



Identifying characteristics of UK urban and rural communities

'Would you rather live in a town or the countryside?'

Key Vocabulary

Altitude	Height measured above sea level
Cardinal Points	Four main directions on a compass (North, South, East, and West)
Compass	A compass on a map which shows the direction, especially north
Contour	Lines drawn a map to show levels of elevation above or below sea level
Elevation	Height of the earth's surface above or below sea level
Equator	Imaginary line of latitude drawn around the largest circumference of the Earth and is located halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole
Grid	Lines of latitude and longitude on a map which determine absolute location of any given point on the Earth's surface
Key (Legend)	A area on a map, usually a chart or table, which explains any of symbols on a map
Latitude	Imaginary lines going east to west measuring how far north or south from the equator a location is
Longitude	Imaginary lines going north to south measuring how far east or west from the prime meridian a location is
Physical Map	Map which shows the natural regions and features
Political Map	Map which shows countries, borders, and major cities
Prime Meridian	Imaginary line of longitude which is considered to be at 0°
Relief Map	Map which shows land forms and their respective heights
Scale	Use to determine actual distance on a map from one point to another
Sea Level	The surface of the ocean
Thematic Map	Map which uses symbols to illustrate information such as natural resources

Ordnance Survey Symbols

ROADS AND PATHS Not necessarily rights of way

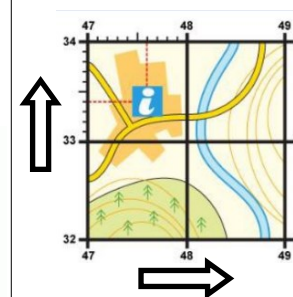
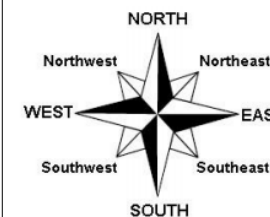
LAND FEATURES

Electricity transmission line (pylons shown at standard spacing)	Cutting / embankment
Pipe line (arrow indicates direction of flow)	Quarry
Buildings	Spoil heap, refuse tip or dump
Public building (selected)	Coniferous wood
Bus or coach station	Non-coniferous wood
Place of worship	Mixed wood
	Orchard / Park or ornamental ground

TOURIST INFORMATION

- Camp site
- Caravan site
- Garden
- Golf course or links
- Information centre, all year / seasonal
- Nature reserve
- Parking, Park and ride, all year / seasonal
- Picnic site
- Selected places of tourist interest
- Telephone, public / motoring organisation
- Viewpoint
- Visitor centre
- Walks / Trails
- Youth hostel

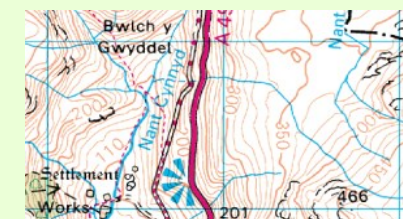
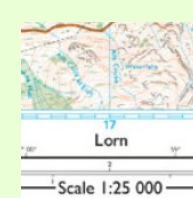
Compass points & Grid References



Maps have grid lines on them. We use them to pinpoint locations by using grid reference. A four-figure grid reference is a handy way of identifying any square on a map, six-figure grid references are best for giving exact locations. Grid references are easy, as long as you remember that you always go along the corridor before you go up the stairs.

Scale and Contours

The **scale** of a map helps us calculate the size, height and dimensions of the features shown on the map AND the distances between different points. Scale is the ratio between real life distances and how many times it has been shrunk to fit it on the map.
Example: A scale of 1:50 000 where 1cm = 50,000cm on the ground (500m or 0.5 km) or a scale of 1:25 000 (250m or 0.25km)



Contours are lines drawn on a map that join places of the same height. On OS maps they are orange/brown, some will have their heights written on them and they are always an EQUAL distance apart. If the lines are **CLOSE** together the land is steep and if the lines are **FAR** apart the land is flat.

Recommended websites

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/resources/map-reading/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z6j6fg8/revision/1>