

Chapter 1 : England Demographics

Religion & Spirituality Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App. Then you can start reading Kindle books on your smartphone, tablet, or computer - no Kindle device required.

Download as PDF 1. Key points Despite falling numbers Christianity remains the largest religion in England and Wales in Muslims are the next biggest religious group and have grown in the last decade. Meanwhile the proportion of the population who reported they have no religion has now reached a quarter of the population. In the Census, Christianity was the largest religion, with The second largest religious group were Muslims with 2. The religion question was the only voluntary question on the census and 7. Between and there has been a decrease in people who identify as Christian from There were increases in the other main religious group categories, with the number of Muslims increasing the most from 3. In , London was the most diverse region with the highest proportion of people identifying themselves as Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu and Jewish. The North East and North West had the highest proportion of Christians and Wales had the highest proportion of people reporting no religion. Knowsley was the local authority with the highest proportion of people reporting to be Christians at Norwich had the highest proportion of the population reporting no religion at Back to table of contents 2. Back to table of contents 3. Changing picture of religious affiliation over last decade The largest religion in the Census for England and Wales was Christianity with Muslims were the next largest religious group with 2. Of the other main religious groups: The most common groups were Pagan and Spiritualist, accounting for 57, people and 39, people respectively. Some of the other higher reporting groups included Mixed Religion with 24, people, Jain with 20, people and Ravidassia with 11, people. Religious affiliation, England and Wales, Source: Census - Office for National Statistics Figure 2: Minority religious groups, England and Wales, Source: The number of Muslims increased the most from 3. Change in religious affiliation, , England and Wales Source: The Annual Population Survey data in show However, comparisons between the census and social survey data should be treated with caution due to methodological differences. There are many factors driving changes in religious affiliation including natural growth for example, some minority religious groups have a younger demographic profile , migration, changes in willingness to report and awareness of the question. ONS will explore these factors further as part of its analysis programme of the census. Note that in some cases these were reassigned to one of the main religions offered eg. The England and Wales census asked the same religion question in as was asked in Back to table of contents 4. Religious affiliation across the English regions and Wales London was the most diverse region in terms of religious affiliation with over a fifth of the population identifying with a religion other than Christian. London had the highest proportion of Muslims at London also had the highest proportion of other religions including Buddhist, Hindu and Jewish. However, the largest proportion reporting to be Sikh was in the West Midlands. The North East and North West has the highest proportion of people who identified themselves as Christian with two-thirds of the population. The lowest proportion was in London where under half of the population were Christian. Wales had the highest proportion of people reporting no religion at nearly a third of the population. The lowest proportion reporting no religion was in the North West with less than a fifth of the population. Religious affiliation, English regions and Wales, Source: Back to table of contents 5. Differences in religious affiliation across local authorities Christians formed the majority religion across most areas in England and Wales. In over nine in ten areas, the proportion of people who were Christian was over 45 per cent. It was the largest religion in all local authorities except Tower Hamlets where there were more people who identified as Muslim. The 13 local authorities with the highest proportions of the population reporting to be Christian were in the North West, with the highest in Knowsley at Tower Hamlets was the lowest at Leicester, Camden, Redbridge, Harrow and Hackney all had proportions under 40 per cent. The proportion of people identifying with Christianity has decreased in all local authorities in England and Wales since with Kingston Upon Hull seeing the largest drop of Christian population, , England and Wales local and unitary authorities Source: Census - Office for National Statistics Norwich had the highest proportion of people

reporting no religion with Some local authorities in Wales also reported some of the highest levels of no religion. Caerphilly had the largest percentage point increase since of In London, the boroughs of Newham, Harrow, Brent and Redbridge had the lowest proportions of the population reporting no religion. Population reporting no religion, , England and Wales local and unitary authorities Source: Census - Office for National Statistics Muslims tended to be concentrated in particular areas of England. In over half of local authorities the proportion of the population who were Muslim was under 1 per cent. In over three-quarters of areas it was under 6 per cent. The areas with the highest proportion of Muslims were in London with the boroughs of Tower Hamlets and Newham having There were several areas outside London with proportions higher than 20 per cent including Blackburn with Darwen in the North West The proportion of Hindus was highest in the London boroughs of Harrow and Brent. Outside London, the highest proportion of Hindus was in Leicester. The biggest growth since was seen in Harrow where there was an increase of 5. Affiliation with Buddhism was predominantly greater within the London areas with the exception of Rushmoor which saw the highest increase since of 2. Jewish has increased most since in Hertsmere by 2. The proportion of Sikhs was highest in Slough but the biggest growth was seen in South Bucks where there was a 3. Table 1, Local authorities with the highest proportions of main minority religious groups, England and Wales.

Chapter 2 : New England Colonies

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

It had been engaged in a centuries-long struggle between the monarchy and nobility that predated the famed Magna Charta. Ever-increasing restraints were being placed on royal authority by an influential representative assembly, the Parliament, but its true flowering still lay in the future. Despite these political advances, England had experienced a tumultuous recent past. The Hundred Years War with France was both expensive and divisive. Natural disaster in the form of the Black Death took a tremendous toll and helped to weaken the feudal system, that ancient form of social organization in England. Economic change also helped to form the emerging nation. During the 1300s, a thriving wool industry developed. Early merchants exported raw wool to European markets; later, mills were built in England, which fostered a much more profitable trade in woollen cloth. This economic growth came at a high cost to many in society, however. As the demand for grazing lands grew, landlords evicted many resident agricultural workers. During the late 1300s, crisis conditions persisted. A dwindling food supply was called upon to feed a rapidly expanding population. The result was widespread social unrest as well as sickness and starvation. The House of Tudor The Tudor line of monarchs provided some of the most remarkable leaders in English history, but their era was one of great turbulence. Foreign rivalries, dynastic succession and religious allegiances all played prominent roles. Henry VII, the first Tudor king ruled, brought a large measure of stability to English society. He bequeathed to his son relative political peace and a full treasury. Under his leadership, England grew more prosperous through trade and became a full partner in Renaissance learning then sweeping much of Western Europe. The queen was approaching the end of her child-bearing years and had produced a daughter, but no male heir. The pope refused, citing lack of grounds, but his decision also reflected the reality that Charles carried more weight internationally than Henry. This measure ended papal authority in England and made the king head of the church in England. Most of the bishops supported the annulment and remarriage. The monks and nuns were turned out and the monasteries sold to wealthy nobles. In this way, Henry increased his treasury and formed a firm bond with grateful nobles. During the short and unhappy reign of Edward VI. However, under Mary I. Protestants were ruthlessly persecuted, which earned the queen the epithet "Bloody Mary. She followed a middle course on religious matters by resisting the extremes of both the Catholics and the Calvinists. The Elizabethan Age saw the flowering of literature, most notably through the works of William Shakespeare, and a corresponding development in commercial activity. He had proposed marriage in order to expand his realm of influence and win back wayward England to Catholicism. Elizabeth had no desire to lead her country down that path and managed to delay a final answer for years. She knew that a confrontation with Spain would occur at some point, but wanted to wait until English defenses were strengthened. Tensions with Spain were brought to the boiling point by the Sea Dogs, a group of privateers who preyed on the riches found in Spanish ships coming from the New World. Elizabeth provided unofficial encouragement for these ventures, which were headed by the likes of Francis Drake, John Hawkins, Walter Raleigh and Humphrey Gilbert. He realized that Elizabeth would never marry him and that the maritime rivalry between the two nations probably was sanctioned by the queen. Its utter and famous defeat left England unchallenged as the major sea power in the world. He cruised coastal Newfoundland and noted the excellent fishing opportunities along the Grand Banks, but his favorable report on commercial opportunities in the New World elicited little response. England would content itself with the profits from its flourishing wool trade for much of the next century. Martin Frobisher conducted three voyages to the New World in the years from 1576 to 1578. His initial aim of finding a Northwest Passage was changed to the pursuit of gold. His reputation went into decline for a number of years, but rebounded during his service against Spain. John Davis did much to clear up uncertainties about the geography of extreme northeast North America in voyages in 1595, 1596, and 1597. The Strait separating Greenland and Baffin Island bears his name. Overall, these efforts were not successful. The rumored all-water route through North America to Asia was not discovered,

nor were appreciable amounts of gold or silver. However, English interest in the New World would pick up steam in the early years of the 17th century when two major domestic changes occurred: Hostility toward religious dissenters in England provoked many of them to embark on a perilous voyage and suffer hardship in a remote colony in exchange for the opportunity to worship as they believed. New forms of business organization developed, which provided sufficient funding for the establishment of colonies. Some of the new investors were content to wait a period of years for a return, rather than demand immediate profits from gold and silver. Off-site search results for "England in the Age of Discovery" The Age of Discovery His motives were mixed. He was curious about the world; he was interested in new navigational aids and The Age of Discovery In this respect, the age is also connected to the idea of the Crusades of the 12th and 13th centuries. See Medieval and Age of Discovery.

Chapter 3 : - Geography of Religion in England by John D Gay

England has a long history with human settlement dating back to prehistoric times, and it became a unified region in It was then the independent Kingdom of England until , when the Kingdom of Great Britain was founded.

Print this page Striving to be Roman The Roman invasion of Britain was arguably the most significant event ever to happen to the British Isles. It affected our language, our culture, our geography, our architecture and even the way we think. Our island has a Roman name, its capital is a Roman city and for centuries even after the Norman Conquest the language of our religion and administration was a Roman one. In the wake of the Roman occupation, every "Briton" was aware of their "Britishness". For years, Rome brought a unity and order to Britain that it had never had before. Prior to the Romans, Britain was a disparate set of peoples with no sense of national identity beyond that of their local tribe. This defined them as something different from those people who came after them, colouring their national mythology, so that the Welsh could see themselves as the true heirs of Britain, whilst the Scots and Irish were proud of the fact that they had never been conquered by Rome. Each was trying to regain the glory of that long-lost age when Britannia was part of a grand civilisation, which shaped the whole of Europe and was one unified island. The truth about Roman Britain is much more subtle and surprising I am usually asked five questions whenever people talk to me about Roman Britain, and they find the answers profoundly surprising. They see the Romans as something akin to the Nazis which is hardly surprising since the fascists tried to model themselves on Rome. The truth about Roman Britain is much more subtle and surprising, and serves to show why on the one hand their legacy has endured so long, and on the other, why their culture vanished so quickly once they departed from these shores. The first of these was Julius Caesar. This great republican general had conquered Gaul and was looking for an excuse to avoid returning to Rome. Britain afforded him one, in 55 BC, when Commius, king of the Atrebatas, was ousted by Cunobelin, king of the Catuvellauni, and fled to Gaul. Caesar seized the opportunity to mount an expedition on behalf of Commius. He wanted to gain the glory of a victory beyond the Great Ocean, and believed that Britain was full of silver and booty to be plundered. His first expedition, however, was ill-conceived and too hastily organised. With just two legions, he failed to do much more than force his way ashore at Deal and win a token victory that impressed the senate in Rome more than it did the tribesmen of Britain. In 54 BC, he tried again, this time with five legions, and succeeded in re-establishing Commius on the Atrebatian throne. Yet he returned to Gaul disgruntled and empty-handed, complaining in a letter to Cicero that there was no silver or booty to be found in Britain after all. He needed the prestige of military conquest to consolidate his hold on power. He was to use an identical excuse to Caesar for very similar reasons. Claudius had recently been made emperor in a palace coup. Into this situation came Verica, successor to Commius, complaining that the new chief of the Catuvellauni, Caratacus, had deprived him of his throne. Like Caesar, Claudius seized his chance. In AD 43, he sent four legions across the sea to invade Britain. They landed at Richborough and pushed towards the River Medway, where they met with stiff resistance. Vespasian marched west, to storm Maiden Castle and Hod Hill with such ruthless efficiency that the catapult bolts used to subdue them can still be dug out of the ground today. Hod Hill contains a tiny Roman fort from this time, tucked into one corner of its massive earthworks. Meanwhile, Claudius arrived in Britain to enter the Catuvellaunian capital of Colchester in triumph. He founded a temple there, containing a fine bronze statue of himself, and established a legionary fortress. He remained in Britain for only 16 days. Rome was prepared to defend her new acquisition to the death. It took another 30 years to conquer the rest of the island bar the Highlands. Once in, Rome was prepared to defend her new acquisition to the death. It has been said that Rome conquered an empire in a fit of absent-mindedness. Britain is a case in point. As long as you acknowledged the imperial cult and paid your taxes, Rome did not really care how you lived your life. There were Batavians, Thracians, Mauretians, Sarmatians: They settled all over Britain, becoming naturalised British citizens of the Roman Empire, erecting a wealth of inscriptions which attest to their assimilation and prosperity. Most of them settled in or near the fort where they had served, staying close to their friends. Gradually, these urban settlements outside the fort grew into townships, which were eventually granted municipal status. Standing on the city

walls, you can still look down upon the remains of the amphitheatre that stood outside the military camp. In this way, the army acted as the natural force of assimilation. Vindolanda housed several units in its history, among them the Ninth Batavians - from whom a large pile of correspondence was found written on thin wooden writing tablets, deposited in one of their rubbish tips. There were over of these writing tablets dating to AD. Mainly official documents and letters written in ink, they are the oldest historical documents known from Britain. Among them is a set of letters between Sulpicia Lepidina, wife of the camp commander, and her friend Claudia Severa, wife of the commander at Housesteads, around ten miles up the road. Life for the ordinary people of the vicus or village seemed a little more interesting than that of the upper classes, but it remained harsh and unforgiving. In the third century AD, marriage for soldiers was permitted, and the vicus, where their concubines had always lived, was rebuilt in stone. They constructed a beautiful little bath-house where the soldiers could relax, and a guest-house called a mansio, with six guest-rooms and its own private bath suite - for travellers on official business - along the wall. The vicus at Housesteads was rebuilt at the same time incidentally, an excavation of one of its houses uncovered a murdered couple hidden under the floorboards. The Boudiccan revolt was caused not because the Iceni were opposed to Roman rule, but because they had embraced it too whole-heartedly. Rome controlled its provinces by bribing the local elite. They were given power, wealth, office and status on condition that they kept the peace and adopted Roman ways. If you took a Roman name, spoke Latin and lived in a villa, you were assured of receiving priesthoods and positions of local power. The quid pro quo was that you were expected to spend your money and influence in providing Roman amenities for your people, newly civilised in the literal sense that Roman towns and cities were founded for them to live in. In Britain, physical evidence of this process can be seen in inscriptions at the colonia of Colchester and in the palace of the client king Cogidubnus at Fishbourne, with its spectacular mosaics. However, new provinces brought with them new markets and unscrupulous speculators eager to fleece the unwary. It was like the introduction of the free market to the post-communist world, and the worst sharks were in the Imperial Household itself. At the same time, those who had been made priests of the Imperial Cult at Colchester found it an expensive task. Boudicca was flogged and her daughters were raped. It was at this point that Prasutagus, king of the Iceni, died. In his will, he left half of his kingdom to the emperor Nero, hoping in this way to secure the other half for his wife, Boudicca. However, the imperial procurator, Decianus Catus, was aware that Nero viewed a half-share of an estate as a personal snub, and moved to sequester the lot. At the same time, he sent in the bailiffs to act on the loans outstanding and allowed the local centurions to requisition provisions for the army. When the royal family resisted these moves, Boudicca was flogged and her daughters were raped. There could be only one consequence. The humiliated Iceni rose up in revolt, joined by other East Anglian tribes who had similar grievances. They could not have picked a better time. The governor, Suetonius Paullinus, was in Anglesey, subduing the druids, with most of the army of the province. What remained of the Ninth Legion was massacred when it tried to stop the rebels, and Colchester, London and Verulamium were razed to the ground. The black earth of the destruction layer and mutilated tombstones attest to the ferocity of the British assault. With just men to defend him, Decianus Catus fled to Gaul at their approach. Paullinus rushed back from Anglesey to deal with the revolt. The site of the final battle is still disputed, but the form it took is well described Tacitus provides a graphic depiction of the whole revolt. Boudicca was defeated and committed suicide shortly afterwards. The punitive expedition into Iceni territory was halted when it was feared that further reprisals would harm future imperial revenues. Meanwhile Catus was replaced by Classicianus, a Romanised Gaul from Trier, who took a softer approach. His tombstone can be found in London, which became the new provincial capital at this time. Top Religion of the Romano-Britons Both Rome and Britain had polytheistic religions, in which a multiplicity of gods could be propitiated at many levels. At one end of the spectrum were the official cults of the emperor and the Capitoline Triad: Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, linked to other Olympian gods like Mars. At the other end, every spring, every river, every cross-roads, lake or wood had its own local spirit with its own local shrine. The Romans had no problem in combining these with their own gods, simply associating them with the gods or goddesses who most resembled them. She was linked to Minerva, for her healing qualities, but images of other gods and goddesses were also set up in the temple, most especially Diana the Huntress, to whom an altar was dedicated.

Over 6,000 coins were cast as offerings into the waters of Bath, along with vast quantities of lead or bronze curse tablets, asking Sulis-Minerva to intercede on behalf of the worshipper. These were also nailed up on poles within the temple precinct and provide an interesting glimpse into the everyday and not so everyday lives of the people who visited the shrine. This did not just happen in Bath: He is not to buy back this gift unless with his own blood. Whoever stole his property, the god is to find him. Let him buy it back with his blood or his own life. To the god Nodens: Silvianus has lost his ring and promises half its value to Nodens. Among those named Senecianus, let none enjoy health until he brings it back to the temple of Nodens. It seems likely that both Silvianus and Senecianus had gone to Lydney for its healing properties. A further wrinkle is added by the find of a beautiful hexagonal ring bearing an image of Venus in the nearby Christian church at Silchester, on which was inscribed: Since the curse was renewed, the ring obviously stayed lost.

Chapter 4 : England Geography

Comment: A lot of creases, scratches and shelf wear on cover. Also foxing on outer edges of pages and a name and date have been handwritten on first page. A few notes have been handwritten in pencil in margins of content but it is fine to read.

Stonehenge , a Neolithic monument The earliest known evidence of human presence in the area now known as England was that of Homo antecessor , dating to approximately , years ago. By heating together tin and copper, which were in abundance in the area, the Beaker culture people made bronze , and later iron from iron ores. The development of iron smelting allowed the construction of better ploughs , advancing agriculture for instance, with Celtic fields , as well as the production of more effective weapons. Brythonic was the spoken language during this time. Earlier divisions are unknown because the Britons were not literate. Like other regions on the edge of the Empire, Britain had long enjoyed trading links with the Romans. The Romans invaded Britain in 43 AD during the reign of Emperor Claudius , subsequently conquering much of Britain , and the area was incorporated into the Roman Empire as Britannia province. According to Bede , missionaries were sent from Rome by Eleutherius at the request of the chieftain Lucius of Britain in AD, to settle differences as to Eastern and Western ceremonials, which were disturbing the church. There are traditions linked to Glastonbury claiming an introduction through Joseph of Arimathea , while others claim through Lucius of Britain. This period of Christianity was influenced by ancient Celtic culture in its sensibilities, polity, practices and theology. Local "congregations" were centred in the monastic community and monastic leaders were more like chieftains, as peers, rather than in the more hierarchical system of the Roman-dominated church. Contemporary texts describing this period are extremely scarce, giving rise to its description as a Dark Age. The nature and progression of the Anglo-Saxon settlement of Britain is consequently subject to considerable disagreement. Roman-dominated Christianity had, in general, disappeared from the conquered territories, but was reintroduced by missionaries from Rome led by Augustine from onwards. During the settlement period the lands ruled by the incomers seem to have been fragmented into numerous tribal territories, but by the 7th century, when substantial evidence of the situation again becomes available, these had coalesced into roughly a dozen kingdoms including Northumbria , Mercia , Wessex , East Anglia , Essex , Kent and Sussex. Over the following centuries, this process of political consolidation continued. Later in that century escalating attacks by the Danes culminated in the conquest of the north and east of England, overthrowing the kingdoms of Northumbria, Mercia and East Anglia. Wessex under Alfred the Great was left as the only surviving English kingdom, and under his successors, it steadily expanded at the expense of the kingdoms of the Danelaw. A fresh wave of Scandinavian attacks from the late 10th century ended with the conquest of this united kingdom by Sweyn Forkbeard in and again by his son Cnut in , turning it into the centre of a short-lived North Sea Empire that also included Denmark and Norway. However, the native royal dynasty was restored with the accession of Edward the Confessor in Catholic monasticism flourished, providing philosophers, and the universities of Oxford and Cambridge were founded with royal patronage. The Principality of Wales became a Plantagenet fief during the 13th century [52] and the Lordship of Ireland was given to the English monarchy by the Pope. In contrast with much of European Protestantism, the roots of the split were more political than theological. The former took the country back to Catholicism while the latter broke from it again, forcefully asserting the supremacy of Anglicanism. Competing with Spain , the first English colony in the Americas was founded in by explorer Walter Raleigh in Virginia and named Roanoke. The Roanoke colony failed and is known as the lost colony after it was found abandoned on the return of the late-arriving supply ship. During the Elizabethan period , England was at war with Spain. An armada sailed from Spain in as part of a wider plan to invade England and re-establish a Catholic monarchy. The plan was thwarted by bad coordination, stormy weather and successful harrying attacks by an English fleet under Lord Howard of Effingham. This failure did not end the threat: Spain launched two further armadas, in and , but both were driven back by storms. The political structure of the island changed in , when the King of Scots , James VI , a kingdom which had been a long-time rival to

English interests, inherited the throne of England as James I , thereby creating a personal union. This was an interwoven part of the wider multifaceted Wars of the Three Kingdoms , involving Scotland and Ireland. The Parliamentarians were victorious, Charles I was executed and the kingdom replaced by the Commonwealth. Leader of the Parliament forces, Oliver Cromwell declared himself Lord Protector in ; a period of personal rule followed. After the Glorious Revolution of , it was constitutionally established that King and Parliament should rule together, though Parliament would have the real power. This was established with the Bill of Rights in . Among the statutes set down were that the law could only be made by Parliament and could not be suspended by the King, also that the King could not impose taxes or raise an army without the prior approval of Parliament. In the Great Fire of London gutted the City of London but it was rebuilt shortly afterwards [70] with many significant buildings designed by Sir Christopher Wren. In Parliament two factions had emerged – the Tories and Whigs. Some English people, especially in the north, were Jacobites and continued to support James and his sons. After the parliaments of England and Scotland agreed, [71] the two countries joined in political union , to create the Kingdom of Great Britain in . Domestically it drove the Industrial Revolution , a period of profound change in the socioeconomic and cultural conditions of England, resulting in industrialised agriculture, manufacture, engineering and mining, as well as new and pioneering road, rail and water networks to facilitate their expansion and development. During the Napoleonic Wars , Napoleon planned to invade from the south-east. However this failed to manifest and the Napoleonic forces were defeated by the British at sea by Lord Nelson and on land by the Duke of Wellington. The Napoleonic Wars fostered a concept of Britishness and a united national British people , shared with the Scots and Welsh. Developments in warfare technology saw many cities damaged by air-raids during the Blitz. Combined, these changes prompted the reform of local government in England in the mid 19th century. Since the late 20th century the administration of the United Kingdom has moved towards devolved governance in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

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Bring fact-checked results to the top of your browser search. Religion The various Christian denominations in the United Kingdom have emerged from schisms that divided the church over the centuries. This break with Rome facilitated the adoption of some Protestant tenets and the founding of the Church of England, still the state church in England, although Roman Catholicism has retained adherents. In Scotland the Reformation gave rise to the Church of Scotland, which was governed by presbyteries—local bodies composed of ministers and elders—rather than by bishops, as was the case in England. Roman Catholicism in Ireland as a whole was almost undisturbed by these events, but in what became Northern Ireland the Anglican and Scottish Presbyterian churches had many adherents. In the 17th century further schisms divided the Church of England as a consequence of the Puritan movement, which gave rise to so-called Nonconformist denominations, such as the Baptists and the Congregationalists, that reflected the Puritan desire for simpler forms of worship and church government. The Society of Friends Quakers also originated at that time. Religious revivals of the mid-18th century gave Wales a form of Protestantism closely linked with the Welsh language; the Presbyterian Church of Wales or Calvinistic Methodism remains the most powerful religious body in the principality. The great Evangelical revivals of the 18th century, associated with John Wesley and others, led to the foundation of Methodist churches, particularly in the industrial areas. Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire in northeastern England and Cornwall in the southwestern peninsula still have the largest percentages of Methodists. In the 19th century the Salvation Army and various fundamentalist faiths developed. Denominations from the United States also gained adherents, and there was a marked increase in the practice of Judaism in Britain. In 1492 Jews were expelled from Britain, as they would be from other countries in the 14th and 15th centuries, a reflection of medieval anti-Semitism. The first Jewish community to be reestablished in Britain was in London in the 17th century, and in the 19th century Jews also settled in many of the large provincial cities. More than half of all British Jews live in Greater London, and nearly all the rest are members of urban communities. Britain now has the second largest Jewish community in Europe. Religious affiliation Cathedral Church of St. Peter at Exeter, Devon, England. Colour Library International The British tradition of religious tolerance has been particularly important since the 19th century, when immigrants began to introduce a great variety of religious beliefs. There are large and growing communities that practice Islam, Hinduism, and Sikhism. The largest number of Muslims came from Pakistan and Bangladesh, with sizable groups from India, Cyprus, the Arab world, Malaysia, and parts of Africa. The large Sikh and Hindu communities originated in India. There are also many Buddhist groups. Settlement patterns British culture preserves regional variations, though they have become more muted over time. Still, the cultural identities of the Northern Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and Cornish—to say nothing of the rivalry between a North and South Walian or a Highland and Lowland Scot—are as distinct as the obvious geographic identities of these parts of the highland zone. Rural settlement The diverse forms and patterns of settlement in the United Kingdom reflect not only the physical variety of the landscape but also the successive movements of peoples arriving as settlers, refugees, or conquerors from continental Europe, along with the changing economic contexts in which settlement has occurred. Social and economic advantages led some people to cluster, whereas others had an equally strong desire for separateness. Both tendencies mark settlement forms in Britain from very early times, and regional contrasts in the degree of dispersion and nucleation are frequent. Single farmsteads, the many surviving old clachans clusters or hamlets, and occasional villages and small towns still characterize much of the highland zone. Some nucleated settlement patterns, however, have undergone radical change. In Wales hamlets began to disappear in the late Middle Ages through the related processes of consolidation and enclosure that accompanied the decline in the size of the bond feudally tied population. The Black Death of 1347–50, which spread quickly among poorer inhabitants, reinforced this trend. Thus, many Welsh hamlets had fallen into decay by 1400, when the rebellion was crushed. In Scotland great changes accompanied the late 18th-century

Highland clearances , in which landlords forcibly evicted tenants and converted their holdings to sheep pastures. As late as the s many clachans disappeared in Northern Ireland as part of a deliberate policy of reallocating land to new dispersed farmsteads. Great changes have also occurred in the lowland zone, where the swing to individual ownership or tenancy from the medieval custom of landholding in common brought about not only dispersion and deserted villages but the enclosure of fields by hedges and walls. Villages remain remarkably stable features of the rural landscape of Britain, however, and linear, round, oval, and ring-shaped villages survive, many with their ancient greens still held in common by the community. Village of Hambleden, Buckinghamshire, Eng.

Chapter 6 : Religion in England and Wales - Office for National Statistics

Although England is a small and homogeneous country bound together by law, administration, and a comprehensive transport system, distinctive regional differences have arisen from the country's geography and history. It was natural for different groups of the population to establish themselves in recognizable physical areas.

England, predominant constituent unit of the United Kingdom, occupying more than half of the island of Great Britain. Despite the political, economic, and cultural legacy that has secured the perpetuation of its name, England no longer officially exists as a governmental or political unit—unlike Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, which all have varying degrees of self-government in domestic affairs. It is rare for institutions to operate for England alone. Notable exceptions are the Church of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, including Northern Ireland, have separate branches of the Anglican Communion and sports associations for cricket, rugby, and football soccer. In many ways England has seemingly been absorbed within the larger mass of Great Britain since the Act of Union of 1707. Laced by great rivers and small streams, England is a fertile land, and the generosity of its soil has supported a thriving agricultural economy for millennia. Today the metropolitan area of London encompasses much of southeastern England and continues to serve as the financial centre of Europe and to be a centre of innovation—particularly in popular culture. LondonTime-lapse video of London. Alex Silver One of the fundamental English characteristics is diversity within a small compass. Formed of the union of small Celtic and Anglo-Saxon kingdoms during the early medieval period, England has long comprised several distinct regions, each different in dialect, economy, religion, and disposition; indeed, even today many English people identify themselves by the regions or shires from which they come. Yet commonalities are more important than these differences, many of which began to disappear in the era after World War II, especially with the transformation of England from a rural into a highly urbanized society. While English culture draws on the cultures of the world, it is quite unlike any other, if difficult to identify and define. There is something distinctive and recognizable in English civilization. It has a flavour of its own. Moreover it is continuous, it stretches into the future and the past, there is something in it that persists, as in a living creature. Much of it consists of rolling hillsides, with the highest elevations found in the north, northwest, and southwest. The oldest sedimentary rocks and some igneous rocks in isolated hills of granite are in Cornwall and Devon on the southwestern peninsula, ancient volcanic rocks underlie parts of the Cumbrian Mountains, and the most recent alluvial soils cover the Fens of Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk. Between these regions lie bands of sandstones and limestones of different geologic periods, many of them relicts of primeval times when large parts of central and southern England were submerged below warm seas. Geologic forces lifted and folded some of these rocks to form the spine of northern England—the Pennines, which rise to 2,952 metres at Cross Fell. The Cumbrian Mountains, which include the famous Lake District, reach 3,192 metres at Scafell Pike, the highest point in England. Slate covers most of the northern portion of the mountains, and thick beds of lava are found in the southern part. Other sedimentary layers have yielded chains of hills ranging from 1,000 metres in the North Downs to 1,524 metres in the Cotswolds. The hills known as the Chilterns, the North York Moors, and the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds were rounded into characteristic plateaus with west-facing escarpments during three successive glacial periods of the Pleistocene Epoch about 115,000, 70,000, and 11,700 years ago. When the last ice sheet melted, the sea level rose, submerging the land bridge that had connected Great Britain with the European mainland. Deep deposits of sand, gravel, and glacial mud left by the retreating glaciers further altered the landscape. Erosion by rain, river, and tides and subsidence in parts of eastern England subsequently shaped the hills and the coastline. Plateaus of limestone, gritstone, and carboniferous strata are associated with major coalfields, some existing as outcrops on the surface. The geologic complexity of England is strikingly illustrated in the cliff structure of its shoreline. A varied panorama of cliffs, bays, and river estuaries distinguishes the English coastline, which, with its many indentations, is some 2,800 km long. The Welland river valley forms part of the rich agricultural land of Lincolnshire. The Thames, the longest river in England, also rises in the Cotswolds and drains a large part of southeastern England. All flow into the English Channel and in some

instances help to form a pleasing landscape along the coast. Soils In journeys of only a few miles it is possible to pass through a succession of different soil structures—such as from chalk down to alluvial river valley, from limestone to sandstone and acid heath, and from clay to sand—each type of soil bearing its own class of vegetation. The Cumbrian Mountains and most of the southwestern peninsula have acid brown soils. The eastern section of the Pennines has soils ranging from brown earths to podzols. Leached brown soils predominate in much of southern England. Acid soils and podzols occur in the southeast. Regional characteristics, however, are important. Black soil covers the Fens in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk; clay soil predominates in the hills of the Weald in East Sussex and West Sussex ; and the chalk downs, especially the North Downs of Kent, are covered by a variety of stiff, brown clay, with sharp angular flints. Fine-grained deposits of alluvium occur in the floodplains, and fine marine silt occurs around the Wash estuary. Climate Weather in England is as variable as the topography. England is known as a wet country, and this is certainly true in the northwest and southwest. However, the northeastern and central regions receive less than 30 inches mm of rainfall annually and frequently suffer from drought. In parts of the southeast the annual rainfall averages only 20 inches mm. Not for nothing has the bumbershoot been the stereotypical walking stick of the English gentleman. Plant and animal life England shares with the rest of Britain a diminished spectrum of vegetation and living creatures, partly because the island was separated from the mainland of Europe soon after much of it had been swept bare by the last glacial period and partly because the land has been so industriously worked by humans. For example, a drastic depletion of mature broad-leaved forests, especially oak , was a result of the overuse of timber in the iron and shipbuilding industries. Today only a small part of the English countryside is woodland. Broad-leaved oak, beech, ash, birch, and elm and conifer pine, fir, spruce, and larch trees dominate the landscapes of Kent, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex , Suffolk , and Hampshire. Vegetation patterns have been further modified through overgrazing, forest clearance, reclamation and drainage of marshlands, and the introduction of exotic plant species. Though there are fewer species of plants than in the European mainland, they nevertheless span a wide range and include some rarities. Certain Mediterranean species exist in the sheltered and almost subtropical valleys of the southwest, while tundra-like vegetation is found in parts of the moorland of the northeast. England has a profusion of summer wildflowers in its fields, lanes, and hedgerows, though in some areas these have been severely reduced by the use of herbicides on farms and roadside verges. Cultivated gardens, which contain many species of trees, shrubs, and flowering plants from around the world, account for much of the varied vegetation of the country. Mammal species such as the bear, wolf, and beaver were exterminated in historic times, but others such as the fallow deer , rabbit, and rat have been introduced. More recently birds of prey have suffered at the hands of farmers protecting their stock and their game birds. The bird life is unusually varied, mainly because England lies along the route of bird migrations. Some birds have found town gardens, where they are often fed, to be a favourable environment , and in London about different species are recorded annually. London also is a habitat conducive to foxes, which in small numbers have colonized woods and heaths within a short distance of the city centre. There are few kinds of reptiles and amphibians—about half a dozen species of each—but they are nearly all plentiful where conditions suit them. Freshwater fish are numerous; the char and allied species of the lakes of Cumbria probably represent an ancient group, related to the trout, that migrated to the sea before the tectonic changes that formed these lakes cut off their outlet. The marine fishes are abundant in species and in absolute numbers. The great diversity of shorelines produces habitats for numerous types of invertebrate animals. People Ethnic groups and languages The English language is polyglot, drawn from a variety of sources, and its vocabulary has been augmented by importations from throughout the world. The English language does not identify the English, for it is the main language of Wales, Scotland, Ireland, many Commonwealth countries, and the United States. The primary source of the language, however, is the main ethnic stem of the English: Their language provides the most commonly used words in the modern English vocabulary. During the Roman occupation England was inhabited by Celtic-speaking Brythons or Britons , but the Brythons yielded to the invading Teutonic Angles, Saxons, and Jutes from present northwestern Germany except in the mountainous areas of western and northern Great Britain. The Anglo-Saxons preserved and absorbed little of the Roman-British culture they found in the 5th century. The history of England before the

Norman Conquest is poorly documented, but what stands out is the tenacity of the Anglo-Saxons in surviving a succession of invasions. They united most of what is now England from the 9th to the mid-11th century, only to be overthrown by the Normans in 1066. For two centuries Norman French became the language of the court and the ruling nobility; yet English prevailed and by 1290 had reestablished itself as an official language. Church Latin, as well as a residue of Norman French, was incorporated into the language during this period. It was subsequently enriched by the Latin and Greek of the educated scholars of the Renaissance. The seafarers, explorers, and empire builders of modern history have imported foreign words, most copiously from Europe but also from Asia. These words have been so completely absorbed into the language that they pass unselfconsciously as English. The English, it might be said, are great Anglicizers. The English have also absorbed and Anglicized non-English peoples, from Scandinavian pillagers and Norman conquerors to Latin church leaders. Among royalty, a Welsh dynasty of monarchs, the Tudors, was succeeded by the Scottish Stuarts, to be followed by the Dutch William of Orange and the German Hanoverians. English became the main language for the Scots, Welsh, and Irish. England provided a haven for refugees from the time of the Huguenots in the 17th century to the totalitarian persecutions of the 20th century. Many Jews have settled in England. Since World War II there has been large-scale immigration from Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean, posing seemingly more difficult problems of assimilation, and restrictive immigration regulations have been imposed that are out of step with the open-door policy that had been an English tradition for many generations.

Religion Although the Church of England is formally established as the official church, with the monarch at its head, England is a highly secularized country. The Church of England has some 13,000 parishes and a similar number of clergy, but it solemnizes fewer than one-third of marriages and baptizes only one in four babies. The Nonconformist non-Anglican Protestant churches have nominally fewer members, but there is probably greater dedication among them, as with the Roman Catholic church. There is virtually complete religious tolerance in England and no longer any overt prejudice against Catholics. The decline in churchgoing has been thought to be an indicator of decline in religious belief, but opinion polls substantiate the view that belief in God and the central tenets of Christianity survives the flagging fortunes of the churches. Some churches—most notably those associated with the Evangelical movement—have small but growing memberships. There are also large communities of Muslims, Jews, Sikhs, and Hindus.

Cathedral of Saint Mary, Chelmsford, England. Allan Cash Photolibary

Settlement patterns The modern landscape of England has been so significantly changed by humans that there is virtually no genuine wilderness left. Only the remotest moorland and mountaintops have been untouched. Even the bleak Pennine moors of the north are crisscrossed by dry stone walls, and their vegetation is modified by the cropping of mountain sheep. The marks of centuries of exploitation and use dominate the contemporary landscape. The oldest traces are the antiquarian survivals, such as the Bronze Age forts studding the chalk downs of the southwest, and the corrugations left by the strip farming of medieval open fields. More significant is the structure of towns and villages, which was established in Roman-British and Anglo-Saxon times and has persisted as the basic pattern. The English live in scattered high-density groupings, whether in villages or towns or, in modern times, cities. Although the latter sprawled into conurbations during the 19th and early 20th centuries without careful planning, the government has since limited the encroachment of urban development, and England retains extensive tracts of farming countryside between its towns, its smaller villages often engulfed in the vegetation of trees, copses, hedgerows, and fields:

Chapter 7 : England in the Age of Discovery

Religion. The various Christian denominations in the United Kingdom have emerged from schisms that divided the church over the centuries. The greatest of these occurred in England in the 16th century, when Henry VIII rejected the supremacy of the pope.

Scotland borders England to the north and Wales to the west. This contributes to its natural abundance, popularity amongst locals and tourists and transport system England covers approximately square kilometres or 50 square miles and has a population of just under 60 million people. England Derbyshire Peak District national park high peak junction. England can be divided into: The Highland Zone This zone is characterised by rocky, rugged hills and eroded mountain faces, interrupted by valleys and extensive plains. Because these higher lying areas get less sunlight during the day and more rainfall than the lower lying areas, they are generally colder and unsuitable for farming. Some of these mountains peak at an impressive feet or metres above sea level. Devon and Cornwall are situated on a peninsula that is part of the Highland Zone, and is particularly rugged and bare. The Lowland Zone This zone experiences less rain and more sunshine than the high-lying regions. The soil is more fertile, yielding far better crops. The landscape boasts rolling hills that are not very high, making for the ideal place to live and farm. For this reason, most English inhabitants can be found in the Lowland Zone. England makes extensive use of its inland waterways, such as its rivers. When the tide is high, ships can travel along these rivers and into the ports. The Pennines Mountain Range is the oldest of its kind in England, being dated at million years of age. This mountain range measures approximately kilometres or miles in length. The whole area of the Pennines is diverse, boasting valleys, rivers and stark cliff faces as part of its topography. The highest peak in all of England is Scafell Pike Cumbria , at an amazing feet or metres above sea level. Winter temperatures seldom plummet below zero degrees Celsius, while summer highs can reach about 30 degrees Celsius. January and February are coldest and usually experience snowfall, while July is the hottest month. England is a relatively wet country due to its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean. This, in turn, has created a lush land of greenery and blooms. For more information, please view:

Chapter 8 : BBC - History - Ancient History in depth: An Overview of Roman Britain

The prevailing religion of the New England Colonies was Christianity, but along markedly different lines to the Anglican Church (or Church of England) that the settlers had fled.

Map of the 13 Colonies
The Three Regions of the 13 Colonies
The number of people differed among the colony regions; the amount of land in the colonies also differed among the regions with small numbers of people on huge tracts of land.
The Environment of the New England Colonies
The climate of the New England Colonies was colder than the other two colonial regions because they were the farthest north. The climate was a positive factor for the colonists in the New England Colonies; it prevented the spread of life-threatening diseases. The climate was a negative factor for the colonist in the New England Colonies; the severe winters killed many people. The geography of New England was mostly hills with rocky soil. The natural resources of the New England Colonies
The natural resources of the New England Colonies included fish, whales, trees and furs. The natural resources were more important than agricultural crops to colonists in New England because of poor, rocky soil and the short growing season. Religious freedom in Puritan colonies did not exist.
The Environment of the Southern Colonies
The climate of the Southern Colonies was the warmest climate of the three colonial regions. The warmer climate was a positive factor for the colonists in the Southern Colonies. The warmer climate was a negative factor for the colonists in the Southern Colonies; the warm, moist climate carried diseases that killed the colonists. The geography of the Southern Colonies which had a broad, coastal plain that was hilly and covered with forests. The natural resources of the Southern Colonies included rich farm land, forests and fish. No single church or religion dominated in the Middle Colonies.
Contrasts Between the North and the South
Agricultural Differences
The environment impacted the economy and agriculture in the New England Colonies; farming was not as important for making a living because of climate and geography. The differences between the New England Colonies and the Southern Colonies in agriculture included the climate and geography. Agriculture influences trade
The difference between the New England Colonies and the Southern Colonies in agriculture: Southern colonists exported agricultural products and New England colonists imported agricultural products.
Manufacturing Differences
The New England Colonies looked to their natural resources as a way to make a living; the environment forced them to look for other ways to make a living other than farming. The differences in manufacturing occurred between the Southern Colonies and the New England Colonies: The Southern Colonies developed their main natural resource, their farmland, and not much manufacturing; the opposite occurred in New England.

Chapter 9 : Geography of England - Wikipedia

Religion - The New England colonies were dominated by the Puritans, reformers seeking to "purify" Christianity, who came over from England to practice religion without persecution. Puritans followed strict rules and were intolerant of other religions, eventually absorbing the separatist Pilgrims in Massachusetts by