Our Country Year 1

Key Vocabulary	
town	A town is a place where people live and work. There may be shops, places of worship, leisure facilities and schools there. It is bigger than a village but smaller than a city.
countryside	Land that is not in towns or cities. Sometimes there are small settlements (like hamlets and villages) there. The countryside has lots of farmland and often has woodland.
pro	The positives of something.
con	The negatives of something.
country	An area of land with its own government, rules and borders.
UK	The United Kingdom. It is made up of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
island	An area of land surrounded by water.

# **Town and Country**

In a town, you might find a football stadium, office blocks and shopping centres.

In the **countryside**, you might find farms and open fields.

Pros of towns might include the fact that there is lots going on and many places where you can get a job.

Cons might include high noise levels and pollution.

Pros of the countryside could include that it is peaceful and there is less traffic.

Cons are that there might not as many job options or services that are easily available.

### The UK

The UK is made up of the island of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is surrounded by the English Channel, the North Sea, the Irish Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean.

# Countries in the United Kingdom

England: England is the largest country in the UK. London is the capital city. Many parts of England are flat but there is also lots of rural countrycide with rolling hills and valleys in the north.

Northern Ircland: Northern Ireland is the smallest country in the UK. Belfast is the capital city. One of the most famous landmarks is Giant's Causeway (natural rock steps mostly hexagonal in shape). Scotland: Scotland is a country in the north of the UK. Edinburgh is the capital city. Scotland has large mountains including Ben Nevis, which is the largest in the UK.

Wales: Wales is a mountainous country in the west of the UK. Cardiff is the capital city. Wales has its own language (Welsh). Not everyone there speaks it though.

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Key Vocabulary	
capital city	A town or city where the government sits.
landmark	A feature of a landscape or place that is easily recognised. It could be something made by people (a human feature) or something that occured naturally (a physical feature). Big Ben is a landmark in London.
population	How many people live in one particular place. This could be the population of a city, a <b>town</b> , a <b>country</b> or the whole world.

### The Capital City of the UK

London is a very busy and built-up city with lots of important buildings.

There are lots of different ways of travelling around London. There are train stations, the London Underground (sometimes called the 'tube') and buses.

London has lots of famous landmarks. These include the London Eye, Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge and Westminster Abbey.

London hosted the Olympic Games in 2012 and it was an exciting time for sport in the UK.

While there are lots of buildings, London also has lots of green spaces in its parks, including Hyde Park and Regents Park.

The King lives at Buckingham Palace.

London has lots of tourists, who visit from other places in the country and the world.

### London

London is the capital city of the UK. It is the largest city in England. It has a **population** of about nine million people.

London is found in the Northern Hemisphere.

London has a temperate climate. This means that temperatures vary all year round but are generally not extremely hot or extremely cold. Weather is seasonal and summers are often warm and winters are often cool.