British Character.

One of the most striking features of British life is the self-discipline and courtesy/ вежливость/ of people of all classes. There is little noisy behaviour, and practically no loud disputing in the street. People do not rush excitedly for seats in buses or trains, but take their seats in queues at bus stops in a quiet and orderly manner.

The British are naturally polite and are never tired in saying "Thank you", "I'm sorry", "Beg your pardon". If you follow anyone who is entering a building or a room, he will hold a door open for you. Many foreigners have commented on a remarkable politeness of the British people.

The British don't like displaying their emotions even in dangerous and tragic situations, and ordinary people seem to remain good-tempered and cheerful under difficulties.

They don't like any boasting or showing off in manners, dress or speech.

Sometimes they conceal their knowledge: a linguist, for example, may not mention his understanding of a foreigner's language.

Everybody knows the English saying "My house is my castle" which demonstrates their right to privacy. They are proud of their isles which have given them a feeling of security. They call the strait between Britain and France the English Channel and the rest of Europe the Continent. The British are fond of pets (dogs, cats, caged birds) and children. Their mania for tea at any time of the day is world famous.

Britain is notorious / печально известный / for rainy weather but on the other hand probably this wet and mild climate makes the English lawns so green and fresh all the year round. People in Britain are allowed to walk on the grass and you can often see them picnicking on it. *This changeable weather may be the reason why the British talk about the weather a lot*. For example, "Isn't it a beautiful morning? " or , "Very cold today, isn 't it? " They talk about the weather because it changes so often. Wind, rain, sun, cloud, snow - they can all happen in a British winter - or a British summer.

At British banks, shops, cinemas, theatres or bus stops you can always see people in queues. They stand in a line and wait quietly, often for a long time. Each new person stands at the end of the queue - sometimes in rain, wind or snow. Queuing is a national passion. The British are really an orderly, organised nation.

They do not shake hands as often as we do. Hundreds years ago, soldiers began this custom. They shook hands to show that they didn't have a sword. Now, shaking hands is a custom in most countries. In Britain you don't shake hands with your friends and family. But you do shake hands when you meet a person for the first time. You also say "How do you do?" This is not really a question, it's a tradition. The correct answer is exactly the same, "How do you do? "

The British send birthday cards and often give birthday presents. There are cards for other days, too: Christmas cards, Valentine's Day cards, Mother's Day cards, Father's Day cards, Easter cards, Wedding Anniversary cards, Good Luck cards, "Congratulations On Your New Baby" cards, and "Get Well Soon" cards. In Britain there is a custom to celebrate a person's birthday, a new house, Christmas (at home, and often in offices, too), and engagement, a wedding, New Year's Eve

Although the British seem to be conservative and famous for their dry humour, they are much advanced in science and technology. Many games originated or were perfected in Britain.

The British are often viewed as the most Bering people in the word. They wear unimaginative formal clothes, eat tasteless food, practice slow sports and have a peculiar sense of humor which is usually not understood by foreigners. They are also said to be conservative, reserved and cool. Indeed, the British ae not very open or spontaneous. They do not kiss or embrace/ обниматься/ by way of greeting so as not to allow familiarity. They always keep a certain distance and are not willing to manifest their feelings and emotions. They are even accused of being hypocritical/лицемерный/ because they might think one thing and say another. It is not easy to make friends with them but once you have made a friend, it is a friend for life.

The best British characteistics

The British say they their best characteristics are culture, courtesy and consideration for the needs of others. Indeed, they are very polite. They always queue when they are waiting for a busy and hold the door open for the person behind them. Also, the British bobbies have a reputation of being the friendliest and helpful policeman in the world. On the other hand, English football fans are regarded as hooligans and vandals able to tear stadiums into pieces. Generally speaking, however, the British are well-mannered. It is also tue that they care for the needy, as there are a lot of charity organizations all over Britain.