

Name _____ Date _____

Mapping Languages and Religions of the U.K. and Ireland

Part 1. With your partner, use the following resources to answer questions 1 and 2 below:

- handout Languages and Religions of The U.K. and Ireland
- map The United Kingdom and Ireland
- map Dominant Religions in the United Kingdom and Ireland

1. On the map The United Kingdom and Ireland, label the areas discussed in the reading: England, Scotland, Wales, northern Ireland, and Ireland. Below, list the dominant languages and religions found in each.

• England: _____

• Scotland: _____

• Wales: _____

• Northern Ireland: _____

• Ireland: _____

2. The map Dominant Religions in the United Kingdom and Ireland shows the current religions in these countries. Use the reading to add notes, arrows, or other markings to the map to show how religions changed, or people of each religion moved, between 1500 and the present. Then describe your additions to the map below.

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Mapping Languages and Religions of the U.K. and Ireland, continued

Part 2. With your small group, use the reading and all maps in this activity to answer your assigned question below.

3. In 1922, the southern part of Ireland became independent. And northern Ireland became part of the United Kingdom. What caused this division between northern Ireland and the rest of Ireland?

4. Think about the physical and human geography of the United Kingdom and Ireland. What similarities link the U.K. and Ireland? Imagine if the two islands were part of one country. What might be the advantages to the people who live there?

5. Make a list of the reasons that the two islands are not now part of the same country. Analyze the list. What do you think is the most important difference dividing the two countries?

6. Like Ireland, Scotland and Wales both traditionally spoke Celtic languages: mainly Gaelic and Welsh. They also still have strong political movements keeping their cultures alive. Why do you think Scotland and Wales ultimately became part of the United Kingdom, while Ireland always resisted?
