

Exploring the Regions of the United Kingdom

Learning objective: To identify and describe the diverse geographical regions of the United Kingdom, understanding the physical and human characteristics that define them.

Read the passage about the UK's regions carefully. Use your geographical knowledge and the text provided to answer the questions in full sentences.

Finn the dolphin has been busy mapping the coastline of the United Kingdom. He explains that the UK is divided into distinct regions, each with its own unique character. In the north and west, the landscape is defined by rugged highlands and mountainous terrain, such as the Grampians in Scotland and the Snowdonia range in Wales. These areas often experience higher rainfall and have lower population density compared to the south. Conversely, the south and east of England are characterised by rolling lowlands and fertile plains, which are ideal for agriculture. These regions have seen significant urbanisation, with major cities acting as hubs for trade and transport. Finn notes that the climate varies significantly; northern regions are generally cooler, while the south benefits from milder temperatures. Human geography also differs, with historic market towns nestled in the countryside contrasting with the bustling, multicultural centres found in metropolitan areas. Whether exploring the dramatic cliffs of the coast or the quiet, green valleys inland, the United Kingdom offers a rich tapestry of physical and human geography for any curious explorer.

Word bank: topography · urbanisation · highlands · lowlands · climate · settlement · geography

1. According to the text, which two mountain ranges contribute to the rugged landscape of the north and west? (2 marks)

2. What are the primary differences in land use between the northern highlands and the southern lowlands? (2 marks)

3. Why might the population density be lower in the mountainous regions of the north compared to the cities in the south? (2 marks)

4. How does the climate influence the way people live in different parts of the United Kingdom? (2 marks)

5. If you were planning a new settlement, would you choose the highlands or the lowlands? Justify your decision using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a split-screen illustration showing the contrast between a rugged, mountainous northern landscape and a bustling, urban southern city.



Extension challenge: Research a specific UK region not mentioned in the text. Create a travel brochure entry that explains its unique physical features, climate, and one major human-made landmark. Explain why a tourist should visit this region over others.