

# Talk a Lot

## Places in the UK

### General Questions

1. Are there any places that you don't know? Find out more about them.
2. Take some cards. Describe the place on a card without saying it.
3. How many places have... a) 1 syllable, b) 2 syllables, c) 3 syllables, d) 4 syllables, e) 5 syllables, f) 6 syllables?
4. Put places with more than one syllable into groups according to where the strong stress falls.
5. Put the places into alphabetical order.
6. Put together places that have the same number of letters.
7. Find places that... a) begin with a vowel sound, b) end with a vowel sound, c) begin with a consonant sound, d) end with a consonant sound. Put them into sound groups.
8. Find places which contain silent letters (letters which are not pronounced).
9. How many places can you remember when they are all turned over?
10. Put places that contain the same sounds into groups, using the IPA.

### Lesson Questions

1. Which place sounds like... a) porridge, b) sales, c) pistol, d) banned send, e) path?
2. a) Find all of the countries in the UK and put them together with their capital cities.  
b) Which of these countries form Great Britain?
3. Which place is a homophone with a group of the largest sea mammals?
4. Find a place where you can... a) watch a match, b) hunt a monster, c) check the time.
5. Find a place which has a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the... a) 1st syllable, b) 2<sup>nd</sup> syllable, c) 3<sup>rd</sup> syllable, etc. ii) Do any places *not* have a schwa?
6. Put the countries of the UK into order of size, from the one with the biggest population to the one with the smallest. (Have a guess, if you're not sure!)
7. Put into groups all of the... a) cities, b) tourist attractions, c) places of cultural interest, d) places of outstanding natural beauty, e) historical sites.
8. Put into groups all of the places in... a) Wales, b) Scotland, c) Northern Ireland, d) England.
9. Find... a) a monument, b) a street, c) a village, d) a theme park, e) a suburb, f) a country, g) a border, h) a seaside resort, i) an archipelago, j) a mountain range.

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### Discussion Words Question Sheet

#### Answers

#### General Questions

1. Answers will vary.

2. Answers will vary.

3. a) 2 places have 1 syllable: Wales, York. b) 17 places have 2 syllables: Land's End, Scotland, Oxford, Norwich, Brick Lane, Bristol, England, Cardiff, Bournemouth, London, Stonehenge, Greenwich, Orkney, Cambridge, Belfast, Loch Ness, Skegness. c) 13 places have 3 syllables: Hadrian's Wall, Giant's Causeway, Clumber Park, Manchester, Llandudno, Hathersage, Wimbledon, Aberdeen, Norfolk Broads, John o'Groats, Great Britain, Lake District, Edinburgh. d) 6 places have 4 syllables: Northern Ireland, English Channel, Alton Towers, Sherwood Forest, Cardigan Bay, Snowdonia. e) 1 place has 5 syllables: United Kingdom. f) 1 place has 6 syllables: Stratford-upon-Avon.

4. 2 syllables: these places have the strong stress on the first syllable: **Belfast, Oxford, Norwich, Bristol, England, Cardiff, Bournemouth, London, Greenwich, Orkney, Cambridge, Scotland**; these places have the strong stress on the second syllable: Land's **End**, Brick **Lane**, Stone**henge**, Loch **Ness**, Skeg**ness**. 3 syllables: these places have the strong stress on the first syllable: **Manchester, Hathersage, Wimbledon, Lake District, Edinburgh**; these places have the strong stress on the middle syllable: Giant's **Causeway**, Great **Britain**, Llandud**no**; these places have the strong stress on the third syllable: Hadrian's **Wall**, John o'**Groats**, Aber**deen**, Norfolk **Broads**, Clumber **Park**. 4 syllables: this place has the strong stress on the second syllable: Snow**d**onia; these places have the strong stress on the third syllable: Northern **Ireland**, English **Channel**, Alton **Towers**, Sherwood **Forest**; this place has the strong stress on the fourth syllable: Cardigan **Bay**. 5 syllables: this place has the strong stress on the fourth syllable: United **Kingdom**. 6 syllables: this place has the strong stress on the fifth syllable: Stratford-upon-**Avon**.

5. Aberdeen, Alton Towers, Belfast, Bournemouth, Brick Lane, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Cardigan Bay, Clumber Park, Edinburgh, England, English Channel, Giant's Causeway, Great Britain, Greenwich, Hadrian's Wall, Hathersage, John o'Groats, Lake District, Land's End, Llandudno, Loch Ness, London, Manchester, Norfolk Broads, Northern Ireland, Norwich, Orkney, Oxford, Scotland, Sherwood Forest, Skegness, Snowdonia, Stonehenge, Stratford-upon-Avon, United Kingdom, Wales, Wimbledon, York.

6. **4 letters:** York. **5 letters:** Wales. **6 letters:** London, Orkney, Oxford. **7 letters:** Belfast, Bristol, Cardiff, England, Norwich. **8 letters:** Aberdeen, Land's End, Loch Ness, Scotland, Skegness. **9 letters:** Brick Lane, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Greenwich, Llandudno, Snowdonia, Wimbledon. **10 letters:** Hathersage, Manchester, Stonehenge. **11 letters:** Alton Towers, Bournemouth, Cardigan Bay, Clumber Park, John o'Groats. **12 letters:** Great Britain, Hadrian's Wall, Lake District. **13 letters:** Norfolk Broads, United Kingdom. **14 letters:** English Channel, Giant's Causeway, Sherwood Forest. **15 letters:** Northern Ireland. **17 letters:** Stratford-upon-Avon.

7. a) These places all begin with a vowel sound (grouped by IPA sound): /ɪ/ English Channel, England; /ɒ/ Alton Towers, **Oxford**; /ɔ:/ **Orkney**; /æ/ **Aberdeen**; /e/ **Edinburgh**.

b) These places all end with a vowel sound (grouped by IPA sound): /ə/ **Edinburgh**, **Manchester**, **Snowdonia**; /eɪ/ **Cardigan Bay**, **Giant's Causeway**; /əʊ/ **Llandudno**; /i/ **Orkney**.

c) These places all begin with a consonant sound (grouped by IPA sound): /s/ **Snowdonia**, **Skegness**, **Scotland**, **Stonehenge**, **Stratford-upon-Avon**; /k/ **Cardiff**, **Cardigan Bay**, **Cambridge**, **Clumber Park**; /l/ **London**, **Lake District**, **Loch Ness**, **Land's End**; /b/ **Brick Lane**, **Bristol**, **Bournemouth**, **Belfast**; /n/ **Norwich**, **Norfolk Broads**, **Northern Ireland**; /dʒ/ **Giant's Causeway**, **John o'Groats**; /h/ **Hathersage**, **Hadrian's Wall**; /j/ **York**, **United Kingdom**; /w/ **Wimbledon**, **Wales**; /g/ **Greenwich**, **Great Britain**; /m/ **Manchester**; /h/ **Llandudno**; /ʃ/ **Sherwood Forest**.

d) These places all end with a consonant sound (grouped by IPA sound): /n/ **Wimbledon**, **Brick Lane**, **Aberdeen**, **London**, **Great Britain**, **Stratford-upon-Avon**; /d/ **Scotland**, **Oxford**, **England**, **Northern Ireland**, **Land's End**; /z/ **Norfolk Broads**, **Alton Towers**, **John o'Groats**, **Wales**; /dʒ/ **Hathersage**, **Stonehenge**, **Cambridge**; /l/ **Hadrian's Wall**, **English Channel**, **Bristol**; /t/ **Sherwood Forest**, **Belfast**, **Lake District**; /s/ **Skegness**, **Loch Ness**; /k/ **York**, **Clumber Park**; /tʃ/ **Norwich**, **Greenwich**; /m/ **United Kingdom**; /θ/ **Bournemouth**; /f/ **Cardiff**.

8. Many English words contain one or more **silent letters** – letters which are part of the spelling of a word, but which are not pronounced. The aim of this activity is to demonstrate how so often the spelling of a word in English is

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different from how it sounds when spoken. Below are some good examples of words in this group of discussion words that have silent letters. The silent letters are shown in brackets. No doubt your students will be able to identify some more.

*Green [w] ich, Cambridg [e], Edinbur [gh], Nor [w] ich, Cardif [f], Bourn [e] mouth, Orkne [y]*

9. Answers will vary.

10. There are many possible answers to this question; for example, “Scotland”, “Oxford”, “Alton Towers”, “Loch Ness” and “Norwich” all contain the vowel sound /ɒ/. Use the phonetic chart on p.18.6 of the **Talk a Lot Elementary Handbook** (available free from <https://purlandtraining.com/>) and the phonetic spellings of the vocabulary words on the *Discussion Words (with the IPA)* handout to help your students put the places into sound groups.

#### Lesson Questions

1. a) Norwich. b) Wales. c) Bristol. d) Land’s End. e) Bath.

2. The countries that form the UK are (with their capital cities): England (London), Scotland (Edinburgh), Northern Ireland (Belfast), and Wales (Cardiff).

3. **Wales** is a homophone with **whales** – both words sound alike, but have different spellings and meanings.

4. a) Wimbledon. b) Loch Ness. c) Greenwich.

5. i) a) Places which have a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 1<sup>st</sup> syllable: none. b) Places which have a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 2<sup>nd</sup> syllable: Wimbledon, Alton Towers, Bournemouth, Bristol, Clumber Park, England, Hathersage, John o’Groats, London, Norfolk Broads, Northern Ireland, Oxford, Scotland, Sherwood Forest, Stratford-upon-Avon, Aberdeen. c) Places which have a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 3<sup>rd</sup> syllable: Cardigan Bay, Edinburgh, Great Britain, Manchester, Stratford-upon-Avon, United Kingdom, Wimbledon. d) Places which have a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 4<sup>th</sup> syllable: Snowdonia, English Channel, Alton Towers, Sherwood Forest, Northern Ireland. e) One place has a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 5<sup>th</sup> syllable: United Kingdom. f) One place has a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the 6<sup>th</sup> syllable: Stratford-upon-Avon. ii) 17 places don’t have a weak stress schwa sound: Belfast, Brick Lane, Cambridge, Cardiff, Giant’s Causeway, Greenwich, Hadrian’s Wall, Lake District, Land’s End, Llandudno, Loch Ness, Norwich, Orkney, Skegness, Stonehenge, Wales, York.

6. England (population: 51 million), Scotland (5.2m), Wales (3m), and Northern Ireland (1.8m).

7. Answers may vary. Suggested answers:

a) The **cities** are: Belfast, Oxford, Manchester, York, Norwich, Aberdeen, Bristol, Cardiff, Bournemouth, London, Cambridge, and Edinburgh.

b) The **tourist attractions** are: Giant’s Causeway, Alton Towers, Norfolk Broads, Stonehenge, Sherwood Forest, Loch Ness, John o’Groats, Skegness, Land’s End, Stratford-upon-Avon, and Hadrian’s Wall.

c) The **places of cultural interest** are: York, Stonehenge, Brick Lane, Greenwich, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, and Cambridge.

d) The **places of outstanding natural beauty** are: Loch Ness, Giant’s Causeway, Norfolk Broads, Sherwood Forest, Orkney, Cardigan Bay, Lake District, Clumber Park, and Snowdonia.

e) The **historical sites** are: Stratford-upon-Avon, Hadrian’s Wall, Stonehenge, and York.

8. a) The places in **Wales** are: Cardiff, Cardigan Bay, Llandudno, and Snowdonia. b) The places in **Scotland** are: Aberdeen, Edinburgh, John o’Groats, Loch Ness, and Orkney. c) The places in **Northern Ireland** are: Belfast and Giant’s Causeway. d) The places in **England** are: Alton Towers, Bournemouth, Brick Lane, Bristol, Cambridge, Clumber Park, English Channel, Greenwich, Hadrian’s Wall, Hathersage, Lake District, Land’s End, London, Manchester, Norfolk Broads, Norwich, Oxford, Sherwood Forest, Skegness, Stonehenge, Stratford-upon-Avon, Wimbledon, York.

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9. a) Stonehenge. b) Brick Lane. c) Hathersage. d) Alton Towers. e) Wimbledon or Greenwich. f) Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, England, Great Britain, or United Kingdom. g) Hadrian's Wall. h) Llandudno, Bournemouth, or Skegness. i) Orkney. j) Snowdonia.