Where do people live in the UK?

You need to know

• The distribution of population in the UK and the location of the major cities.

• The UK population is unevenly distributed.
• 82% live in urban areas.
• 25% – a quarter – of the UK population live in London and the south east.
• Many highland regions of England, Scotland and Wales are very sparsely populated – upland areas are remote and can experience harsh weather conditions.

How is the UK’s population distributed?

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How might this distribution change?

- There has been a general drift towards south east England and London.
- Immigrants generally settle in larger cities where there are more job opportunities.
- Many older people choose to retire near the coast or in the country.

Introducing Bristol

You need to know

• The importance of Bristol as a major UK city.

What makes Bristol a major UK city?

Bristol is the largest city in south west England. It is important regionally and nationally.

Why is Britain an important international city?

Transport
- good road and rail links
- ferry services to Europe
- two major docks
- Bristol airport links to Europe and the USA

Industry
- global industries like aerospace and media
- inward investment from abroad

Education
- attracts international students

The impact of migration

About half of Bristol’s population growth comes from migration, including large numbers from EU countries. Migration has brought both opportunities and challenges.

Opportunities
- A hard-working workforce
- Enriching the city’s cultural life
- Mainly young migrants help to balance the ageing population

Challenges
- Housing provision has not kept pace with population growth – so Bristol is very expensive for housing rental or purchase
- Teaching children whose first language is not English
- Integration into the wider community

Six Second Summary

- The UK population is unevenly distributed.
- 82% live in urban areas.
- Cities grew near supplies of raw materials.
- There is now a general drift towards the south east and London.

Over to you

On a blank map of the UK, mark the location of 9 different cities. For at least five of those cities, write down why each one has grown.
**Six Second Summary**

Urban change in Bristol has created:
- cultural opportunities
- improved sports facilities
- improved shopping facilities

**Cultural opportunities**

There is a vibrant underground music scene, nightclubs and bars. The Colston Hall has concerts and entertainment. Theatres include the Bristol Old Vic. Migrants contribute to music, art, literature and food.

**Sport**

Sports teams are developing their stadiums to provide a range of leisure and conference facilities. "Figure 1" An impression of the proposed new UWE Stadium for Bristol Rovers Football Club, on the outskirts of the city.

**Shopping**

Bristol has seen major changes. The out-of-town retail park at Cribbs Causeway affected the Broadmead shopping development in the city centre which had become outdated. Improved facilities were needed.

- **Cabot Circus**
  - Opened in September 2008 at a cost of £500 million.
  - Shops and leisure facilities take up two-thirds of its floor space.
  - There are also offices, a cinema, a hotel and 250 apartments. "Figure 2" The interior of Cabot Circus Shopping Centre

- **Bristol’s Harbourside**
  - Former workshops and warehouses have been converted into bars, nightclubs and cultural venues.
  - There is an art gallery and the At-Bristol science exhibition centre.
  - The Harbourside Festival attracts around 300,000 spectators.

**Big Idea**

Social opportunities are those affecting people’s lives and well-being. Urban changes in Bristol have created cultural opportunities, as well as recreation and entertainment.

**How has Bristol’s industry changed?**

The closure of Bristol’s port meant its industry changed. Since then, major developments have been in tertiary (services) and quaternary (high-tech) sectors. This creates employment.

- High-tech businesses have been attracted to Bristol because of:
  - a government grant of £100 million that made it a Super-Connected City with fast broadband download speeds
  - a university-educated and skilled workforce
  - advanced research at the university and in local IT and aerospace industries
  - a clean and non-polluted environment

"Figure 1" Britain’s employment structure, 2015

**Key**

- Public services
- Professional services
- Finance and insurance
- High-tech
- Food and recreation
- Transport and storage
- Retail
- Construction and utilities
- Manufacturing
- Extraction, agriculture and forestry

**Industries in Bristol include:**

- **Aardman Animations**
  - became well-known for using stop-motion clay animation techniques
  - its films have won an Oscar and many other awards

- **Defence Procurement Agency (DPA)**
  - employs over 10,000 people
  - supplies the army, air force and navy with everything they need from boots to aircraft carriers
  - established on a greenfield site
  - housing for new and expanding businesses has contributed to the city’s urban sprawl

- **The aerospace industry**
  - fourteen of the fifteen main global aircraft companies are found in the Bristol region
  - these include Rolls-Royce, Airbus and GKN Aerospace
  - supply chains have grown up in the region to supply these high-tech companies

"Figure 2" The Aardman characters Wallace and Gromit

**Big Idea**

The main economic opportunity created by urban change in Bristol is employment.

**How can urban change create social opportunities?**

- You need to know
  - How changes in Bristol have created social opportunities.

**Changes in Bristol include:**

- Bristol’s population is increasing
- Its population is becoming more ethnically diverse
- It has good transport links – good for business and commuters
- Over 2 million people live within 50 km of the city

**You need to know**

- How urban changes in Bristol can create economic opportunities.

**List three changes that have affected Bristol.**

- A growing number of people in Bristol are employed by high-tech companies
- Employment is an economic opportunity created by the growth of high-tech industries

**Six Second Summary**

List three changes that have affected Bristol. Draw lines to link each one with a different social opportunity that has occurred.

**Over to you**

Write your top five opportunities that urban change in Bristol has created. They can be social or economic.