

Comparing capitals

A

1 Read the notes about the capital city. Tell your friend about it.

London, England

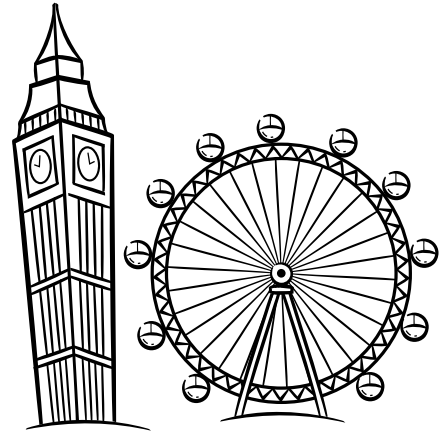
Population: 7.2 million people live in London

Attractions: You can visit the London Eye, Buckingham Palace and many museums, theatres and restaurants.

Weather: In the summer, the average temperature is 22°C. The average temperature in the winter is 7°C. It rarely snows.

Crime: London is a big city and violent crime is a problem. Some areas aren't safe for tourists.

Pollution: London has a lot of cars, but the government is trying to reduce pollution. The River Thames is much cleaner today than it was in the past.



2 Work with your partner. Complete the sentences.

- 1 _____ is bigger than _____.
- 2 _____ is smaller than _____.
- 3 _____ is more dangerous than _____.
- 4 _____ is more polluted than _____.
- 5 _____ is safer than _____.
- 6 _____ is more interesting than _____.



B

1 Read the notes about the capital city. Tell your friend about it.

Tallinn, Estonia

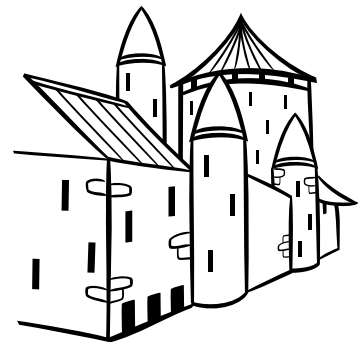
Population: 430,000

Attractions: Tourists come to visit the beautiful old town with its buildings from the 13th and 14th Centuries.

Weather: The average temperature in summer is 20°C. In winter, it's -5°C. Occasionally parts of the sea around Tallinn freeze.

Crime: There is some violent crime, but visitors to the area are usually safe.

Pollution: Oil pollution from the Baltic Sea travels to Estonia's rivers. Sometimes drinking water isn't safe.



2 Work with your partner. Complete the sentences.

- 1 _____ is bigger than _____.
- 2 _____ is smaller than _____.
- 3 _____ is more dangerous than _____.
- 4 _____ is more polluted than _____.
- 5 _____ is safer than _____.
- 6 _____ is more interesting than _____.

Activity

Pairwork. Reading and discussion.

Focus

Comparatives.

Preparation

Photocopy one worksheet for each pair.
Cut the worksheet in half.

Procedure

- 1 Explain to students that they are going to exchange information about two different capital cities and then compare the cities.
- 2 Hand out worksheets to students A and B.
- 3 Ask students to read through the information. They then take turns to tell their partners about their cities. They should use their own words, rather than reading directly from the sheet, e.g. 'My city is Tallinn. It's the capital of Estonia. Demonstrate the activity if necessary.
- 4 Students then work together to complete the sentences that compare the two cities. They must not look at each other's information. If they need to know something, they should ask their partner. Explain that they use their own opinions to answer the last question.

Extension

Ask different students around the class to say which city they think is better and why.

Answers

- 1 London is bigger than Tallinn.
- 2 Tallinn is smaller than London.
- 3 London is more dangerous than Tallinn.
- 4 Tallinn is more polluted than London.
- 5 Tallinn is safer than London.
- 6 Students' own answers.