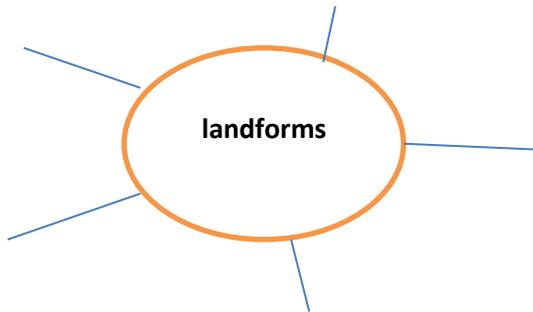


**WARM UP**

1. What terms denoting landforms do you know? Complete the mind map.



2. Which colours are used in maps and atlases to depict the various landforms?

**Listening Activity.**

**Pre-listening.** Match the words and phrases in the table to their definitions.

1. distinct	2. boasting	3. sparsely	4. lies	5. adjacent to
6. hilly	7. rugged	8. consists of	9. spells	10. prevailing

Definitions:

- a. to be made or formed of
- b. be in a particular place or position
- c. next to
- d. clearly separate and different
- e. wild, not even, difficult to travel over
- f. small in number and over a large area
- g. having lots of parts higher than the surrounding land
- h. having something to be proud of
- i. which blows in a particular place
- j. short periods of a particular type of weather

**TASK 1.** Read the questions and choose the right answers after listening.

1. The United Kingdom contains

- a. a hundred of small island.
- b. hundreds of small islands.
- c. thousands of small islands.

2. England consists mainly of

- a. low land with a few mountains.
- b. highlands and lowlands.
- c. mountains and lowlands.

3. The highlands of Scotland have

- a. few people and many mountains.
- b. many people and few mountains.
- c. many people and many mountains.

4. Most people in Scotland live

- a. in the Highlands.
- b. in the mountains.
- c. in the Lowlands.

5. The Atlantic Ocean brings lots of

- a. cold windy weather.
- b. wet but not too cold weather.
- c. cold and wet weather.

**TASK 2.** Match the numbers in the box to make facts about the UK.

22	300	4	700	2	150
----	-----	---	-----	---	-----

- 1. The number of miles that separate the largest island from France =
- 2. The length in miles of the largest of the UK islands =
- 3. The number of distinct regions in Scotland =
- 4. The size in square miles of the largest inland body of water =
- 5. The maximum width in miles of the largest island in the UK =
- 6. The number of countries which make up the United Kingdom =

## 1. Highland and Lowland Britain

From the point of view of physical relief, Great Britain is traditionally divided into two major regions, Highland and Lowland, in fact, a separation between the older rocks of the north and west created by the earth movements from the younger ones in south and east.

The most precise distinction between Highland and Lowland Britain is geological. The rocks of most of the north and west are harder and older than those of the south and east. These older rocks are covered by large areas of moorland such as the Lake District, the Pennines and much of Scotland and Wales, where the soils are poor, thin and stony. In addition, these areas are wetter and harder to reach than the lower land to the south and east.

The south and east are rarely flat, but instead of continuous moorland there are bands of hills which alternate with areas of lowland. The soils are deeper and richer, and the climate is drier and better suited to farming. Industry benefits from easier communication. Thus human settlement in these areas is dense and more evenly spread.

**Activity 1.** Complete the following chart with the characteristics of the highlands and lowlands of the UK.

HIGHLANDS	LOWLANDS

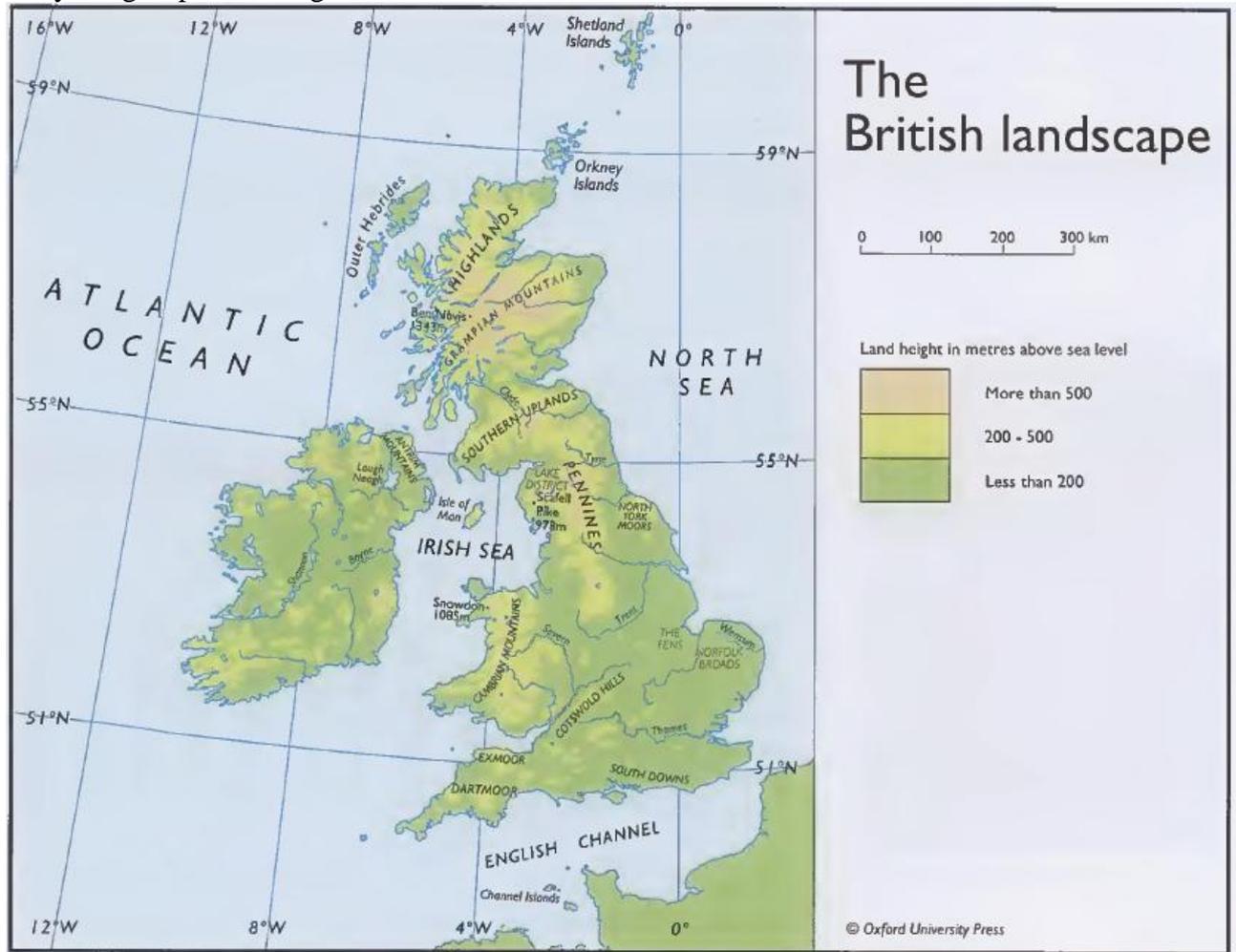
## 2. LANDFORMS. CHARACTERISTICS

Various landforms: mountains, hills, plains, wolds- which resulted from the interaction of various factors: tectonics, climatic changes, human activities;

The landforms have low altitudes as they consist of old rocks that were modelled by various factors. The highest elevation: Ben Nevis, 1343m.

There are old landforms (Caledonian Mts.) and new ones (The Fens).

They are grouped into highlands and lowlands.



**Activity 2.** Look at the map above. Find examples of:

1. landforms which are more than 500m high;
2. landforms which are less than 200m high;

**Activity 3.** Read the following information about the relief of the countries from the islands of Great Britain and Ireland. Then, complete the maps.

### Scotland

It has three clearly-marked regions.

1. the Highlands in the north cut in two by the valley known as Glen<sup>1</sup> More;

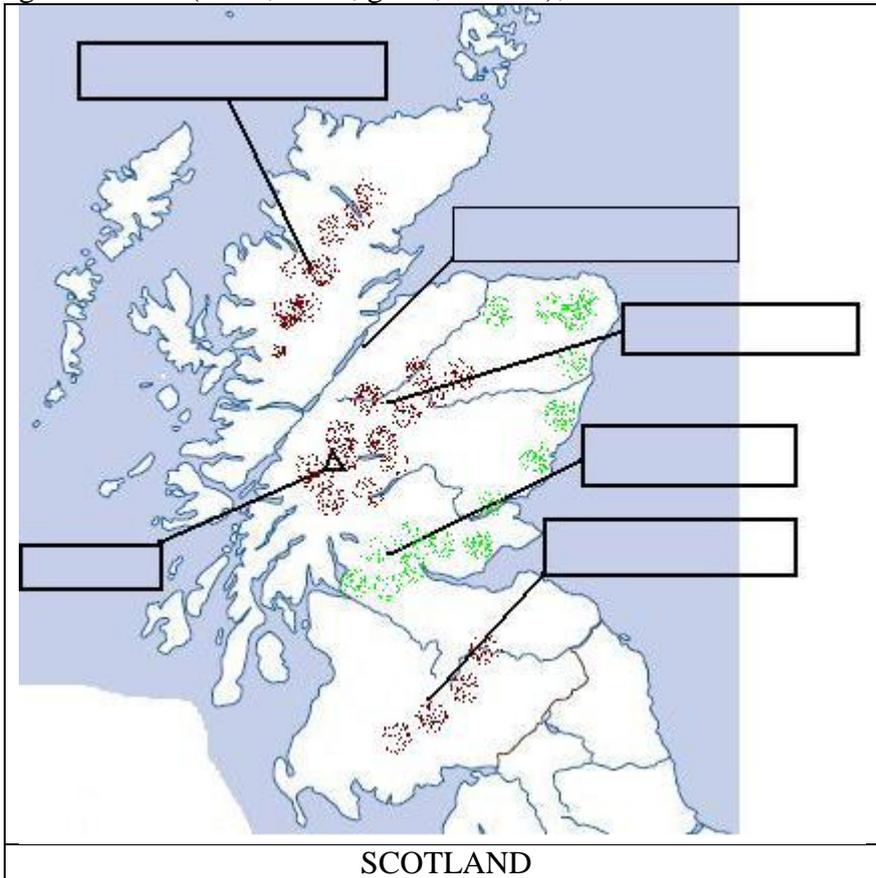
The Glen is a natural travelling route in the Highlands of Scotland, which is used by both the Caledonian Canal and A82 road, which link the city of Inverness on the northeast coast with Fort William on the west coast.

Below Glen More, in the Central Highlands, the Grampians ( Grampian Mountains) form the chief range. Ben<sup>2</sup> Nevis, south-east of Glen More, is the highest mountain in Great Britain. Long valleys run up between the ranges, and many of them are filled with rivers and lochs.

<sup>1</sup> A glen is a valley, typically one that is long, deep, and often glacially U-shaped.

<sup>2</sup> The word "Ben", before so many of the names, means "mountain" in the old language of Scotland.

2. The Central Plain (Lowlands) is south of the Highlands. This is the richest, busiest, and most populous part of Scotland. It has fertile soil for agriculture, and possesses several great coal-fields.
3. In the south of the Lowlands lie the Southern Uplands, used for pasture for cattle and sheep, and agriculture is carried on in the valleys of the south-west and north-east.  
glacial relief (firths, lochs, glens, erratics);



**Activity 3.1.** Correct the following statements:

1. From the geographical point of view, Scotland has 4 clearly-marked regions.
2. In old Scottish the word “Ben” means “peak”.
3. The richest and the most populous part of Scotland is the Central Plane.
4. Agriculture is practised along the valleys from the Highlands.
5. The glen is a glacial lake.

## England

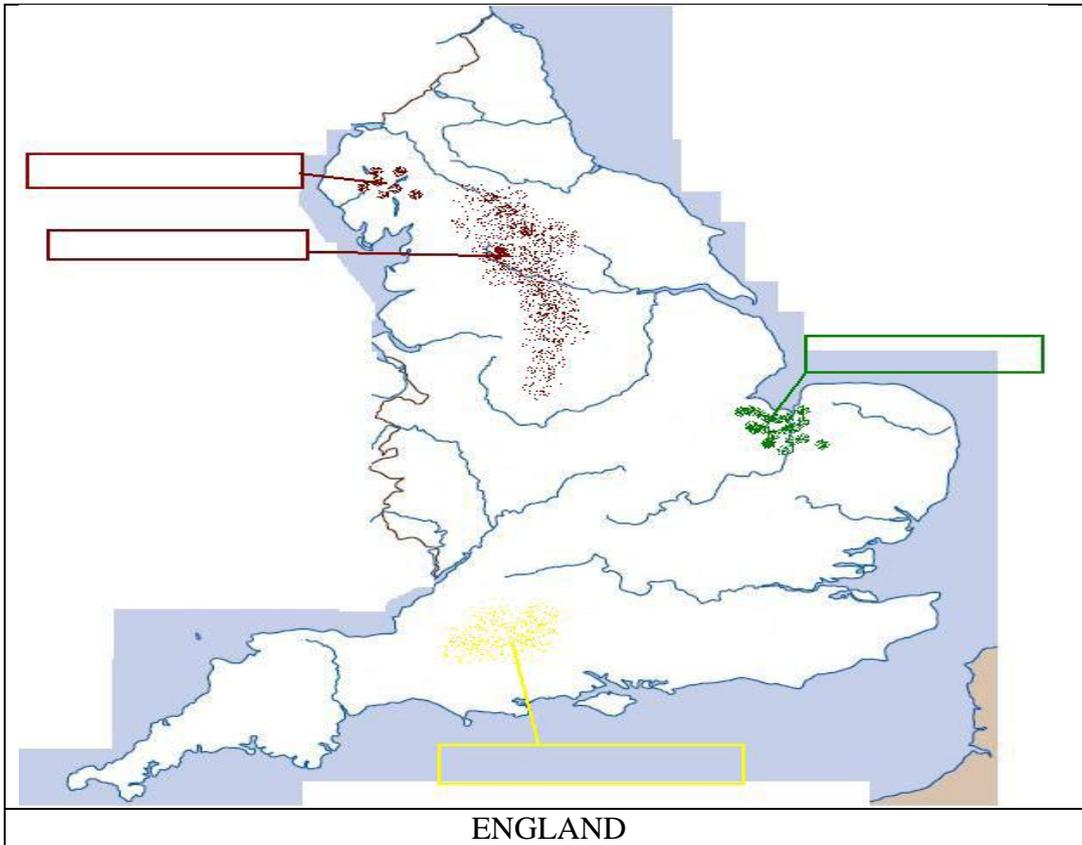
The west of England is on the whole a mountainous region, the high land being interrupted only by the Severn, Cheshire, and Lancashire plains. The centre and east are low-lying, drained by many rivers, and crossed by ranges of hills and downs of no very great height.

The Pennine Range forms the backbone of England; many streams rise in its slopes and two great coal-fields are found east and west of the range.

Separated from the Pennines by two river-valleys, lie the Cumbrian Mountains. Lead and granite are found in these mountains. They are famous for their beauty, for between the spurs which run out from the central mass, lie the lakes of England.

Another highland region of England consists of the moors of Cornwall, and of Dartmoor and Exmoor in Devon.

In the south and east there are Lowlands (the Fens, Salisbury Plain).



**Activity 3.2.** Fill in the gaps after reading the text again.

1. The centre and east of England are \_\_\_\_\_ regions.

2. In the north-west of England lie the \_\_\_\_\_ Mts.

3. The main highland regions of England are: \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_, moors of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

### Wales

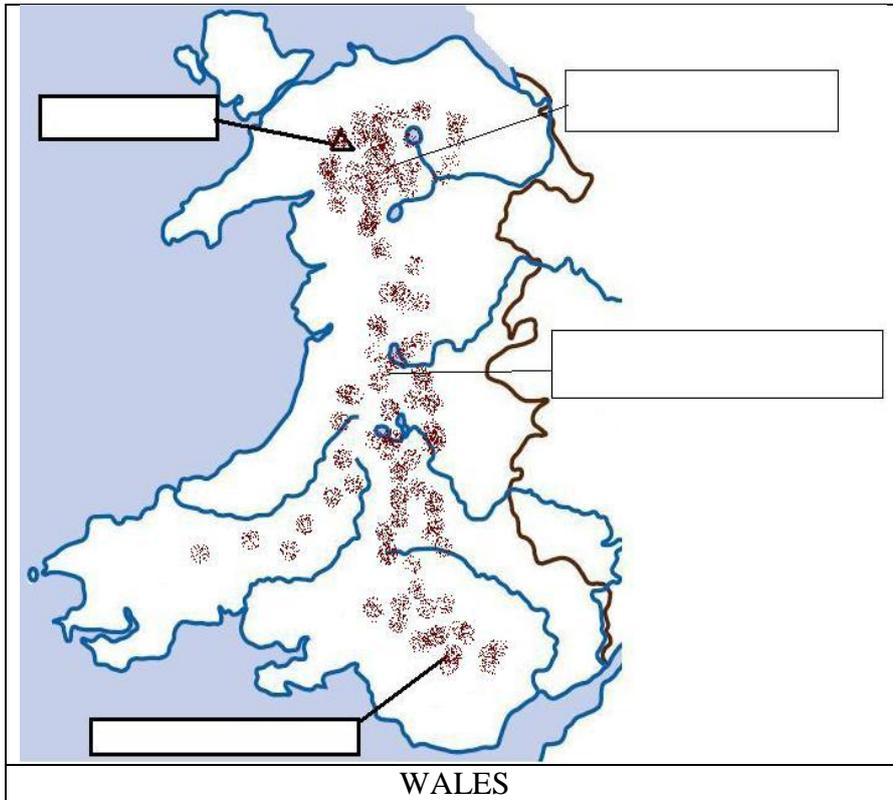
The Welsh Mountains are the next group to be considered. In the north lies Snowdonia, whose peak (Snowdon, 1053m) is visible from the east coast of Ireland on a clear day, for it is the highest mountain in Wales. In central Wales there are Cambrian Mts. In South Wales stands a detached range known as the Brecon Beacons.

Activity 3.3. Fill in the gaps after reading the text again.

1. Wales is on the whole a \_\_\_\_\_ region.

2. The highest peak in Wales is \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ Mts. are in the central part of Wales.

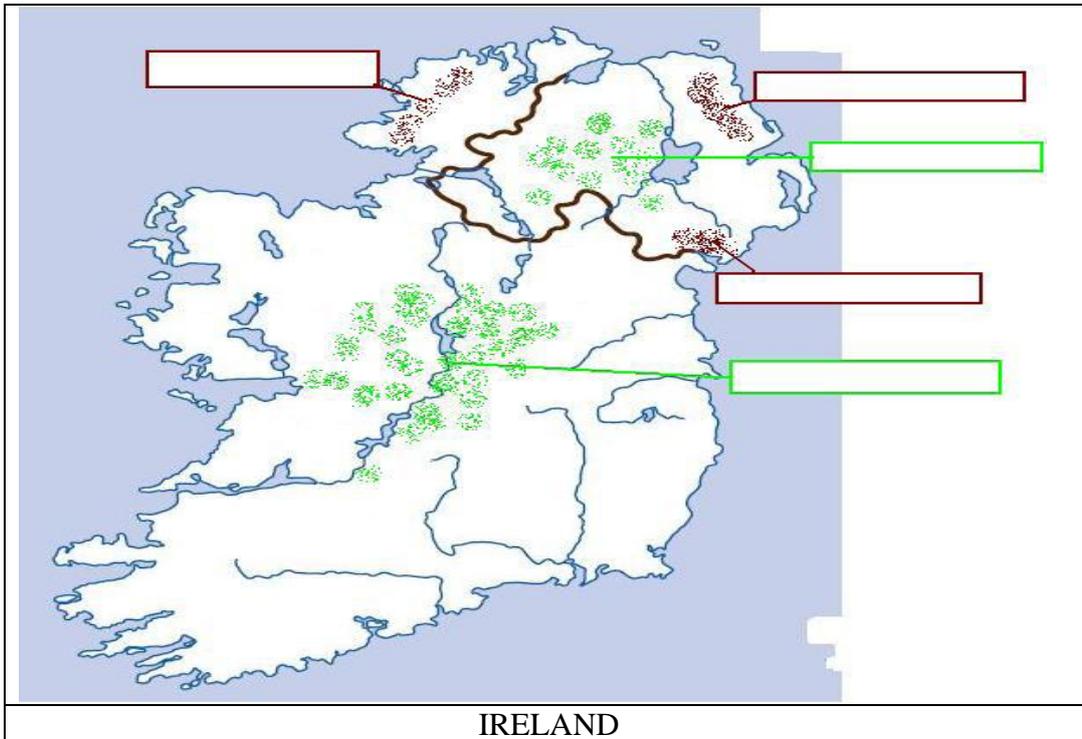


### Ireland

The mountains of Ireland lie for the most part in masses round the coast, forming a rim to the Great Central Plain (which is divided into the Northern Plain in Northern Ireland and the Great Central Plain in Ireland). The latter is drained by slow rivers, cutting their way through bogs.

In the north-west are the wild, rugged, Donegal Mountains. In the north-east are the Mountains of Antrim, which, strictly speaking, are a great limestone plateau. Along the east of Ireland run the granite Mourne Mountains. In the south of Ireland there are many ranges, most of which run east and west, with parallel river-valleys between.

A considerable part of the west and of the central plain is covered with bog. The bogs have been formed by the gradual filling up of shallow lakes with waterplants, growing more thickly year by year. When these plants are decayed, and pressed down below the surface of the land, they form peat; it is dug out of the bogs, cut into blocks, and used instead of coal for fires.



IRELAND

**Activity 3.4.** Read the text again and answer the following questions:

1. How have the bogs been formed? Where are they found in Ireland?
2. Which are the main mountains of Ireland?

**The landforms in the UK vs. the landforms in Romania.**

**Activity 4.** Fill in the chart. Then, with the information you fill in, write a 150-word paragraph to point out the most important similarities and differences between the UK and Romania.

Country	The UK	ROMANIA
Highest elevation (m)		
Lowest elevation(m)		
Highest peak		
Oldest rocks found in...		
New landforms		
Glacial landforms (where and types)		