**Western Europe 2**

* England
* Physical Characteristics:
  + Three Areas
    - Highlands, Midlands, and Lowlands
  + Highlands
    - Hills along western coast
  + Midlands
    - Southeast
    - Coal veins & Industrial Cities
  + Lowlands
    - South and East
    - Fertile – able to produce abundant crops

The Rise of Trade

* Coastal and river access
* London built along Thames (TEHMZ) River
* 1400s – improved ships and navigational devices allowed Europeans to travel westward
* Central location on the Atlantic

Economic Activities

* Abundant natural resources and reinvestment of profits from trade
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – goods to sell to colonies
* Heavy Industry – coal replaced water as fuel for machines
* Large reserves of iron ore and coal
  + Inventions improved production of steel from iron ore

Challenges to Industry

* 1800s – Germany and United States became new industrial giants
* 1900s – Germany and United States producing as much steel as the United Kingdom
* Coal reserves are being used up
  + Oil and Natural gas as source of fuel

Scotland and Wales

* Physical Characteristics:
* Scotland – 1/3 of land area of United Kingdom, but 10% of population
* Three formal regions:
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – large, high plateau with many lakes
    - Moors – broad, treeless rolling plains
    - Bogs – areas of wet, spongy ground
    - Land, water, and climate are suited for fishing and sheep herding
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – 75% of Scotland population live here
    - Industrialized during 1800s – shipyards
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – closest to English border
    - Sheep herding region
  + Scottish Cultures
    - New industry and oil discoveries
    - Computer and electronic business growing
    - Act of Union 1707 – Scottish and English parliaments were united, but Scotland kept trading and political rights
    - Scots kept Presbyterian Church instead of joining Church of England
    - 1997 – Scotland approved creation of new Scottish parliament
* Wales - Physical characteristics
  + Peninsula of the Island of Great Britain
  + Has its own capital city, postage stamps, flag, and language
    - Language is most important
      * 20% of population still speak original language

Economic Activities - Wales

* 1800s and 1900s – Industry and coal mining
* Mid 1900s – technology took place of industry
  + 1990s – high-tech jobs lowered unemployment rates

The Two Irelands

* Physical Characteristics:
  + Island is shaped like a bowl - Hilly exterior
* 1/6 of island covered by peat – spongy material containing mosses and plants
  + Peat is used for fuel and heating
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – spongy material containing waterlogged mosses and plants
  + Used in power plants
* Religious conflicts
  + Catholics vs. Protestants
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – deliberate efforts to keep the cultures separate
* Potato Famine – 1840s
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – plant disease, destroyed the potato crop year after year
* Push-and-pull migration – pushed from island by famine, pulled by the lure of jobs in United States
* Government and Citizenship
  + - Fighting between Protestants and Catholics
* 1990’s – Republic of Ireland took bold economic initiatives
  + Invested in education and telecommunications
  + Tax incentives for foreign high-tech business
  + Problems with adopting Euro
    - Inflation, increased housing costs

The Nordic Nations

* Physical Characteristics
  + Varied landscape – collection of peninsulas and islands
  + Denmark – very flat (600 ft high)
  + Jagged landscape – leftover from glaciers of last ice age
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – glacial valleys
  + Natural resources – “land of fire and ice”
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – energy from earth’s interior
  + Long winters, short summers
    - sunlight – 2-3 hrs midwinter, 20 hrs summer
  + Mild climate due to warm water currents

Shared Cultural Bonds

* + The Past
    - Vikings A.D. 800 to 1050
    - United with other Nordic Nations 1397 - 1523
  + Economic Systems
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – different degrees of government regulations
    - Similar to United States, but with additional guarantees
    - Politically neutral
  + Economic Activities
    - Farming, fishing, oil, gas, ores, and forests