Attitudes of British People
Conservatism

• In general, the British value continuity over modernity for its own sake.
• There is prestige in living in an obviously old one.
• They have a general sentimental attachment to older, supposedly safer, times.
• Their Christmas cards usually depict scenes from past centuries;
• they like their pubs to look old;
• they were reluctant to change their system of currency.
Being different

• They are rather proud of being different.
• driving on the left-hand side of the road
• The double-decker bus
• Systems of measurement
• everybody in Britain still shops in pounds and ounces.
• Nearly everybody still thinks in Fahrenheit when talking about temperature.
• Their financial year is at the beginning of April.
The love of nature

• Love of the countryside is another aspect of British conservatism.
• an active interest in country matters
• gardening
The love of animals

• Rosendale Pet Cemetery in Lancashire is just one example of an animal graveyard in Britain.
• the status of pets is taken seriously.
• Wildlife programmes are by far the most popular kind of television documentary.
• Millions of families have 'bird-tables' in their gardens.
• There is even a special hospital (St Tiggywinkles) which treats injured wild animals.
Formality and informality

• It all depends on whether a person is playing a public role or a private role.
• Clothes - 'on duty' – formal
• Clothes - not playing a public role – informal
• Being friendly in Britain disregards formalities.
• not addressing someone by his or her title (Mr, Mrs, Professor etc),
• not dressing smartly when entertaining guests,
• not shaking hands when meeting and
• not saying 'please' when making a request.
The Changes

• Buffet-type meals are now a common form of hospitality.

• More groups in society now kiss when meeting each other (women and women, and men and women, but still never men and men!).