

Land-use Change



YEAR 3 LAND USE PATTERNS OVER TIME IN THE UK

WHAT IS LAND USE?

Land use is how people use the land around them. Some land is used for farming, some for houses, and some for parks and forests. Over time, the way people use land in the UK has changed a lot.

LAND IN THE PAST

A long time ago, most of the UK was covered in forests. People lived in small villages and grew their own food. They cut down trees to make space for farms and houses. Many people worked on farms, growing crops and looking after animals.

CITIES AND TOWNS GROW

As time went on, more people moved to towns and cities. They built more houses, roads, and factories. This meant that less land was used for farming, and more land was covered in buildings. People needed places to live and work, so towns and cities became much bigger.

TRADE LINKS AND LAND USE

As cities grew, people needed more things like food, clothes, and tools. Some of these could not be made in the UK, so people traded with other countries. Ports and railways were built to bring goods from faraway places. Some land was used for warehouses, markets, and shops where these goods could be sold. Today, many goods still arrive by ship, lorry, and train.

LAND FOR NATURE

Some land in the UK is now protected for nature. These areas are called nature reserves and national parks. They are home to animals, plants, and trees. People can visit these places to enjoy the outdoors, but they must take care not to harm the environment.



MODERN LAND USE

Today, land in the UK is used in many different ways. Some areas are for houses, shops, and offices. Other areas are for farms, parks, and forests. Some land is even used for making electricity from the wind and sun. People are trying to use land in a way that helps both nature and people.

THE FUTURE OF LAND USE

In the future, people may use land in new ways. More green spaces may be made in cities, and more farms may grow food in new ways. People will try to look after the land so that it can be used for many years to come.

Land is very important, and we must use it wisely!

FIND OUT MORE...

[BBC Bitesize Exploring how people live in the UK](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What is land use?
2. How was land used in the past in the UK?
3. Why did cities and towns grow bigger over time?
4. How do trade links affect land use in the UK?
5. Why is it important to protect land for nature?