**ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES**

I. Read some short information about five English-speaking countries:

These countries have different histories, cultures, traditions, governments and geography.

1) The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is situated on the islands in the northwest of Europe. The Atlantic ocean is one the north of it and the North Sea to the east. The English Channel (21 miles) separates it from the continent.

Great Britain is the largest island. The three main parts of it are Scotland, England and Wales, Northern Ireland is situated on the island called Ireland.

The population of the United Kingdom is about 60 million and its capital is London.

The United Kingdom is a highly developed country. Its main cities are London, Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow.

2) The united States of America (USA) is located in North America. It is one of the largest countries in the world. The population of the USA is about 250 million people. The USA has 50 states. Its capital is Washington D.C. (the District of Columbia). Its main cities are New York, Chicago, san Francisco, Los Angeles and Boston.

It is highly developed country. People of very many nationalities live in the USA.

3) Canada is situated in North America. Three oceans surround it: the Atlantic, the Arctic and the Pacific.

The capital of the country is Ottawa. About 30 million people live in Canada.

It is a great industrial country. Its main cities are Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

4) Commonwealth of Australia occupies the continent of Australia and a number of islands (the main of which is Tasmania). It includes 6 states and 2 territories with a population of about 20 million people.

Its capital is Canberra and the main cities are Sidney and Melbourne.

5) New Zealand consists of several large and many smaller islands. Its population is about 4 million people. The capital is Wellington. The chief cities are Auckland, Dunedin and Nelson. It is a highly developed agriculture country.

II. Complete the chart, using the information of England-speaking countries:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Countries** | **Geographical characteristics** | **Population** | **Capital** | **Main towns** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

III. Which of the countries would you prefer to visit? Why? Put them in order of preference.

IV. Write down as many facts from the text I as you can. Exchange papers with a partner.