

Destination UK: Wales**Topic**

Wales

Learning outcomes

- Use vocabulary related to describing a country e.g. its geography, population and culture
- Identify key information in a short text about Wales and share the information
- Take part in a persuasive discussion about a trip to Wales

Age and level

13-17, Adults (B1 / B2)

Time

60 – 70 minutes

Materials

- Student worksheet
- Reading texts (1 copy x 3 learners)
- Map of the UK (optional)
- Photos and websites related to Wales (see lesson tasks) (optional)

Introduction

This lesson introduces learners to Wales, one of the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. The lesson begins with a brainstorming and categorising task to discover what learners already know about the country. They will use the graphic organiser throughout the lesson. They will discover facts about Wales with a quiz and short reading texts. They will end the lesson with a speaking task, in which they plan activities for a trip to Wales.

Procedure
Lead-in: Welcome to Wales (10 mins)

- Show a map of the UK or draw a simple map of the UK on the board. Ask learners to name the four countries of the UK: England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland. Ask them to say where Wales is on the map or point it out.
- Draw a table or a mind map on the board with the following categories and ask learners to copy it:

geography	people	language	sport and culture

- Ask them to say what they know about Wales. Add (true) information that they offer to the table. You can add other categories if needed. You could also ask questions to elicit information e.g.: What's the capital of Wales? Do you know any famous Welsh people? What languages do people speak in Wales? Do you know anything about the culture?
- You could also show pictures of Wales to elicit information e.g. the capital city; typical Welsh countryside; famous Welsh people; signs in Welsh.
- If learners don't know much, tell them not to worry. They'll learn about the country during this lesson.

Note: You can find out about mind maps here:

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/professional-development/teachers/knowing-subject/d-h/mind-map>

Task 1: Wales Quiz (10-15 mins)

- Organise learners into teams. Explain that they are going to do a quiz. You can find the quiz questions in **Task 1** of the **student worksheet**. Use the quiz in different ways depending on how much your learners already know about Wales and whether you can print the student worksheet. Help with unfamiliar language as learners do the quiz e.g. emblem, coal, leeks, depict, dragon, patron saint.
- **Option 1:** Read out the quiz questions, with or without the a) b) c) options. Teams discuss and write down the answers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 2: Display or give learners Task 1 in the student worksheet. Give a time limit for teams to decide the answers. If your learners really know very little about Wales, allow them to search for answers – but with a time limit. • Check the answers and award points for each correct answer. You could award extra points for extra facts that learners know. <p>Answers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The correct answer is b. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland and Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland. 2. The correct answer is a. The population of Scotland is approximately 5.5 million, and the population of England is approximately 56 million. 3. The correct answer is c. Football is very popular though! 4. The correct answer is c. The national flower of Wales is the daffodil. 5. The correct answer is b. The national Welsh flag has a red dragon on a background of white and green stripes. 6. The correct answer is a. The colour red is part of Welsh culture. 7. The correct answer is a. Saint Patrick is the Patron Saint of Ireland, and Saint George is the Patron Saint of England. 8. The correct answer is b. ‘slán’ is ‘goodbye’ in Irish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask learners to add facts that they have learned in the quiz to the table / mind-map from the Lead-in activity, for example: they could add ‘leeks is the national emblem’ to the ‘sport and culture’ category.
Task 2: Reading (15 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the lesson, make copies of the Reading Text. You will need a copy of each text for a third of your group. • Explain that learners are going to read three different short texts about Wales. They should work together to make sure they understand the text and be prepared to share what they have learned with classmates. • Organise the class into three groups: A, B and C. Give all members of Group A the text marked A; all members of Group B the text marked B; and so on. Give learners time to read the text and check with each other if they don’t understand parts of it. You can offer support with vocabulary too. • Then re-group the learners so the new groups have 3 learners: one learner from Group A, one from Group B and one from Group C.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In their new groups, learners share what they have learned about Wales and add information to the table / mind-map from the Lead-in task. They can add categories if necessary, e.g. government. • Ask each group to say one or two interesting things that they have learned about Wales.
Task 3: Let's learn Welsh! (optional) (5-10 mins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have time, and if your learners appear enthusiastic, you may like to do this optional awareness-raising task with your class. • Refer learners to Task 2 in the student worksheet. Explain that the Welsh language is taught as a second language at all schools in Wales, and some schools teach in the Welsh language. • Ask learners to have a go at saying the expressions. They could listen to them online, for example on Google Translate. • If learners are interested, talk about the different languages spoken in their country, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the official languages in your country? ○ How many different languages are spoken in your country? ○ Which languages are taught in schools?
Task 4: Design a trip to Wales (20 mins +)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer learners to Task 3 in the student worksheet. Tell them to imagine that they have won a trip to Wales. The whole class will go, and they will stay for one week. They will have time to do three things. They will have to choose them together. • Organise learners into small groups. Read through the list of activities with the class and check that everyone understands. • It will help greatly if you can provide photos and links of the activities. Alternatively, give learners time to research each of the activities. They should look at websites e.g. of cookery courses, Cardiff Castle, events at the Principality Stadium etc. • In groups, learners discuss and choose three things from the list. If necessary, review language that will be useful for the discussion before they start e.g. phrases to persuade, agree, disagree etc. Give learners a time limit. Remind them that they all have to agree.

- When the time limit is up, ask each group to say the three things they decided. See if you can reach a unanimous decision amongst the whole class.

Adapted from a lesson contributed by

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