g. countries     |
| 8. stay        | h. remain        |
| 9. possible    | i. potential     |
| 10. recognize  | j. accept        |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Gordon Brown
- Oblivion
- October 31st
- A deal
- A united kingdom
- Four
- Independence
- Brexit
- A border
- Nationalism

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Warned that the union is sleepwalking into oblivion.
- He also warned of a serious economic disaster.
- The dangers of the UK leaving the EU.
- Many people in each country want their independence.
- The United Kingdom is no longer totally united.
- The full title for all four countries.
- Brexit made people in each country want independence.
- There are worries over a possible physical border.
- People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland.
- Recognize that nationalism is now driving British politics.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)