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Ghid de conversație și civilizație român - englez cu suport *multimedia*

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✓ S-au folosit următoarele abrevieri:

<i>adj.</i>	adjectiv
<i>fig.</i>	figurat
<i>num.</i>	numeral
<i>pron.</i>	pronume
<i>relig.</i>	religie
<i>subst.</i>	substantiv

Materialul dispune de un **index exhaustiv** de termeni în limba română, care conține 3 175 de termeni distincți, cu multiple ocurențe. Există și un index de sigle și abrevieri în ambele limbi.

O altă noutate constă în faptul că, spre deosebire de ghidurile tradiționale de conversație, care propun transcrieri fonetice prin care se încearcă familiarizarea cititorului cu pronunția respectivă, auxiliarul este reprezentat aici de un **CD multimedia** de acompaniament în care se regăsesc **toate** secvențele conversaționale (tot ce figurează în carte ca text bilingv român – englez se regăsește și pe CD, așadar mai puțin lecțiile de civilizație, avertizările și partea de Index). Interfața este accesibilă pentru utilizator, căruia i se oferă multiple linkuri și posibilități de browsing (navigare în cuprins, în capitole și în secțiunile și subsecțiunile capitolelor, cu posibilitatea de revenire în orice moment în orice punct al materialului). Înregistrarea sonoră a fiecărei secvențe scrise în engleză (dintr-un total de peste 3 000 de secvențe audio de dimensiuni variabile) este accesibilă printr-un singur click. CD-ul dispune de un motor de căutare propriu, după cuvinte sau expresii, în engleză sau în română, și de o funcție de AutoPlay utilizabilă atât în capitole, cât și în motorul de căutare.

Aplicația informatică rezidentă pe CD-ul de acompaniament al cărții este securizată, putând fi instalată și utilizată pe două calculatoare diferite și doar cu acordul de licențiere al editurii, exprimat telefonic sau prin e-mail, prin livrarea codului de activare a licenței.

Lidia COTEA & Ioana COSTACHE

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info

Britain: facts and figures

What we usually **refer to as** 'Great Britain' or simply 'Britain' **is comprised of** Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and Northern Ireland; its full name is **the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, and it is a member state of the European Union, delegating 72 representatives as Members of the European Parliament. Not all the islands that make up the archipelago known as the British Isles are actually part of Britain: the Hebrides (a large island chain **lying west of** Scotland), the Orkney and Shetland Islands (lying to the north east of the Scottish mainland), the Isle of Wight, Anglesey and the Isles of Scilly have administrative ties with the mainland, **unlike** the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea and the Channel Islands, between Great Britain and France, which are largely self-governing. These territories have their own legislative assemblies and systems of law. The **Manx system of taxation** is also **independent of** British authority. What the British Government is responsible for is the international relations and external defence of the **latter** group of islands.



The latter is used for referring to the second of two people, things, or groups that have just been mentioned; its correlative is *the former*, which refers to the first of two antecedents.

The British coastline is 14,549 kms (9,040 miles) with England and Wales, including islands taking up 5,214 kms (8,389 miles) of this figure and Scotland, including islands 9,335 kms (5,800 miles); the area is about 242,000 sq km (93,000 sq miles).

Originating in the mid-13th century and based on the **time-honoured** principles of free elections, freedom of speech and equal treatment before the law, the **British Parliament** is **responsible for** making laws, examining the work of Government, including proposals for expenditure, controlling finance and voting for taxation. Other parliamentary responsibilities include protecting the individual, examining European proposals, and debating the major issues of the day. Parliament is made up of three components: the **Crown** (or the **Queen**), the **House of Lords**, and the **elected House of Commons**. The three meet together only on occasions of symbolic significance, such as the State Opening of Parliament, when the Commons are summoned by the Queen to the House of Lords. The agreement of all three elements is normally required for legislation, but that of the Queen is given as a matter of course. The Royal Assent (i.e., the approval of a Bill by the sovereign) has never been withheld since the reign of Queen Anne (1707).

The Church of England has an official presence within the House of Lords. At most 26 bishops serve as **Lords Spiritual** (as opposed to the **Lords Temporal**), and enjoy full voting and speaking rights. From this position, the Church of England makes an official contribution to the legislative process and gains informal access to the corridors of power (Leventhal 1995).



Note that **Parliament** does **not** take the definite article: *Parliament consists of politicians elected to the House of Commons and members of the House of Lords*, **not** “The Parliament consists of...”

Since the **late 20th century**, Scotland has its own (**devolved**) Parliament, sitting in Edinburgh, and **Wales** has an elected **Assembly**, sitting in Cardiff. Both Scotland and Wales remain part of the United Kingdom and have continued representation in the Parliament at Westminster in London. The process of **devolution is paralleled by** an increased sense of belonging to a local, multicultural community: as a consequence, “**Britishness**” might have to be redefined in a pluralist,

polycultural sense to **take account** variously of Celtic devolution, Americanised popular culture, Commonwealth immigration, and membership of Europe (Morgan 2000).

The **Queen's title** is “Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith”. In the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, the Queen is represented by a Lieutenant-Governor. The Queen is also head of state of a number of Commonwealth states. In each state, the Queen is represented by a Governor-General, appointed by her on the advice of the ministers of the country concerned and completely independent of the British Government. Other Commonwealth states are republics or have their own monarchies. In **British-dependent territories** (British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands), the Queen is usually represented by governors, who are accountable to the British Government for the administration of these territories.

Political parties

Britain has a predominantly two-party system. The party that wins most seats at a General Election, or which has the support of a majority of members in the House of Commons, usually becomes the Government, and the party leader becomes Prime Minister (PM). The largest minority party becomes the official **Opposition**, with its own leader (“the **shadow** Prime Minister”) and “shadow cabinet”. A typical Cabinet is made up of 22 members: the Prime Minister, or Premier, two Treasury ministers - the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Chief Secretary - the Lord Chancellor, the leaders of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, and sixteen others, most of whom bear the title of Secretary of State (Foreign, Home, Environment, Defence, Education, Transport, Social Security, Agriculture, Employment, Trade and Industry, Health, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Citizen's Charter, and National Heritage). Since 1945, either the Conservative Party (the **Tory Party**, a name deriving from its eighteenth-

century origin, and the main force on the right of centre politics) or the left-oriented Labour Party has held power. Labour replaced the Liberal Party as the main rival to the Conservatives. Since the demise of the Liberals, Labour has been the progressive alternative in British politics.



*either...or: You can **either** come by bus **or** take a taxi.*

The Liberal Democrats were formed in 1988, by a **merger** of the Liberal Party and the Social Democratic Party. Other parties include the Party of Wales, **Plaid Cymru**, and the **Scottish National Party**. Northern Ireland has a number of parties. They include the Ulster Unionists, the Democratic Unionists, the Social Democratic and Labour Party and **Sinn Féin** ("we ourselves"), which **advocates** the advancement of Ireland along national lines and its complete political **separation from** the UK.



The general elections of April 2010 saw the return of the Conservatives to power (in coalition with the Liberal Democrats), after 13 years of Labour government.

Population

According to mid-2003 estimates, the UK has an approximate number of 59.6 million inhabitants. The population of the constituent countries of the United Kingdom is estimated **as follows**:

- ✓ England 49,855,700 (83.7 per cent of the total UK population)
- ✓ Scotland 5,057,400 (8.5 per cent)
- ✓ Wales 2,938,000 (4.9 per cent)
- ✓ Northern Ireland 1,702,600 (2.9 per cent)

Due to better diet, health care, and health awareness, **life expectancy** has increased dramatically compared to **previous** decades: by 2003, men who were aged 65 could expect to live to the age of 81, while women could expect to live to the age of 84. Most people who survived past the age of sixty remained fit into their later seventies, and most of those who survived into their eighties and nineties did not suffer a long period of severe ill health and

dependency before death. But there's a **downside to** these improvements: as more people live to be very old, more suffer from Alzheimer's or other **incurable diseases**. The UK has an ageing population, and fertility rates are declining. Migration has become a very significant factor in population dynamics and in determining the country's demographic changes: in 2002, and in each of the three preceding years, international migration contributed approximately 80 per cent of the UK's annual population increase.



A new census is due to take place in 2011.

Language

There are two **official languages** in the UK: **English** and **Welsh** (which remains the first language of most of the population of northern and western Wales). **Although** not an official language, **Scottish Gaelic** is spoken in some parts of Scotland, as well as English. However, **linguistic diversity** is common in urban areas, reflecting **ethnic diversity**: over 300 languages are spoken in London and the 2001 census shows that 29 per cent of London's population belongs to a minority ethnic group.

Climate

The climate of the UK is characterised as **temperate maritime**. The winter months from December to February are the coldest, with average temperatures around 5° C/41° F. The temperature rises through the spring months of March to May and is highest throughout the summer months of June to August, **averaging** around 17° C/63° F. During autumn, from September to November, temperatures fall gradually. The average annual **rainfall** is 947mm per year.

Money

British money is based on the **decimal system**; there are **one hundred pence (p)** to each **pound sterling (£)**. Notes are issued to the value of £50, £20, £10 and £5. Coins are issued to the value of £2, £1, 50p, 20p, 10p, 5p, 2p, and 1p.

 Note that the plural of **penny** can be either **pennies** (when it refers to the coins) or **pence** (to refer to an amount of money).

You can exchange cash and traveller's cheques at **Bureaux de Change**, banks, **building societies** (which are similar to banks but all their customers have a share in owning the society), larger post offices, larger travel agents, some tourist information centres, exchange offices in large department stores, or counter desks in some hotels. All exchange operators **are required to** display all **exchange rates** and **full details** of any **fees** and **rates of commission**.

 A comprehensive outline of British life and institutions can be found in *Life in the United Kingdom: A Journey to Citizenship*, the official reference book recommended by the Home Office to **applicants for** permanent settlement in Britain.

I. Indicatoare, semne, anunțuri

Intrare
 ieșire
 ieșire de urgență
 Intrarea gratuită
 Închis
 Deschis
 Urcare
 Coborâre
 Este interzis să vă adresați conducătorului autobuzului aflat în mișcare.
 Sosiri
 Plecări
 Atenție
 Alarmă de incendiu
 Pericol
 Înaltă tensiune
 Proaspăt vopsit
 Nu călcați iarba
 Liniște
 Rezervat
 Ocupat (despre spații, linii telefonice)
 Liber
 De închiriat
 Fragil
 Fumători
 Nefumători
 Compartiment pentru fumători
 Lift

I. Signs, notices, and announcements

Way in / entry point
 Way out / exit
 Emergency exit
 No admission charge
 (Sorry, we're) closed
 Open
 Board here
 Alight here
 It is forbidden to speak to the driver while the bus is in motion.
 Arrivals
 Departures
 Caution
 Fire alarm
 Danger
 High voltage
 Wet paint
 Keep off the grass
 Quiet, please
 Reserved
 Engaged

 Available / Free
 To let
 Fragile / Handle with care
 Smoking (area)
 Non-smoking (area)
 Smoking compartment
 Elevator / Lift

Bandă de circulație pentru biciclete	Cycle path
Parcare	Car park
Respect pentru oameni și cărți	(Bus, tram) station
Stație (de autobuz, de tramvai)	Underground station
Stație (de metrou)	Mind the gap
Atenție la coborârea din metrou	Stand clear of the doors
Păstrați distanța față de ușile metroului	Please do not leave your bags
Nu lăsați bagajele nesupravegheate. Bagajele nesupravegheate vor fi preluate de autorități și distruse.	unattended. All unattended bags will be removed and destroyed.
Peron	Platform
Linia de plecare / Trenul (compania feroviară, numărul garniturii), cu destinația (numele localității), va pleca de la linia (numărul liniei). Trenul oprește în următoarele stații (numele localităților)	Departure / Train ..., leaving for ..., from platform (number). Calling at ...
Linia de sosire / Trenul (compania feroviară, numărul garniturii) sosește în stație la linia (numărul liniei)	Arrival / Train ... arriving at line ...
Sală de așteptare	Waiting lounge / area
Intrarea interzisă	No entry / No admittance
Fumatul interzis	No smoking
Trecerea interzisă	No trespassing
Camparea interzisă	No camping
Parcarea interzisă	No parking
Parcarea permisă între orele ... în zilele ...	Parking allowed between ... and ... (days, hours)
Parcarea permisă doar riveranilor	Parking for residents only
Mașinile parcate în loc nepermis vor fi blocate și tractate.	Clamping and towing arrangements in force.
Atenție, câine rău!	Beware of the dog!

Numai pentru reziduuri animale (inscripție pe coș de gunoi)	Dog fouling only (on bin)
Curățați în urma animalelor dvs. de companie!	No fouling on pavement!
Atenție la hoți!	Do not leave your belongings unattended.
Pericol. Nu intrați.	Danger. Do not enter.
Nu atingeți!	Do not touch!
Nu vă aplecați în afară!	Do not lean out!
Afișajul interzis	No posters
Scăldatul interzis	No bathing
Proprietate particulară	Private (property) / No trespassing
Sunt acceptați doar membrii.	Members only
Intrarea permisă doar personalului.	Employees only / Staff only
De închiriat	To let
De vânzare	For sale
Vă rugăm închideți ușa.	Please close the door.
Trageți	Pull
Împingeți	Push
Trecere de pietoni	Pedestrian crossing
Circulați numai pe partea dreaptă / stângă.	Keep to the right / left.
Asigurați-vă din dreapta (înainte de a traversa).	Look right!
Sens giratoriu	Roundabout
Sens unic	One way (only)
Oprirea interzisă	No stopping / Clearway
Depășirea interzisă	No overtaking
Claxonarea interzisă	Do not hoot / No hooting
Limită de viteză	Speed limit applies

Interzis la dreapta	No turning right
Interzis la stânga	No turning left
Obligatoriu înainte	Ahead only
Interzis pietonilor	No pedestrians
Interzis vehiculelor	No vehicles
Drum cu prioritate	Right of way
(Oprește și) cedează prioritatea	(Stop and) give way
Drum fără prioritate	No right of way
Drum în lucru	Road works
Drumul se îngustează	The road is narrowing
Drum alunecos	Wet / icy roads
Polei	Icy road
Respectați limita națională de viteză.	National speed limit applies.
Reduceți viteza	Drive slowly
Viraj la dreapta	Turn right
Viraj la stânga	Turn left
Atenție! Nu puteți schimba banda!	Do not change lanes!
Borne care se ridică din pavaj pentru interzicerea temporară a accesului mașinilor	Rising bollards
Denivelări pentru limitarea vitezei	Humped road
Nu depășiți linia dublă!	Do not cross the line!
Atenție, cad stânci!	Falling / fallen rocks
Folosiți șoseaua de centură	Take the ring road
Ocolire	Diversion
Următorul refugiu la 90 de metri distanță (pe autostradă)	No hard shoulder for the next 100 yards
Taxa de autostradă	Motorway toll
Bancă	Bank / building society
Bar	Bar / pub
Băcănie	Grocer's / grocery shop

Băuturi	Wines and spirits
Benzinărie	Petrol station
Bijuterii	Jeweller's
Birou de bagaje	Left-luggage office
Birou de schimb valutar	Bureau de change
Brutărie	Bakery
Cafenea	Coffee house
Carne	Meat
Casă de bilete	Ticket office
Casă de magazin	Cash desk
Mergeți la casa nr...	Please go to cashier number ...
Cinematograf	Cinema
Coafor	Hairdresser's
Cofetărie	Confectioner's
Curățătorie	Dry cleaning
Dentist	Dental surgery
Farmacie	Chemist's
Florărie	Flower shop
Fotograf	Photographer's studio
Frizerie	Barber's
Gară	Railway station
Ghișeu	Window / desk
Hotel	Hotel
Hotel ieftin	Hostel
Încălțăminte	Shoes and boots / footwear
Lactate	Dairy
Librărie	Bookshop / booksellers
Magazin	Store / shop
Marochinărie	Leather (products)
Măcelărie	Butcher's
Mătăsuri	Silk
Mercerie	Haberdasher's
Mezelărie	Cooked meats
Oficiu poștal	Post office
Ore de lucru cu publicul	Opening hours / office hours