

Wales



Wales is a part of the United Kingdom. It is located to the west of England. The capital of Wales is Cardiff, which has around 325,000 people. Wales has a population of less than three million people. Most of the people live in the south and the east of the country. The **main** languages spoken in Wales are Welsh and English. Welsh is a Celtic language, and about one out of every five people in Wales speaks it.

Wales is a very old country. People have lived in Wales for at least 29,000 years. The Romans first entered Wales over 2000 years ago, and they stayed in Wales for over 300 years. The Romans used their technology to collect large amounts of gold, copper and other metals such as lead. It is not clear what happened in the 400 years after the Romans left Wales, but by the 16th century Wales became a part of England. Laws were passed in England while Henry VIII was king of England. **Nowadays**, Wales is an **independent** country. Although it is joined with England by land, and it is part of Great Britain, Wales is a country in its own right.



1. According to the article, what is the capital city of Wales?
 - a) Welsh
 - b) Celtic
 - c) Cardiff
 - d) Swansea
2. The word “main” in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:
 - a) star
 - b) major
 - c) entire
 - d) extra
3. According to the article, how many people in Wales speak Welsh?
 - a) about 20% of the population
 - b) about 30% of the population
 - c) about 40% of the population
 - d) about 50% of the population
4. The word “independent” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:
 - a) allowed
 - b) lonely
 - c) separate
 - d) dependent
5. The word “Nowadays” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to:
 - a) suddenly
 - b) currently
 - c) previously
 - d) thoroughly
6. According to the article, what happened to Wales in the 1500s?
 - a) The Romans left Wales
 - b) It was joined with England
 - c) The Romans first came there
 - d) It isn't clear what happened

Answers: 1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (b)

