

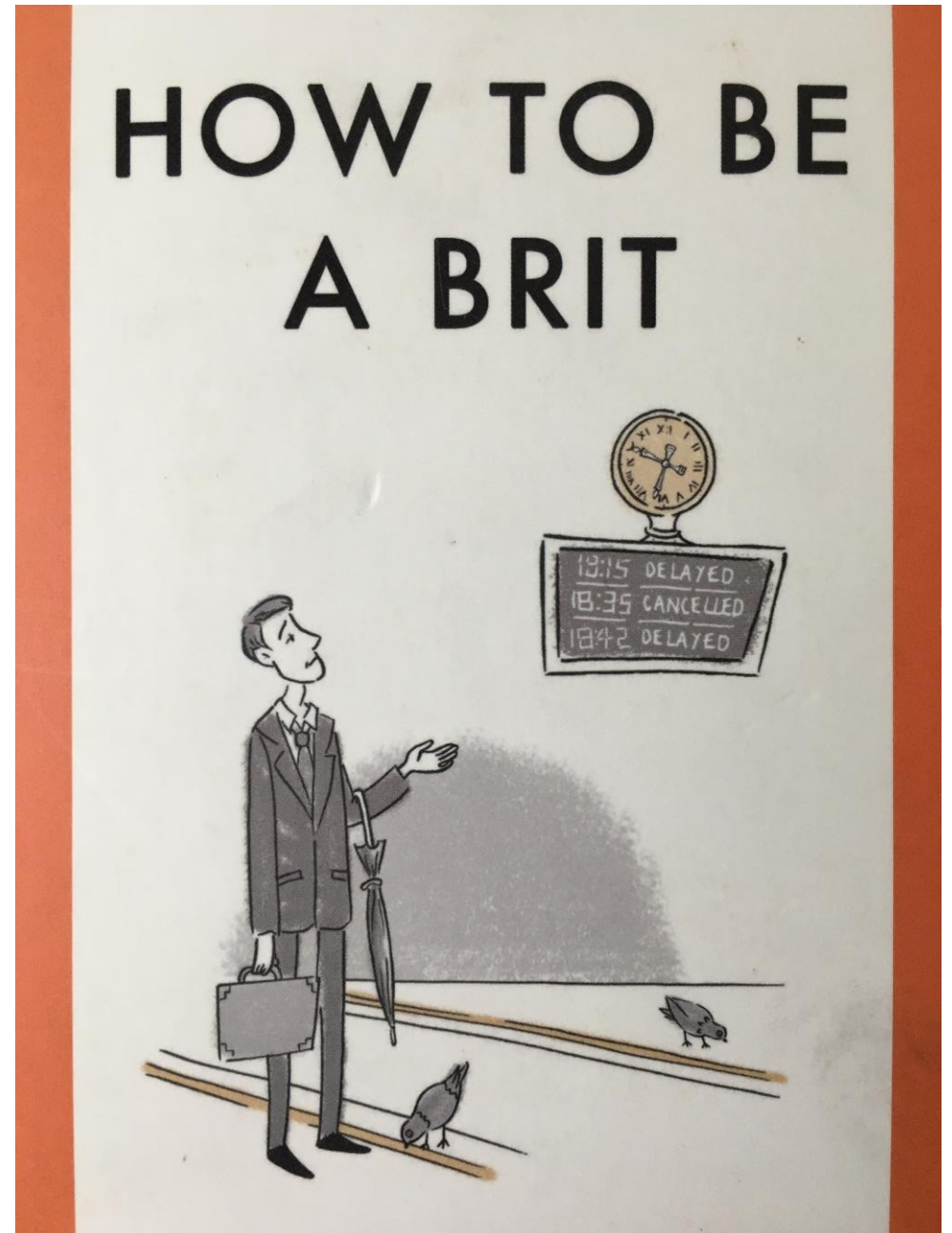
“The effect of Brexit on the British citizenship”

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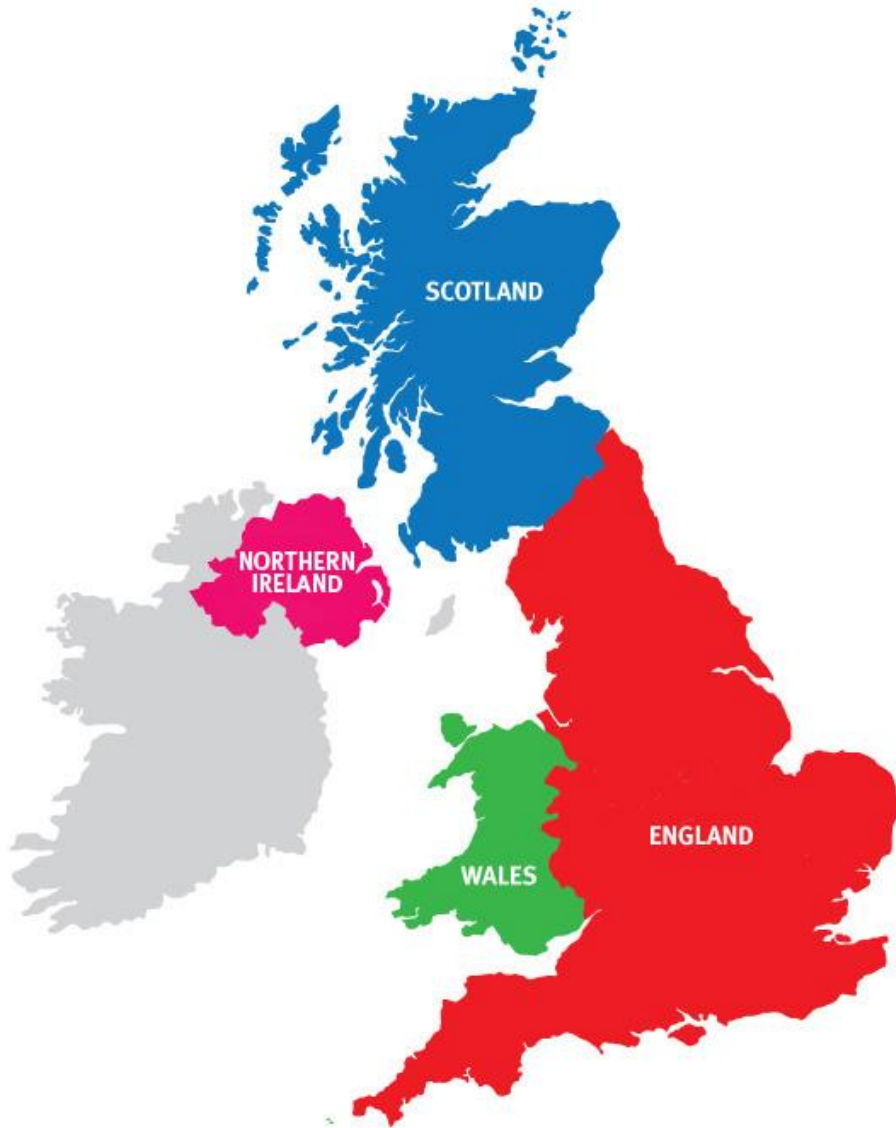
Tallinn, Estonia



In this aspect, though, a certain caution is advisable. I know a na'turalized Britisher who, talking to a young man, repeatedly used the phrase 'We Englishmen'. The young man looked at him, took his pipe out of his mouth and remarked softly: 'Sorry, Sir, I'm a Welshman,' turned his back on him and walked away.

"How to be a Brit", *George Mikes*, 1946 (reissue 2015)

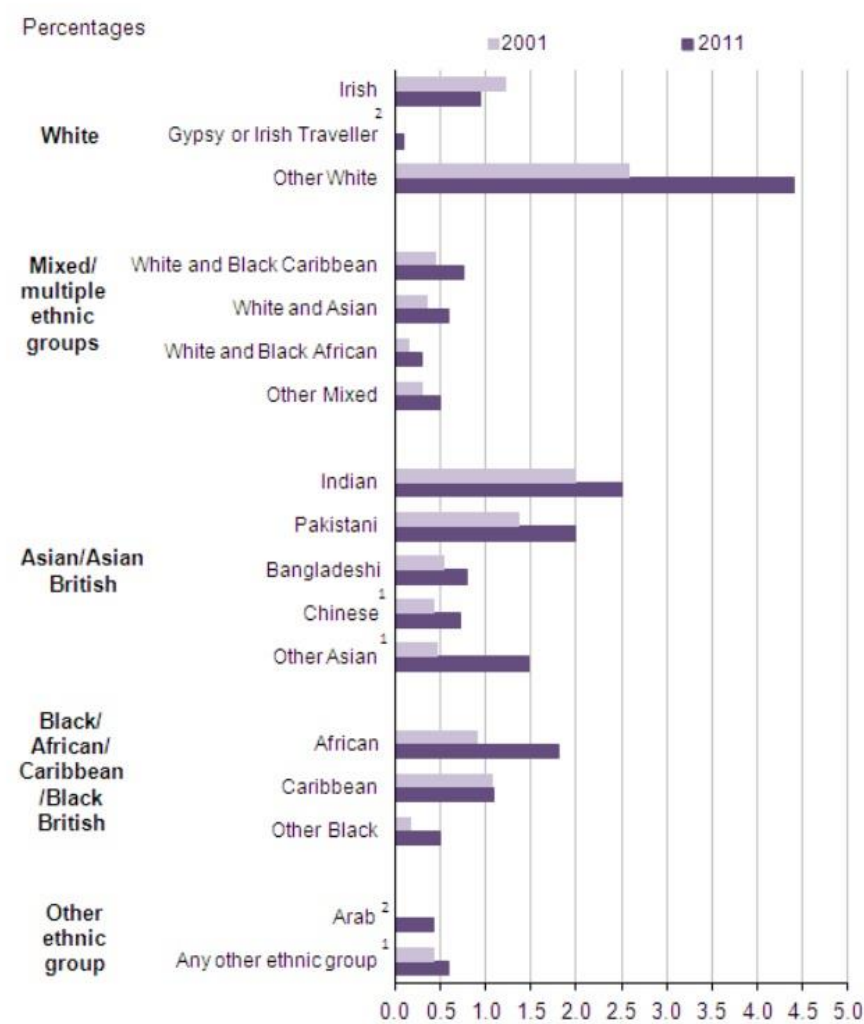
*“He may become British;
he can never become
English” – George Mikes*





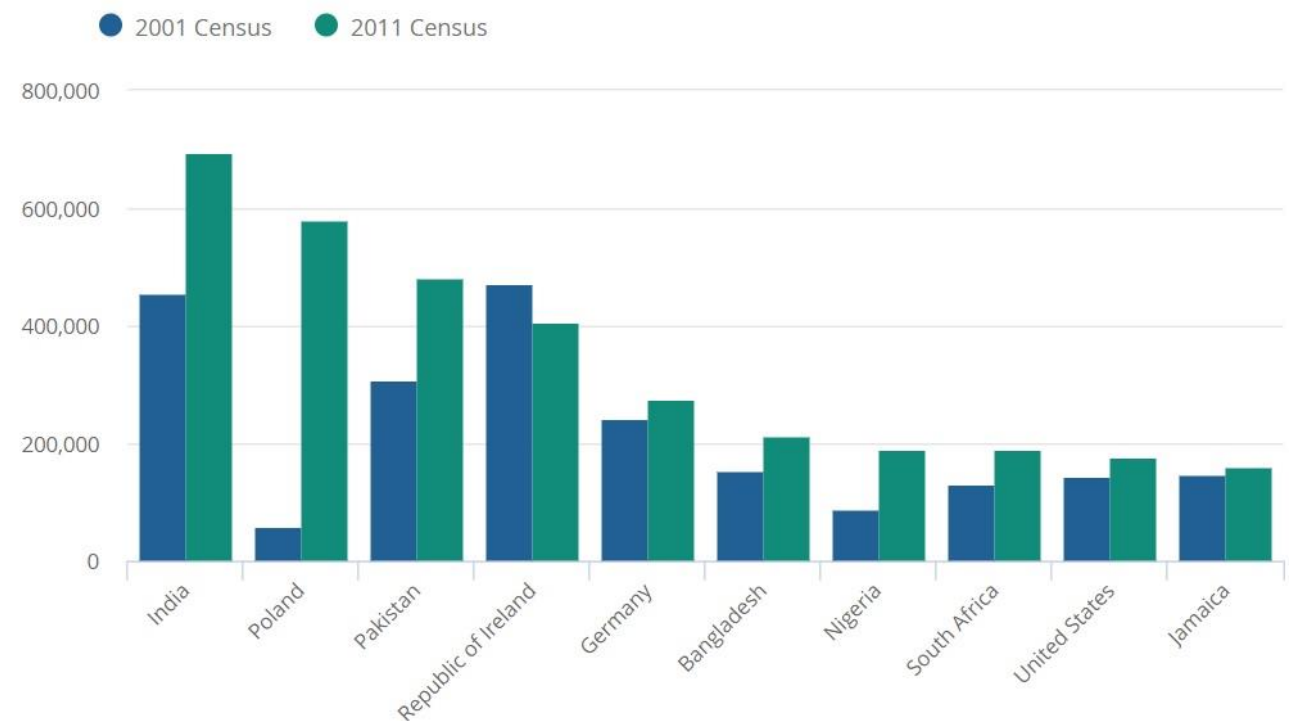
Category	Active	British passport	Consular assistance from UK diplomatic posts	Exempt from UK immigration control
British Citizen	✓	✓	✓	✓
British Overseas Territories citizen	✓	✓	✓	✓ (Gibraltar)
				✗ (other territories)
British Overseas citizen	✗	✓	✓	✗
British subject	✗	✓	✓	✓ (with right of abode)
				✗ (without right of abode)
British National (Overseas)	✗	✓	✗ (Chinese dual nationals in China, including Hong Kong & Macau)	✗
			✓ (other nationalities and/or other places)	
British protected person	✗	✓	✓	✗

Figure 2: Ethnic Groups, 2001 – 2011, England and Wales



Source: Census - Office for National Statistics

Figure 2: Top ten countries for non-UK born residents in England and Wales, 2001 and 2011



Source: Census- Office for National Statistics

Which Britain?



OR



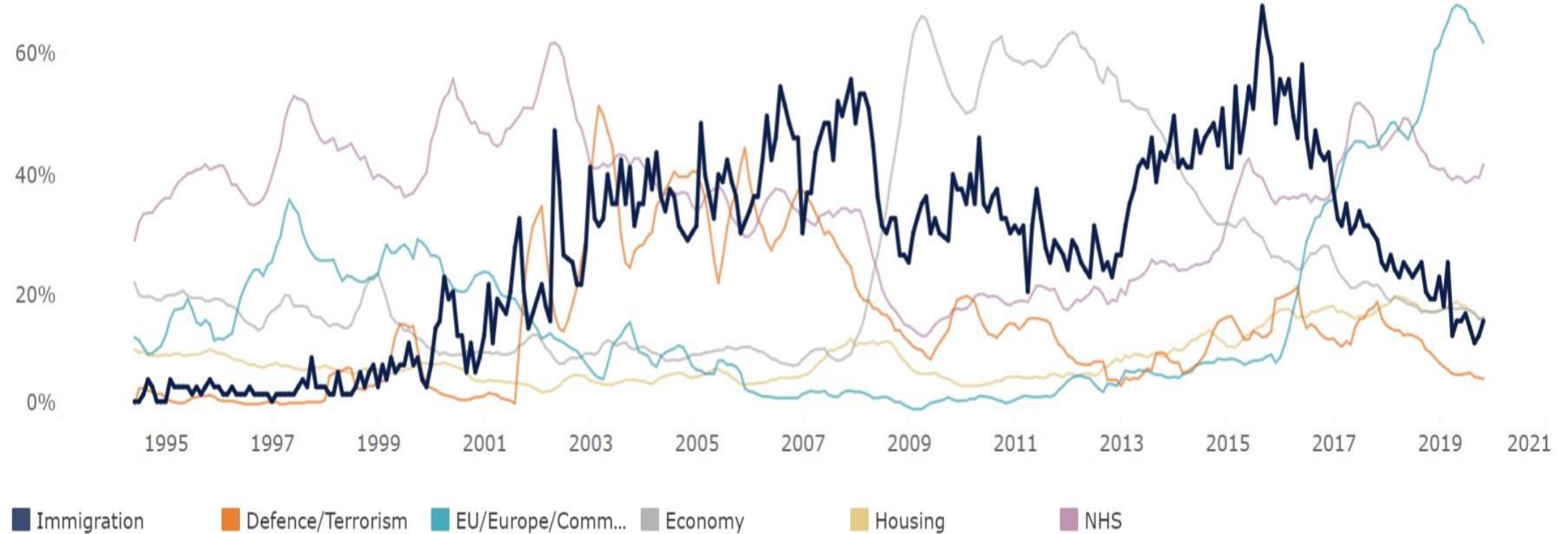
Duchess of Cambridge visiting North London's Blessed Sacrament School in 2014

The politicisation of immigration

- 2004 EU enlargement + 2008 Bulgaria and Romania
- May's Home Office 2010-2016
- “Hostile environment” policy in 2012
- European migrant/refugee crisis in 2015



Salience of immigration in the UK, 1994-2019



Note and source: Ipsos MORI data. Until January 2015, 'immigration' included responses of 'race relations'. After this point, 'immigration' became its own category. Data for 'immigration' are actual percentages. The other categories report six-month rolling averages.



The result: Brexit

- The UK has left the EU on the 31st of January 2020
- The transition period will end on 31st of December 2020
- Uncontrolled immigration was a central issue
- Low-skilled, often seasonal, workforce
- Decay of the British non-metropolitan areas
- EU citizens gained a “settled status”
- Decrease in EU migration since 2015



Windrush scandal 2018



- British Nationality Act 1948: right to settle in the UK if you were born in the British colony
- Immigration Act 1971, in force 1973
- Windrush generation: 500 000 people moved to the UK from the Caribbean
- No documents, no registration
- 2013: obstructions to services and instructions to leave
- 2018: public backlash
- Fine line between who should stay and who not

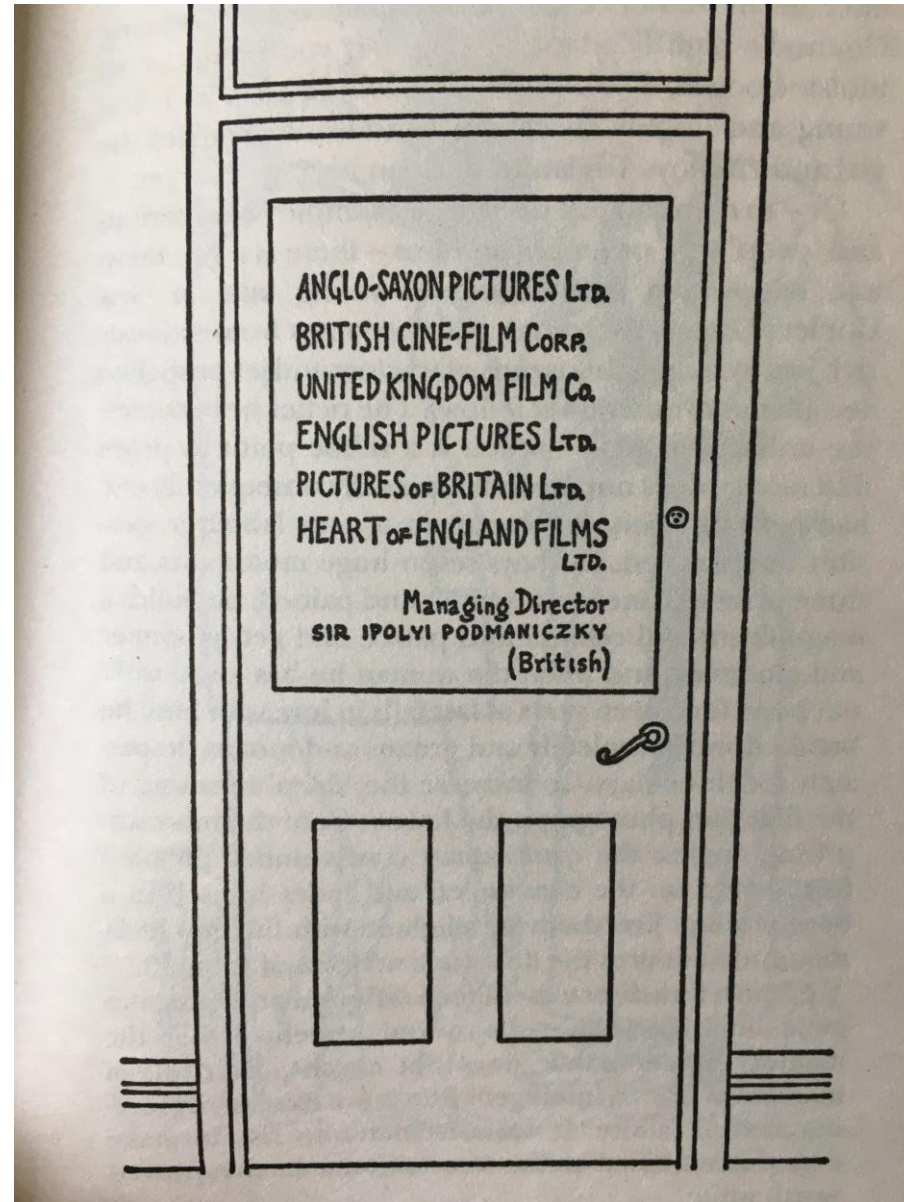
Post-Brexit Britain



- Points-based system immigration system
- Skills, skills, skills!
- Seasonal work in the agricultural sector
- Migration part of foreign policy:
 - 3 million Hong Kong residents eligible to come to the UK
 - Trade deal with India
- Migration will curb: yes or no?
- “Control”
- Brexit has narrowed the opportunity to start the road towards British citizenship

How to become British?

- Be born in the UK
- Live in the UK for 5 years
- + 12 months of Leave to Remain (ILR) status / settled status
- Pass the language and “Life in the UK” test
- Don’t be naughty: no immigration fraud or serious crime
- Windrush scheme



If naturalized, remember these rules:

1. You must start eating porridge for breakfast and allege that you like it.
2. Speak English with your former compatriots. Deny that you know any foreign language (including your mother tongue). The knowledge of foreign languages is very un-English. A little French is permissible, but only with an atrocious accent.
3. Revise your library. Get rid of all foreign writers

whether in the original or translated into English. The works of Dostoyevsky should be replaced by a volume on English birds; the collected works of Proust by a book called 'Interior Decoration in the Regency Period'; and Pascal's *Pensées* by the 'Life and Thoughts of a Scottish Salmon'.

4. Speaking of your new compatriots, always use the first person plural.

Thank you!