**SCOTLAND**

***Read and translate the text.***

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| **Motto:** | «Nemo me impunelacessit» – «No one provokes me with impunity» |
| **Flag:** | Cross of St Andrew  **D:\Kateeeee\учеба\БИЗНЕС ИНГЛИШ\jack\scottish.jpg** |
| **National Day:** | 30 November |
| **Area:** | 78,789 sq km |
| **Population:** | 5,3 mln |
| **Nationality:** | Scottish and British |
| **Climate:** | Temperate |
| **Capital city:** | Edinburgh |
| **Major cities:** | Aberdeen, Glasgow Dundee |
| **Anthem:** | «Flower of Scotland», «Auld Lang Syne», «Scotland the Brave» |
| **Official Language:** | English, Scottish Gaelic is spoken by 1.4 % of the population |
| **Main religions:** | Church of Scotland, Scottish Episcopal Church, Roman Catholicism |
| **Currency:** | Pound Sterling **£** |
| **Highest Point:** | Ben Nevis (1.343 m) |
| **Lowest Point:** | Bed of Loch Morar (300 m below sea level) |
| **Longest River:** | the Tay (193 km) |
| **Largest Lake:** | Loch Lomond (60 sq km) |
| **Official animal:** | Unicorn |
| **Official flower:** | Thistle |

Although Scotland takes up one third of the territory of the British Isles, its population is not very big. It is the most northern part of the island of Great Britain and is not far from the Arctic Circle.

That’s why it is not densely populated: its population is a little over 5 million people. **The Cheviot Hills** mark the boundary between England and Scotland.

Scotland includes **the Hebrides** off the west coast, and **the Orkney** and **the Shetland Islands** off the north coast. It is bounded by the North Sea on the east.

Scotland is divided into three regions: **the Highlands**, which is the most northern and the most underpopulated area with a harsh climate, **the Lowlands**, which is the most industrial region, with about three quarters of the population, and **the Southern Uplands**, with hills, which border on England.

The Highlands of Scotland are among the oldest mountains in the world. They reach their highest point in **Ben Nevis** (1343 m). Many valleys between the hills are filled with lakes, called lochs. The best-known is **Loch Ness** where some people think a large monster lives. The most important city here is **Aberdeen** which is the oil centre of Scotland. Ships and helicopters travel from Aberdeen to the North Sea oil rigs.

Most of the population of Scotland is concentrated in the Lowlands. Here, on **the Clyde**, is **Glasgow**, Scotland’s biggest city.

Shipbuilding is one of its most important industries, other industries are iron and steel, heavy and light engineering and coal-mining. It is the centre of the working-class movement and has glorious revolutionary traditions.

Scotland had been an independent state and was joined to the UK in 1707, after a long struggle for its independence.

Edinburgh has been the capital since the 15th century, when its fortified castle was the centre of Scotland’s resistence to its enemies. Edinburgh is the cultural centre of Scotland. It is associated with the names of **George Gordon Byron** and **Walter Scott**, **Robert Louis Stevenson**, **Robert Burns** and **Arthur Conan Doyle**. It is also associated with the world-famous Edinburgh Festival of Music and Drama. The Festival was first held in 1947 and has been held annually ever since.

One of the things that people associate with Scotland is the kilt. The kilt is a relic of the time when the clan system existed in the Highlands. Everybody in the clan had the same family name, like MacDonald or MacGregor (Mac means “the son of”). The clan had its own territory and was ruled by a chieftain. Each clan had its own tartan.