

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1..... a column | a. an area of a country |
| 2..... a league | b. something tall and vertical |
| 3..... a county | c. having six sides |
| 4..... a national symbol | d. a serious argument or disagreement |
| 5..... conflict | e. a competition in which each team plays against every other team |
| 6..... hexagonal | f. something that represents a country |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Northern Ireland is in Great Britain. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. Another name for Northern Ireland is 'Ulster'. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. The Giant's Causeway was created by a volcano. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. Violence stopped in Northern Ireland in the 1980s. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Three languages are spoken in Northern Ireland. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. All the musicians and bands at summer music festivals in Belfast are Northern Irish. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. Northern Ireland is a good place for unusual adventure sports. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. In Gaelic football it's fine to touch the ball with your hand. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 9. The 'Ulster Fry' is a very healthy dish. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 10. A shamrock has three leaves on each stem. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your grammar: reordering

Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1. Ulster. | for | name | Another | Northern Ireland | is

.....

2. Giant's | place. | beautiful | Causeway | a | is | The | very

.....

3. are | There | in | Northern Ireland. | regional | two | languages

.....

4. sports in | Northern Ireland | popular | are | football and rugby. | The | most

.....

5. is | Ulster | made with | potato bread. | and | bacon, eggs, sausages | The | Fry

.....

6. concerts. | People | parades and | Day | with | St Patrick's | celebrate

.....

3. Check your grammar: multiple choice

Circle the correct option to complete these sentences.

1. Northern Ireland is a country in **the / –** United Kingdom.

2. Around 1.8 million people live in Northern Ireland, which is about three per cent of **the / –** population of the UK.

3. The north coast is an area of **the / –** natural beauty.

4. Most people speak **the / –** English in Northern Ireland.

5. Northern Ireland is a popular place to do **the / –** outdoor activities.

6. In **the / –** Gaelic football, players can touch the ball.

7. Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland join together in the same team when they play in **the / –** international competitions.

8. The Ulster Fry is **the / –** best-known dish in Northern Ireland.

Discussion

Have you ever been to Northern Ireland? Would you like to go?