The United Kingdom is known for its parliamentary democracy and academic stress on literature and science. This contributes to the public perception that all British people “wear red poppies, hate America, and have bad teeth” (Google Auto-fill). This perception is heavily skewed from the truth due to the recent portrayal of the country by the media. The UK’s actual distinct identity is formed from the political, economic, and societal structures in place and combines to make it a very global culture.

“The British Royal Family is the foundation for many English customs and tradition” (www.helium.com). The United Kingdom’s political structure is a parliamentary democracy, meaning that its “executive and legislative branches are interconnected” (www.cia.gov). Parliament is the legislative branch and consists of a House of Lords. The head of state and head of government are separated, making it easier to pass proposed legislation. Queen Elizabeth II and David Cameron are the queen and prime minister respectively of the executive branch with the monarch, or queen, elected through inheritance. This makes it impossible for new mindsets to enter and disrupt the political system, decreasing the assumed power the citizens perceive they have. This political structure was the base for the Spanish and American superpowers, with both countries slightly deriving parliamentary democracy into what is now known as democracy coined by United States.

“The UK, a leading trading power and financial center, is the third largest economy in Europe after Germany and France” (www.cia.gov). The markets are open and in a state “of stable, long-term prosperity” (ukinusa.fco.gov.uk) which benefits participating consumers, businesses, and workers. Considered the champion of open markets, the United Kingdom is a leader in businesses with global supply chains due to having no import tariffs or restrictions. The UK is also a hotbed for inward foreign direct investment ranking 2nd for FDI stock at US $1.262 trillion as of the last fiscal year (www.cia.gov). This translates into a very global, aware, and transparent business culture that encourages entrepreneurship.

The UK’s social culture is just as global as its economic culture. Being the birthplace of football, England hosts the “Barclay’s English Premier League (,) … the most watched football league in the world” (www.helium.com). The English cuisine is also mirrored worldwide as Brits enjoy everything from breakfast to beef kebabs and Indian curry. “Women in Britain are entitled to equal respect and status as men, both at work and daily life” (www.expatica.co.uk) which closely resembles the culture of the UK’s business partners across the pond. English is the official language of the UK and is also the most widely spread and essential language to doing business, which makes the UK even more of a global social culture. The English cuisine is mirrored worldwide as Brits enjoy everything from breakfast to beef kebabs and Indian curry.

At first thought, one may think that the UK is a very closed society and isn’t a great place to do business based off of its perceived culture. However, the UK’s political, economic, and social cultures refute almost all of these notions for the culture not supporting globalization.

https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uk.html

<http://ukinusa.fco.gov.uk/en/business/economic-policy/open-markets/>

<http://www.helium.com/items/2165415-cultural-analysis-england>

<http://www.expatica.co.uk/leisure/arts_culture/Culture-and-social-etiquette-in-United-Kingdom_17601.html>