

The United Kingdom

Year 3

Knowledge organiser

Topography of the UK



The United Kingdom (UK) is made up of four countries: **England**, **Northern Ireland**, **Scotland** and **Wales**.

In the UK, the land in the south and east is **flatter** and **lower**. The land becomes **hillier** and **higher** in the north and west. Scotland is the most **mountainous** part of the UK.

Key vocabulary

atlas 	city 	coast 	county 	country
culture 	direction 	horizontal 	landmark 	location
map 	mountainous 	peak 	population 	region
represent 	rural 	settlement 	symbol 	town
urban 	valley 	vertical 	view 	village

Human and physical features

Examples of **human landmarks** in the UK:



Stonehenge, England



Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Wales



Dunluce Castle, Northern Ireland



Glasgow Cathedral, Scotland

Examples of **physical features** in the UK:



White Cliffs of Dover, England



Giant's Causeway, Northern Ireland



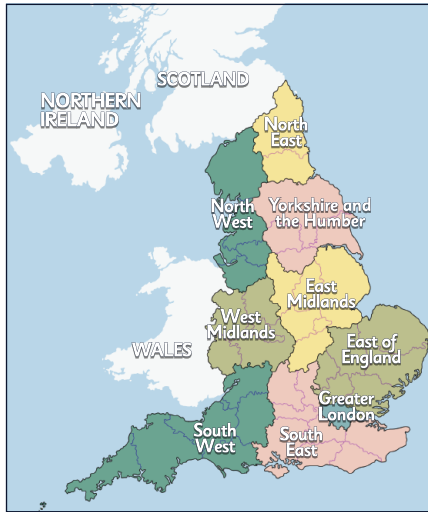
Loch Ness, Scotland



Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon), Wales



Regions and counties of England



England is divided into **nine regions**, each made up of **counties**, with a unique character shaped by local traditions, landmarks, history, landscapes and the size and types of settlements.

Settlements

The **main types of settlements** are:

villages



towns



cities



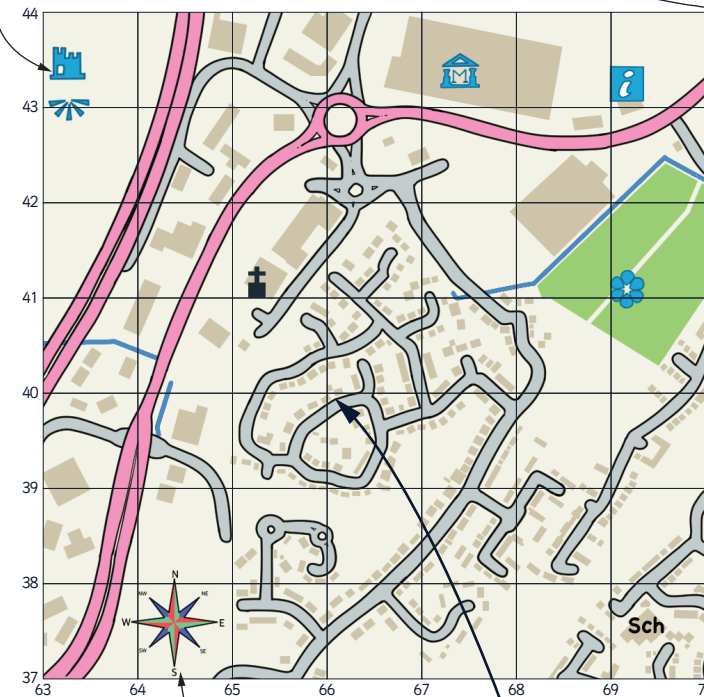
Key settlements are the most important **settlements** in an area and often they are the ones with **larger numbers of people** living there.

Map features

Symbols are used on maps to show features of an area clearly.

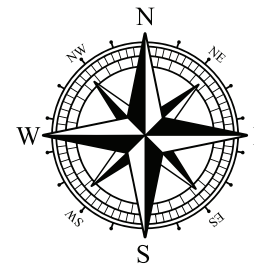


A **map key** explains what the symbols and colours on a map mean.



Map key	
	road
	building
	picnic site
	castle
	viewpoint
	garden
	information centre
	museum
Sch	school
	place of worship

A **compass rose** shows directions: north, east, south, west.



A helpful mnemonic: never eat slimy worms

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Grid references are a way of showing a **specific location** on a map.

To find a **four-figure grid** reference, use the **numbers** on the **vertical lines (eastings)** and then the **numbers** on the **horizontal lines (northings)** to find the **correct square** on the map.

