



UK: TO BE OR NOT TO BE...

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Abstract

Great Britain: to be or not to be ... From ancient times to the present day, Great Britain is associated with a large number of myths and legends. But if earlier they belonged to the history of the country, now they belong to climatic disasters. It is assumed that this is due to the warm current of the Gulf Stream, which "warms" the UK and Europe. It may stop or weaken. Scientists believe that the main reason for future flooding is the melting of the Arctic ice and the changing climate of the Earth due to rising temperatures. According to Jean Pascal Ypersel, vice-president of the Interstate Commission on Climate Change, London, Antwerp, Copenhagen, Rotterdam, Amsterdam could be swallowed up by the world's oceans, and the middle of this century will be the turning point of huge global catastrophes. Over the past 250 years, the UK has experienced many storms and rain. This determines the relevance of the selected study. The object of the study is the British Isles and the search for reasons that may lead to changes on the world map. Having studied the opinions and hypotheses of scientists on this issue, I found out how Great Britain was formed; possible global changes.



Purpose: to find out the possibility of the disappearance of some parts of the planet, Britain in particular, due to climate change and to find out the factors that can lead to these critical changes. East London could already be flooded, if not for the dam on the River Thames. **Methods:** search and study of scientific literature, its systematization, Internet survey. **Result:** changes can be caused by changing the position of the magnetic poles; the movement of continents and the earth's crust; salt anomaly and melting Arctic ice; an increase in the conservation of heat of the Gulf Stream; change in the Earth's magnetic field and as a result - the melting of ice at the poles and the rise in the level of the world's oceans. **Conclusion:** There is a 1 in 20 chance that ocean levels along the British coast could be 1 meter higher by 2100. Practical significance - knowledge of the processes taking place on the planet and which can lead to global changes. The study is closely related to the school curriculum in the 9th and 11th grades. How was the UK formed? According to scientists, the age of the Earth is 4.6 billion years. British rocks can tell about the movement of the island on the earth's surface. Every 500 million years, geologists noticed signs of mountain building. Much is said about the continental drift of various masses of earth wandering around the world. These days, satellites can measure their movement (about 15 mm per year). The planet's magnetic field is constantly changing. It surrounds the Earth 40,000 miles in space.

James Ross first determined the location of the North Pole in 1831. Roald Amundsen rediscovered the pole in 1904 and determined that it had moved 50 km since Ross' time. When the South Magnetic Pole was first discovered in 1909 it was located in Antarctica, but by 2000 in the Southern Ocean. The movement of the North Pole over 100 years at a rate of 10 km per year to the North has increased to 40 km per year over the past 30 years. At this rate, it will leave North America and reach Siberia in a few decades. Currently, the North Pole is located in northern Canada, 800 km from the geographic pole. The distance between the South Magnetic Pole and the geographic South Pole is 2858 km. Global warming is repositioning the Earth's geographic poles, according to a study in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*. The Earth's magnetic field is formed in the Earth's core.

In the history of geology, there have been a huge number of changes in the position of the poles, north to south: an average of 1 time in 200,000 years.



Since the 19th century, the magnetic field has weakened by 10%. According to University of California professor Gary Glatzmyer, this weakness does not mean a reversal is imminent. This takes several thousand years, and during this time the magnetic field does not disappear. Geological Survey of Canada scientist Larry Newit says that the reversal of the Earth's magnetic field consists of a few scientifically plausible ideas mixed with a large dosage of absolute nonsense. Does this mean that the Earth's magnetic field will disappear or change its location in the future? Perhaps not. Changes in the magnetic field are becoming a major problem in aviation, navigation, and wildlife migration using the magnetic field to navigate long distances. Some airports have had to change the names of their runways. What happens if the Earth's temperature increases? Even if the concentration of greenhouse gas emissions decreases in the atmosphere, this will still mean an increase in global temperature between 0.5 °C and 1 °C. Warming near the North Pole is occurring faster than the world average and Arctic glaciers have lost 400 km³ of ice in 40 years. More than half of the European summer months will be hotter by 2040, according to the Hadley Center. The Greenland ice is melting much faster than it should be. At this rate, the entire Greenland ice sheet will disappear within 140 years. Central London will be flooded. What caused the climate to change? Suspicion falls on methane hydrate - a combination of water and methane. Climate change affects not only the UK, but the whole world. Harsh winters have become milder. I turned to the climate studies of Belarusian scientists from the Institute for Problems of the Use of Natural Resources and Ecology. The greenhouse effect is one of the most important factors in the current climate warming. Severe temperature fluctuations cannot be explained by the greenhouse effect alone. Professor V. Loginov gives a number of explanations: an increase in the temperature of the Gulf Stream; accelerated ice melt and salt anomaly in the Arctic Ocean; slowing down the depth of the winter convention (cold water is "closed" in the upper layer of the ocean); drop in temperature in the Northern Hemisphere. Scientists at the University of Brussels warn that by 2050, parts of Europe could be uninhabitable due to flooding. A map created by the environment agency shows how east London could have become an underwater city if the Thames dike, the world's second largest flood protection system, had never been built.



It is always closed during storms, floods and high tides. The gates close in 10 minutes, the full closure takes 1.5 hours, which costs £16,000. The Environment Agency states that London is vulnerable to flooding and high tides from the North Sea to the English Channel and the Thames Estuary.

Melted ice from the poles could raise sea levels by up to 3 feet by the end of the century, according to scientists from the European Ice2Sea Programme, the British Antarctic Survey and the University of Bristol. There is a 1 in 20 chance of a 1m sea level rise around the British coast by the year 2100. I am very concerned about the future of my country, Belarus. The nearest distance from Belarus to the Baltic Sea is 198 km. Belarus is a low-lying country, like many European countries, and is located on the stable East European Platform, far from the fault line. This proves that Belarus will not experience catastrophic turbulences associated with the rupture of the territory and the loss of height above sea level. I chose 51 highest points above sea level in the UK and Belarus. Relief maps of both countries in comparison helped to see their real location, as well as to anticipate changes that may be caused by sea level rise, and expected areas for flooding, due to temperature changes, ice melt in the Arctic. I conducted an online survey among 200 Russian-speaking and English-speaking teenagers and adults in comparison. The question asked reads: "Is there evidence of some countries, the UK in particular, being flooded due to climate change, warming and melting ice at the North Pole, and changes in the Earth's magnetic field?" I came to the conclusion that: 15% of all respondents believe in evidence of flooding; 41.5% do not believe; 25% flooding possible; 9% do not know; 9.5% have not heard of this problem. To find out what influenced climate change on the entire planet, the theories of different scientists were compared from the point of view of certain areas of science and their opinions were analyzed. I concluded that changes on the Earth can be caused by several reasons: the shift of the magnetic poles; continental drift; the movement of the earth's crust; melting ice in the Arctic; salt anomaly in the Arctic Ocean; an increase in the heat of the Gulf Stream; changing the Earth's magnetic field and, as a result, all this can lead to the melting of ice at the North and South Poles and the rise in the level of the oceans. As for global warming, people should reduce the greenhouse effect. It would be ideal if from time to time "open the window of our planet and release gases into space."



Better yet, if some genius could invent climate control for the entire planet. The presented findings confirm the relevance of the study. This material can be used in English lessons. This study is a useful reference for those concerned about the future of the planet. Let's think positively. Those who have a desire to get an education in the UK (where education is considered one of the best in the world) should not give up their plans.

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