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**Level 1** – 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-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom-1.html>

An ex-UK prime minister, Gordon Brown, warned that the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is in danger. He warned of economic disaster after the UK leaves the European Union on October 31st. Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the UK will be in trouble. He said this is because many people in the UK want independence for their country. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a united kingdom.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland. Most people in Scotland want to stay in the EU and voted against Brexit. There are now talks of Scottish independence. There are also worries about a physical border in Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Brown said: "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>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. An ex-UK                        | a. without a deal    |
| 2. He warned of economic           | b. for their country |
| 3. after the UK leaves the         | c. in the UK         |
| 4. if the UK leaves the EU         | d. a united kingdom  |
| 5. the UK will be in               | e. European Union    |
| 6. many people                     | f. prime minister    |
| 7. independence                    | g. trouble           |
| 8. the United Kingdom is no longer | h. disaster          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the three nations of       | a. British politics  |
| 2. England, Scotland          | b. independence      |
| 3. Most people                | c. border in Ireland |
| 4. voted against              | d. Ireland           |
| 5. talks of Scottish          | e. Brexit            |
| 6. worries about a physical   | f. Great Britain     |
| 7. a possible reunited        | g. and Wales         |
| 8. Nationalism is now driving | h. in Scotland       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom-1.html>

An ex-UK prime minister, Gordon Brown, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2) \_\_\_\_\_. He warned of economic disaster (3) \_\_\_\_\_ leaves the European Union on October 31st. Mr Brown (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the UK will (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He said this is because many people in the UK want independence for their country. He said the United Kingdom (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a united kingdom.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is four countries - (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Scotland want to stay in the EU and voted against Brexit. There are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Scottish independence. There (10) \_\_\_\_\_ about a physical border in Ireland. People are talking (11) \_\_\_\_\_ reunited Ireland. Brown said: "Nationalism (12) \_\_\_\_\_ British politics."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom-1.html>

An ex-UK prime minister, Gordon Brown, warned that the union of England and Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is in danger. He warned of economic disaster after the UK leaves the European Union on October 31st. Mr Brown believes that if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the UK will be in trouble. He said this is because many people in the UK want independence for their country. He said the United Kingdom is no longer a united kingdom. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is four countries - the three nations of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland. Most people in Scotland want to stay in the EU and voted against Brexit. There are now talks of Scottish independence. There are also worries about a physical border in Ireland. People are talking about a possible reunited Ireland. Brown said: "Nationalism is now driving British politics."

# THE UNITED KINGDOM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190813-united-kingdom-4.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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

