Year 7 Topic 4
UK Uncovered

UK Physical Characteristics

- Most mountains are located in the **north** and **west**, such as Wales and Scotland.
- These areas have **few roads** and **settlements** but beautiful scenery. – Sparsely populated.
- **South** and **east** of the UK is **flat** with a few hilly areas.
- These areas are suited for **settlements**, **roads** and **railways** – Densely populated.
- Rivers flow from mountainous areas down to the sea.

UK Rainfall Patterns

- **Highest rainfall is in the north** and **west** where average rainfall is **2500mm**.

- **Lowest rainfall** is in the **south** and **east** with average rainfall of **500 – 625mm**.

UK Relief Rainfall

Most UK rainfall is caused by **prevailing wind** blowing from the southwest.	When air carrying moisture reaches upland areas, it is **forced up** to produce **relief rainfall**.	The other side of the upland area has **little moisture**, this is called the **rain shallow**.

Water stress in the UK

Water stress is when areas have limited water supply.

Problems	Solutions
- Most rainfall occurs in **North & West** but least rainfall in **South & East**. - South & East UK therefore have **High demands**. - Demands involve domestic, industrial & agricultural uses.	- Water can be **transferred** from the wetter west to drier east by **pipelines** or rivers. - Construct **new reservoirs** in the east to capture/store more water. - Greater **water conservation**.

Land use in the UK

Land use varies throughout the UK. However our land is always changing. Nonetheless, the vast majority of the UK is farmland.

UK mountain areas (Scotland) have rough pastures and moorlands. The climate is harsh and soil is poor for crops

Grasslands are found in the west. It is ideal for cattle and sheep because of the mild and wet climate.

Arable farmland dominates because of the warm, sunny and dry climate. Crops such as cereals and vegetables are found in the South and East.

Coniferous woodland are found in northern England, Wales and Scotland. There areas have poor soils and are remote.

Urban areas are growing. This outward growth or sprawling urban developments is cased by population growth.

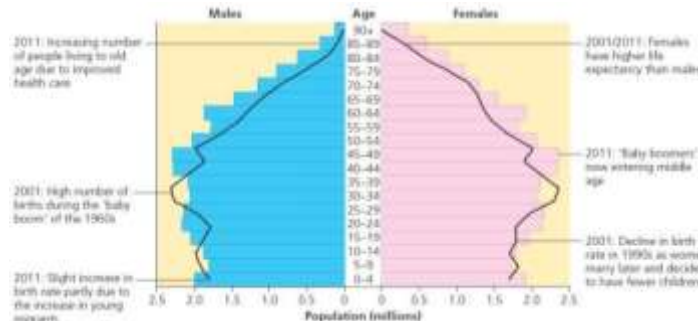|	
Grasses	52%
Arable	20%
Urban	14%
Forest	12%
Water	1%
Other	1%

Population in the UK

The UK population is 65 million and still rising. It is predicted to reach 70 million by 2030.

Reasons for growth	Future of growth
Natural increase – the difference between deaths and births. **Net migration** – the difference between immigration to the UK and emigration from the UK. **Life expectancy** – the average age someone will live up to.	The UK's **population pyramid** shows that the country's birth rate is fairly low and death rate is also low meaning there are more elderly people. **Population pyramids** are useful to help plan for the future.

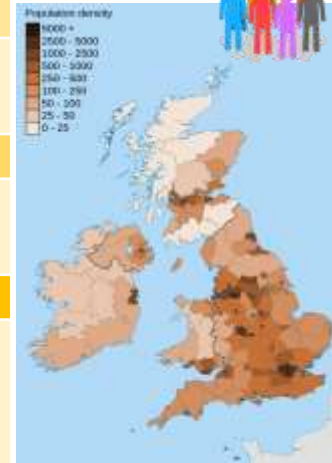## UK Population Distribution

Low

Much of Northern Scotland is **sparse** due to a **mountainous landscape** and **difficult climate**.

High

Rest of the UK because of the **gentle hills**, **moderate climate** and **good transport** routes.

Very High

Population is **concentrated** around the South East of England, in cities such as London, due to attractions of **employment**, **shops** and **entertainment**.

Factors affecting population density

Moderate climate.	Remote and poor communications.	Opportunities for work
A presence of raw materials.	Steep and mountainous.	Fertile and suitable for farming.
Poor quality of soil.	Plentiful supplies of water.	Flat land for farming.

UK Housing Shortage

Problem and Reasons

- The UK **population is rising** and therefore **more houses are needed**.
- UK needs to build **240,000 homes a year**, but only half that are built.
- As a result, **house prices are rising** and becoming too expensive.

- Planning permission for new houses leads to **local opposition**.
- **Green belt areas** prevents urban areas becoming bigger.
- The **price of lands keeps rising** due to demand.

KEY WORDS: relief, igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic, densely and sparsely populated, birth rate, greenfield site, industry, economic sectors (primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary), deindustrialisation, north south divide, infrastructure, urbanisation/urban, rural, migrant, international migration, emigration, immigration, economic migrant, refugee, average, mean, death rate, brownfield site, salaries, earnings, two speed economy, levelling up, population distribution, deposition, contour, tectonics, mechanisation, globalisation