How does national identity form?

Anderson (1983)
Nations are "imagined communities" created through flags, national anthems, and media.

Phillips et al. (1998)
National curriculum no longer strongly promotes British identity, weakening cohesion.

Kumar (2003)
English identity is difficult to express due to links with imperialism; less overt than Scottish/Welsh/Irish identities.

Hall (1991)
Globalisation leads to 3 possible outcomes: homogenisation, hybridity, resistance of national identity.

Sadar (2002)
Britain faces a cultural crisis post-Empire; globalisation blurs boundaries of national identity.

OCR A LEVEL EXAM FOCUS

Identify and briefly explain two characteristics of national identity. (6)

- Identification through a flag.
- Identification through style of dress/country colours.
- Showing support for your country e.g. through football.
- Being fanatical for your country.
- Speaking the language of your country.
- Demonstrating pride for your country e.g. singing the national anthem.
- National identity as being an imagined community.
- National identity as changing and in crisis.
- British National Identity becoming Americanised

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How does national identity form?

Summarise the research of the following sociologists into the formation of national identity then answer the exam question.

Anderson (1983)

Hall (1991)

Phillips et al (1998)

Kumar (2003)

Sadar (2002)

OCR A LEVEL EXAM FOCUS

Identify and briefly explain two characteristics of national identity. (6)

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