

Topic 8 UK Challenges

Component	Key idea	Detailed Content	Core Knowledge & Understanding	Keywords	Related topics	Icons
The UK's challenges	The UK's resource consumption and environmental sustainability challenge	Changes in the UK's population in the next 50 years and implications on resource consumption	The UK is becoming overpopulated. By 2030, the UK's population is expected to exceed 70 million owing to natural increase and migration. This will put further strain on natural resources and ecosystems	Population Migration Natural increase	Topic 4 Topic 5	
		Pressures of growing populations on the UK's ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•building on greenfield sites</li> <li>•destruction of natural habitats and declining biodiversity</li> <li>•pressure on water supply and quality</li> <li>•increased food production intensifying agricultural practices</li> </ul>	Greenfield Biodiversity Agriculture	Topic 3 Topic 4	
		Range of national sustainable transport options for the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•increased public transport options</li> <li>•congestion charging and park-and-ride schemes</li> <li>•promoting the use hybrid and electric cars</li> </ul>	Transport Congestion charging	Topic 4	
The UK settlement, population and economic challenges		The 'two-speed economy' and options for bridging the gap between south east and the rest of the UK	A 'two-speed economy' refers to the uneven growth of the UK economy, with the south-east developing fastest. A possible solution to help close the gap between the south-east and the rest of the UK is to improve transportation links e.g. HS2.	Two-speed economy	Topic 4	
		Costs and benefits of greenfield development and the regeneration of brownfield sites	<p><b>Greenfield Benefits</b> Cheaper land to develop More space</p> <p><b>Costs</b> Loss of valuable farmland Disruption to wildlife habitats</p> <p><b>Brownfield Benefits</b> Infrastructure already exists Improvement to landscape</p> <p><b>Costs</b> Restricted development Land may be contaminated</p>	Greenfield sites Brownfield sites Infrastructure Contaminated		  
		UK net migration statistics and their reliability and values and attitudes of different stakeholders towards migration	UK net migration has increased since 1970. During 2015, net migration was over 300 000 people, however, it is difficult to collect data about migration accurately and data from different sources varies, so net migration statistics may not be reliable. Stakeholders have different views towards migration into the UK: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Local councils have concerns about providing healthcare and education</li> <li>•Some businesses welcome migrant workers to increase the workforce</li> <li>•Some people believe migrants reduce the number of jobs available</li> </ul>	Net migration	Topic 4 Topic 5	

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The UK's challenges	The UK's landscape challenges	<i>Approaches to conservation and development of UK National Parks</i>	The management of the UK's National Parks is divided into different categories – habitats, biodiversity, climate change and historical environments. Approaches to conservation and development include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•using renewable energy sources</li> <li>•river restoration projects</li> <li>•electric bikes to reduce the number of cars on roads</li> <li>•Recently some National Parks have been extended e.g. the Lake District National Park was expanded in 2016 and there are plans for further expansion. Views on this have been mixed though. Residents and community groups may be concerned about increased visitors and traffic pollution as well as rising house prices due to the popularity of owning second homes in National Parks. The local economy however may benefit from increased spending by tourists in local businesses, which could create more jobs for local residents</li> </ul>	National Parks Conservation Renewable energy	Topic 3	  
		<i>Approaches to managing river and coastal UK flood risk</i>	The Environment Agency is responsible for the management of the UK's rivers and coasts. Approaches to managing river and coastal UK flood risk include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•monitoring and early warning systems</li> <li>•soft and hard engineering</li> <li>•stricter building regulations</li> <li>•afforestation.</li> </ul>	Environment Agency Afforestation	Topic 1	
	The UK's climate change challenges	<i>Uncertainties about how global climate change will impact on the UK's future climate</i>	The UK's future climate could see temperature rising between 2°C and 4°C, an increase in precipitation and more extreme weather events, although there is uncertainty around these projections	Extreme weather events	Topic 2	
<i>Impacts of climate change on people and landscapes in UK</i>		Climate change could result in rising sea levels causing coastal flooding. This will increase the rate of erosion on coasts, at a cost to the economy. Temperature increases could cause more frequent heatwaves leading to longer periods of drought in the UK. This will affect food production and human health	Heatwaves Drought	Topic 2 Topic 4		
<i>Range of responses to climate change in the UK at a local and national scale</i>		UK responses to climate change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Local scale – individuals can reduce their carbon footprint by walking more or using public transport, recycling waste and installing energy efficient devices</li> <li>•National scale – the government can invest in more sustainable practices such as renewable energy.</li> </ul>	Local scale National scale Carbon footprint	Topic 2 Topic 4		