



Year 7

Autumn

Knowledge

Guide



Biology: Cells, Organs and Organ Systems

Biology is the study of living things. In this topic, you will learn all about cells — the tiny building blocks that make up every plant, animal, and human.

There are many different types of cells. Some cells are animal cells, like those in your body, and some are plant cells, like those in a tree or flower. Most cells have the same parts, like a **nucleus** (which controls the cell), **cytoplasm** (where reactions happen), **mitochondria** (which make energy for the cell to use), and a **cell membrane** (which controls what goes in and out). Plant cells also have a **cell wall** for support and **chloroplasts** for photosynthesis (making food using sunlight).

Some cells are **specialised**, which means they have a special job. For example, **nerve cells** carry messages, **sperm cells** help with reproduction, and **muscle cells** help you move. In plants, **leaf cells** collect sunlight.

To study cells, scientists use a **microscope**, which makes tiny things look much bigger. We use stains, slides and careful handling to see cells clearly. You can also use a microscope to see how things move in and out of cells. This is called **diffusion**.

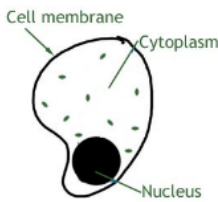
Groups of similar cells working together form a **tissue**. Tissues make up **organs**, like your **heart** or **stomach**. Organs work together in **organ systems**, like the **circulatory system**, which moves blood, or the **digestive system**, which breaks down food.

Plants have their own organs too — **leaves**, **roots**, and **stems**. They move water through **xylem** and sugars through **phloem**.

7A Cells and Systems

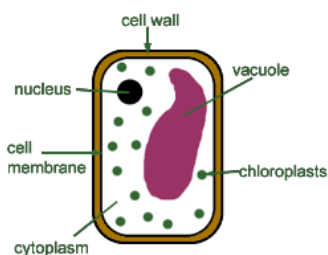
Animal Cell: Functions of...

- Nucleus
- Cytoplasm
- Cell membrane
- Mitochondria



Plant Cell: Functions of...

- Chloroplast
- Cell Wall
- Permanent Vacuole



Compare: Plant and Animal Cell

Feature	Animal (✓ or ✗)	Plant (✓ or ✗)
Nucleus		
Cell Membrane		
Cell Wall		
Cytoplasm		
Chloroplast		
Mitochondria		
Vacuole		

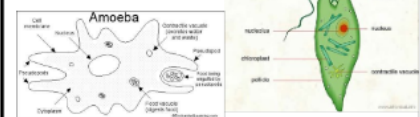
Microscopes:

- Why do we use microscopes?
- Describe how to prepare a specimen.
- How do you calculate total magnification? What does this show?



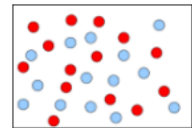
Euglena and Amoeba

Describe function of parts.

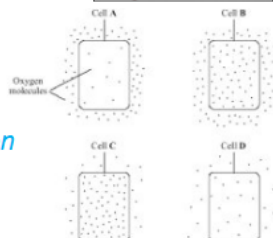


Diffusion

Define diffusion. Give examples.



In which direction will oxygen diffuse?



Animal Organs

Label the organs

Describe their functions.



Plant Organs

Describe organ functions.



Specialised tissues:

- Xylem
- Phloem

Keyword	Definition	System/Type
Nucleus	Controls what the cell does	Cell part (both types)
Cell membrane	Lets things in and out of the cell	Cell part (both types)
Cytoplasm	Jelly-like part where cell activities happen	Cell part (both types)
Mitochondria	Where energy is made inside the cell	Cell part (both types)
Cell wall	Supports the shape of the cell	Plant cell part
Chloroplast	Uses sunlight to make food in plant cells	Plant cell part
Specialised cell	A cell with a special job	Both types
Nerve cell	Sends messages around the body	Specialised animal cell
Sperm cell	Has a tail to swim	Specialised animal cell
Muscle cell	Helps you move and has lots of mitochondria	Specialised animal cell
Leaf cell	Has many chloroplasts to catch sunlight	Specialised plant cell
Microscope	A tool to see very tiny things	Science equipment
Magnification	How much bigger something looks under a microscope	Science skill
Diffusion	When things move from more to less	Process in cells
Tissue	A group of the same kind of cells working together	Body level
Organ	Made of different tissues doing a job	Body level
Organ system	A group of organs working together	Body level
Circulatory system	Moves blood and oxygen around the body	Organ system
Digestive system	Breaks down food so the body can use it	Organ system
Xylem	Tube in plants that moves water	Plant transport
Phloem	Tube in plants that moves sugars	Plant transport
Heart	Pumps blood through the body	Organ (circulatory)
Veins	Carry blood back to the heart	Organ (circulatory)
Arteries	Carry blood away from the heart	Organ (circulatory)
Leaf	Uses sunlight to make food for the plant	Plant organ
Stem	Holds up the plant and moves water and food	Plant organ
Root	Takes in water and holds the plant in place	Plant organ



Chemistry: Particles, States, Properties and Atoms

In this topic, we learn all about particles and how they behave in different states of matter: solid, liquid, and gas.

Everything around us is made of tiny particles too small to see. In solids, the particles are packed tightly and stay in place. In liquids, they are close together but can move and slide past each other. In gases, the particles are far apart and move quickly in all directions.

We also learn what happens when substances change state — like when ice melts into water, or when water turns into steam. These changes happen when we heat or cool a material. Heating makes the particles move faster, and cooling makes them slow down. We use words like melting, freezing, boiling, evaporating, and condensing to describe these changes.

Later, we explore what happens when solids dissolve in liquids, like sugar in water. A solution is made of a solute (what is being dissolved) and a solvent (the liquid that does the dissolving). We look at solubility—how much of a solid can dissolve—and learn how temperature can change this.

We also study diffusion, which is how particles spread out from places where there are lots of them to places where there are fewer. We see this in real life when we smell perfume in a room. We find out how heat can speed this up.

Next, we learn about the properties of materials—how they behave. Some properties are physical, like how shiny or stretchy something is, or how well it carries heat. Others are chemical, like whether a material burns or reacts with other substances.

Finally, we look at what everything is made of: atoms. Atoms can be joined to make elements, compounds, and mixtures. An element is made of just one kind of atom. A compound is made when different atoms join together. A mixture is when different things are together but not joined. We use symbols and models to help us show these.

By the end, we'll know how to tell when a chemical reaction has happened — maybe by a temperature change, gas being made, or a new substance forming.

solid



water



freeze



liquid



melt



metal



gas



boil



steam



plastic



burn



wood



Word	What it means
Solid	A state where particles are packed tightly and do not move around
Liquid	A state where particles touch but can slide past each other
Gas	A state where particles are far apart and move freely
Particle	A tiny piece that makes up everything
State of matter	The form something is in – solid, liquid or gas
Melting	When a solid turns into a liquid
Freezing	When a liquid turns into a solid
Boiling	When a liquid turns into a gas
Evaporation	When a liquid slowly changes to a gas (without bubbling)
Condensation	When a gas cools down and turns into a liquid
Dissolve	When a solid mixes into a liquid and disappears
Solute	The solid or substance that gets dissolved
Solvent	The liquid that dissolves something
Solution	A liquid mixture made by dissolving something
Diffusion	How particles spread out from crowded to less crowded places
Temperature	How hot or cold something is
Physical property	Something you can see or measure without changing what the thing is
Chemical property	How something changes when it reacts (e.g. burning)
Element	A substance made of only one kind of atom
Atom	The smallest part of an element
Compound	Two or more elements joined together
Mixture	Different things together but not joined
Reaction	When substances change into something new
Gas produced	Bubbles show a gas is being made during a reaction



Physics: Space

In this topic, we explore the fascinating world of space. You will learn about how gravity shapes everything in the universe, from the motion of planets to your own weight on different worlds.

We start by looking at **gravity**, the force that pulls things together. This force gives you **weight** and keeps your feet on the ground. Your **mass** (the amount of matter in your body) stays the same wherever you go, but your **weight** changes depending on the strength of gravity on different planets. We use this formula to calculate weight:

$$\text{Weight} = \text{Mass} \times \text{Gravitational Field Strength} (W = m \times g).$$

Weight is measured in **Newtons (N)**, mass in **kilograms (kg)**, and gravitational field strength in **N/kg**.

You'll also learn how gravity affects the motion of objects in space. The **Earth orbits the Sun**, and the **Moon orbits the Earth** because of this invisible pulling force. The bigger the objects and the closer they are, the stronger the gravitational pull.

Next, we study **days and years**. A day is how long it takes a planet to spin once on its axis. For Earth, that's 24 hours. A **year** is how long it takes Earth to orbit the Sun – 365 days. We'll also discover how the **seasons** happen because of the **tilt** of Earth's axis. This tilt also changes the **path of the Sun** in the sky throughout the year.

We then explore distances in space. Space is so big that we use a special unit called a **light year** – the distance light travels in one year. Light travels at **300 million metres per second**, so light years help us measure the huge gaps between **stars** and **galaxies**.

You'll investigate the **life cycle of a star**, including our Sun. Stars form from gas and dust, shine through **nuclear fusion**, and end their lives as **supernovae**, **neutron stars**, or even **black holes**. Our **Sun** is a **luminous** object – it gives off its own light. Other objects like the **Moon** are **non-luminous**, and we only see them because they reflect sunlight.

Finally, we look at **satellites** and **orbits**, and how **tides** on Earth are caused by the gravity of the Moon.

By the end of this topic, you'll understand how forces, motion, light, and gravity shape our place in the universe.

How to Understand Weight:

Weight is how heavy something feels. It depends on two things:

Mass — how much stuff is inside the object (like how many bricks are in a box).

Gravity — how hard the planet pulls on the object.

Think about it like this: If you have the same box on Earth and on the Moon, the box has the same amount of stuff (same mass), but it feels lighter on the Moon because the Moon pulls less.

We can find weight by doing this:

Multiply how much stuff is in the object (mass) by how strong the pull of gravity is where you are.

You can write it simply as:

$$\text{Weight} = \text{Mass} \times \text{Gravity}$$

Weight is measured in Newtons (N) — this tells us how hard the pull is. **Mass** is measured in kilograms (kg) — this tells us how much stuff there is. **Gravity** is measured in Newtons per kilogram (N/kg) — this tells us how strong the pull is on each kilogram.

Word	What it means
Gravity	The force that pulls things toward each other. It keeps you on the ground.
Weight	How heavy something is because of gravity pulling on it.
Mass	How much stuff is inside something. Mass stays the same everywhere.
Gravitational Field Strength	How strong gravity is in a place, like on different planets.
Newton (N)	The unit used to measure weight (how heavy something is).
Kilogram (kg)	The unit used to measure mass (how much stuff is inside).
Orbit	The path one object takes as it goes around another, like Earth going around the Sun.
Axis	An imaginary line that a planet spins around.
Day	The time it takes a planet to spin once on its axis.
Year	The time it takes a planet to go all the way around the Sun.
Tilt	When a planet's axis leans to one side. This causes seasons.
Light Year	The distance light travels in one year. It helps us measure space.
Light	A type of energy that we can see. It travels very fast.
Star	A big ball of hot gas that shines in the sky.
Nuclear Fusion	The process that makes stars shine by joining tiny particles together.
Supernova	A huge explosion when a big star dies.
Neutron Star	A very small, very dense star left after a supernova.
Black Hole	An object with gravity so strong that not even light can escape.
Luminous	Something that gives off its own light, like the Sun.
Non-Luminous	Something that does not give off light but can be seen because it reflects light, like the Moon.
Satellite	An object that goes around a planet, like the Moon or a space machine.
Tides	The rise and fall of sea levels caused by the Moon's gravity.

Computing

In this topic, you will learn how to write programs that run on a small computer called a Micro:bit.

This clever little device can show messages, count steps, and react to buttons and movement!

You will start by using a programming tool to write your code. You can test it on an emulator (a screen version of the Micro:bit), and then send it to your real Micro:bit to see it work.

Next, you'll learn how computers make decisions using something called selection. This means your program can follow different paths depending on what happens — for example, turning on a light when it gets dark. You'll use if, then, else statements to control what your program does.

Later, you'll add inputs, like pressing buttons or moving the Micro:bit. You'll store these in variables — little boxes that hold information your program can use. You'll also learn to check those variables using conditions (like “if steps > 10”).

Then, you'll put all your learning together to design and build a step counter. You'll decide what information your Micro:bit needs, plan the steps of your program (algorithm), and then write the code.

Finally, you'll test your step counter and fix any problems (called bugs). At the end of the unit, you'll show what you've learned by answering questions and checking your own progress.





Keyword	Meaning
Micro:bit	A small computer you can program to do cool things
Program	A set of instructions a computer follows
Emulator	A screen version of the Micro:bit for testing
Selection	Choosing what to do based on something that happens
If, then, else	A way to tell the computer: "If this happens, do that, otherwise do this"
Input	Something that goes into the computer, like a button press or movement
Output	Something the computer shows or does, like a light or message
Variable	A box that stores information in a program
Condition	A check, like "Is the number bigger than 10?"
Operand	A symbol like < or > used in conditions
Algorithm	The step-by-step plan to solve a problem
Bug	A mistake in a program that stops it from working properly
Debugging	Finding and fixing mistakes in your program



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Facts about France

Official Name: French Republic

Form of government: Republic

Capital: Paris

Population: 67, 092, 056

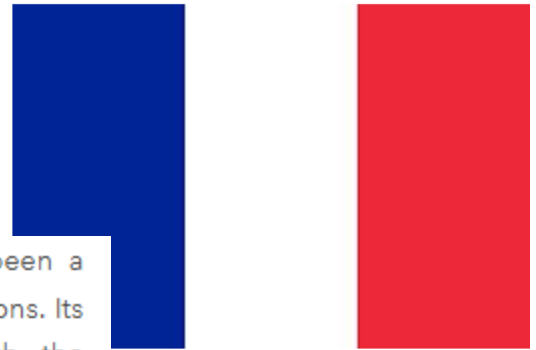
Official languages: French

Monetary unit: Euro

Area: 543,965 square kilometres

Major mountain ranges: Alps, Pyrenees, Massif Central

Major rivers: Seine, Rhine and Rhône



The largest country in Western Europe, France has long been a gateway between the continent's northern and southern regions. Its lengthy borders touch **Germany** and **Belgium** in the north, the **Atlantic Ocean** in the west, and the **Pyrenees** mountains and Spain in the south. It also borders the **Mediterranean** sea in the southeast, and the **Alps**, **Switzerland** and **Italy** in the east.

France has a very diverse landscape. There are beautiful beaches on the southeast coast, home to the **French Riviera**, and towering mountains in the south and east, where the snow-capped French Alps rise to the sky. Europe's tallest peak, **Monte Blanc**, is found in the French Alps, standing at a massive 4,810m tall!



The Alps in the southeast of France are home to forests, lakes and snowcapped peaks!

Wide, fertile plains dominate most of the north and west, making France the agricultural epicentre of Europe. The sprawling, forested plateau of the **Massif Central** - a range of ancient mountains and extinct volcanoes - occupies France's southern interior.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Facts about Germany.

OFFICIAL NAME: Federal Republic of Germany

FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Federal republic

CAPITAL: Berlin

POPULATION: 82,422,299

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: German

MONEY: Euro

AREA: 349,223 square kilometers

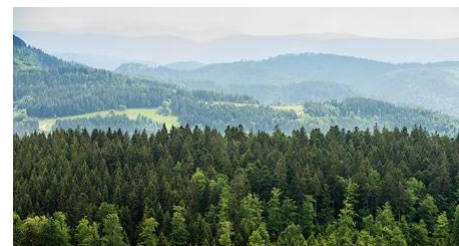
MAJOR RIVERS: Rhine, Elbe, Main, Danube



Germany's central and southern regions have forested hills and mountains cut through by the **Danube**, **Main** and **Rhine** river valleys. In the north, the landscape flattens out to a wide plain that stretches to the **North Sea**. Between these extremes, Germany is a country of incredible variety.

Germany shares borders with nine countries - **France**, **Luxembourg**, **Denmark**, **Belgium**, **Switzerland**, **Austria**, **Czech Republic**, the **Netherlands** and **Poland**.

Germany's largest wooded area, and its most famous, is in the southwest near the Swiss border. This is the **Black Forest**, a mountainous region full of pines and fir trees. This forest contains the source of the Danube, one of Europe's longest rivers.



Germany is home to lots of beautiful countryside

Today almost one in every ten Germans comes from a foreign country - more than at any time in Germany's history. The largest minority are Turkish, who started to come to Germany in the 1950s to work. About two-thirds of Germans are Christians.

Germany has been called the "Land of Poets and Thinkers." Germans are famous in all forms of art, but particularly classical music. Germany's famous composers include **Bach**, **Brahms**, **Schumann**, **Wagner** and **Beethoven**.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Facts about Spain

OFFICIAL NAME: Kingdom of Spain

FORM OF GOVERNMENT: Parliamentary monarchy

CAPITAL: Madrid

POPULATION: 47, 909, 753

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: Spanish, Catalan, Galician, Basque

MONEY: Euro

AREA: 505,988 square kilometres

MAJOR MOUNTAIN RANGES: Pyrenees, Sierra de Guadarrama, Sierra de Gredos, Sierra Nevada

The interior of Spain is a high, dry plateau surrounded and crisscrossed by mountain ranges. Rivers run to the coasts, creating rich soils that are good for farming. Still, the interior of the country gets very cold in winter, and very hot and dry in summer.

The north coast of this amazing country is called "Green Spain". This is because the mild, wet climate of the region allows lush plants and trees, such as beech and oak, to flourish.

The southern and eastern coasts of Spain, from the fertile Andalusian plain up to the Pyrenees, are often swept by warm winds called "sirocco" winds. These winds originate in northern Africa and keep temperatures along the Mediterranean coast warmer than the interior.

A link between Europe and Africa, Spain is an important resting spot for migratory birds. It is also home to magnificent mammals including wolves, lynxes, wildcats, foxes and deer - and fab fish such as barbel, tench and trout can be found in the country's streams and lakes.



RE: What is a hero?

In this topic, we learn about **sacrifice**, **heroes**, and some important ideas from the **Christian** religion.

A **sacrifice** is when someone gives up something special to help someone else. It might mean giving up time, comfort, or even safety to do something kind or brave. Many heroes make sacrifices to help others.

We will also learn what it means to be a **hero**. A hero is someone who shows bravery, kindness, or strength to do what is right, even when it is hard. Heroes don't have to be perfect. Everyone makes mistakes, but real heroes try to help others and do the right thing.

In the Bible, Jesus is seen as a hero because he **sacrificed** his life to help others. Christians believe that Jesus is God in human form. This is called the **Incarnation** – it means God became human through Jesus.

Jesus was **crucified** (nailed to a cross) and died, but Christians believe that after **three days**, he came back to life. This is called the **Resurrection**. It shows hope and new life.

Jesus also told special stories with hidden meanings. These are called **parables**. One famous parable is *The Good Samaritan*. In this story, a man is hurt, and people walk past him. But a **Samaritan** – someone from a group who didn't get along with Jews – stops to help. This shows that we should **love and help everyone**, even if they're different from us.

We will also talk about **sin**, which means doing something wrong against God. Everyone makes mistakes, but people can choose to change and do better.

Later in the topic, we will look at **Human Rights**. These are things all people should have, like the right to be safe, free, and treated fairly. We will also learn about **Apartheid**, a time in South Africa when people were unfairly treated because of their race.

By the end of this topic, you will understand what makes a hero, why sacrifice is important, and how faith and fairness can guide people's actions.

Word	What it means
Sacrifice	Giving up something important to you to help someone else
Samaritan	Someone living in Samaria in biblical times. Samaritans and Jews did not get along. Today, a 'good Samaritan' is someone helpful and kind
Sin	A wrong act that goes against God
Incarnation	When Christians believe God became human through Jesus
Crucifixion	When Jesus was nailed to the cross
Resurrection	Three days after his death, Jesus rose from the dead
Parable	Stories that Jesus told that had a special and important message
Human Rights	Rights we are entitled to simply because we are human beings
Apartheid	A policy or system of segregation (separation) or discrimination because of race

Geography: The Geography Toolkit

Geography is the study of the Earth.

It looks at the land, water, air, and people. Geographers ask questions like: Where are places? What are they like? How do people live there?

There are two main types of geography. Physical geography looks at natural things like rivers, mountains, oceans, weather, and how these shape the Earth. These are called physical processes. Human geography is about how people live, travel, build, and change the land. These are called human processes.

We also learn about place. This means understanding why some places are important to people. For example, your home, a religious building, or a famous city.

Geography teaches us skills to help us learn about the world. These include using maps, reading data, asking good questions, and thinking about problems.

We learn about the continents, which are large areas of land like Africa. A country is a smaller area that has its own government, like the UK.

The world also has big areas of water called oceans. The British Isles is a group of islands including Great Britain, Ireland, and others nearby.

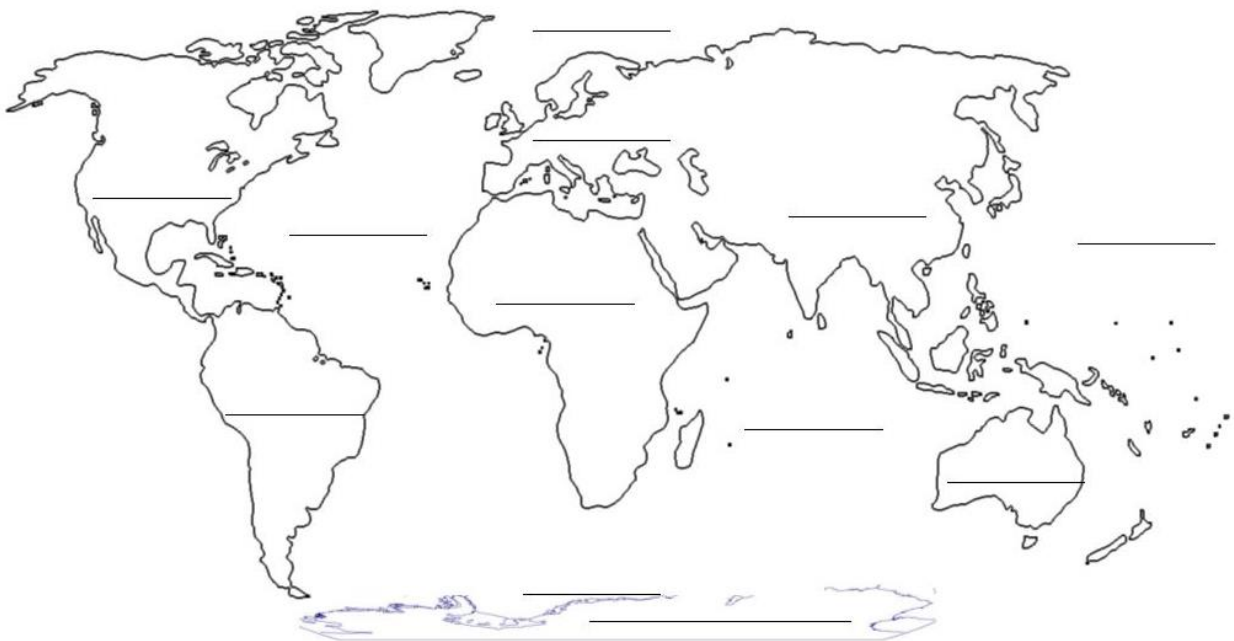
We study borders and boundaries, which are lines that show where one place ends and another begins. Some follow natural features like rivers. Others were made by people and can change over time.

We also explore colonialism, when one country takes control of another. This often created straight borders in places like Africa, without thinking about the people living there. This can still cause problems today.

People called stakeholders have different ideas about what should happen to places. It is important to listen to their views when making decisions about land or change.

Geography helps us understand the world and how we all live in it.

Continents and Oceans map



Keyword Glossary

Geography – The study of the Earth, its land, water, weather, and people.

Physical geography – Natural things on Earth like rivers, mountains, weather, and oceans.

Physical processes – Natural forces that change the land, like rain, wind, or volcanoes.

Human geography – How people live, work, and change the land around them.

Human processes – Things people do that change the world, like building cities or farming.

Place – A location that is special or important to people, like a home or famous building.

Skills (Geographical skills) – Things we learn to help us study the world, like using maps or reading data.

Continent – A very large area of land made up of many countries, like Africa.

Country – A piece of land with its own government and borders, like the UK.

Ocean – A huge area of salty water, like the Atlantic Ocean.

British Isles – All the islands that include Great Britain, Ireland, and the small islands nearby.

United Kingdom (UK) – A group of countries joined together: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

Border – A line that shows where one place or country ends and another begins.

Boundary – Another word for a border. It can be real (like a river) or imaginary (like a line on a map).

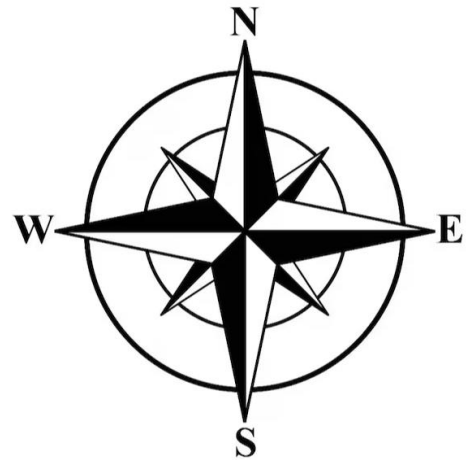
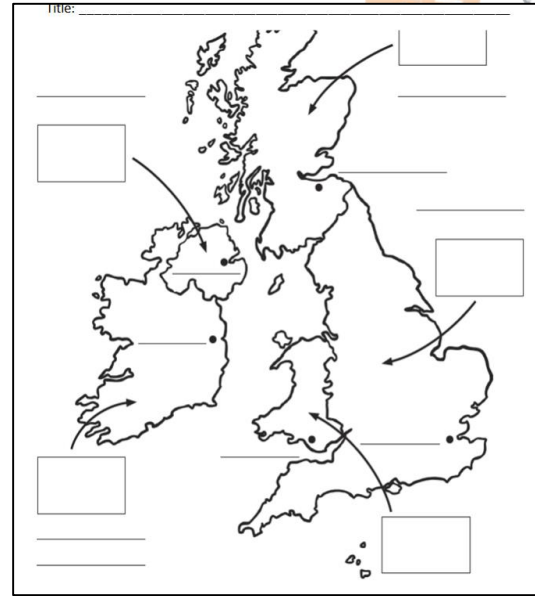
Political boundary – A border made by people to separate countries or areas.

Geometric boundary – A border made from straight lines, not natural features.

Superimposed boundary – A border put in place by someone from outside, often without asking the people who live there.

Colonialism – When one country takes control of another, often to get land or power.

Stakeholder – A person or group who cares about a place or decision, like a shop owner or a farmer.



History: All about Guildford

In our first lessons, we're going to be learning about some historical keywords that we will use a lot in Year 7. We're starting our studies by learning about Guildford's past and then we'll learn about the impact of the Norman Conquest.



Do you recognise any of these Guildford landmarks?



Word	What it means
evidence	Something you find that helps you know if something is true or happened before.
research	Looking carefully for information or facts to learn more about something.
theory / theories	An idea or explanation that tries to tell why or how something happens.
artefact	An object made or used by people a long time ago.
chronology	The order in which things happened, from the oldest to the newest.
medieval era	A long time ago when castles, knights, and monarchs (kings & queens) lived (about 500 to 1500 CE).
early modern era	The time after medieval, when people started using printing, exploring new lands, and monarchs still ruled (about 1500 to 1800 CE)
industrial era	When machines were made and factories were built to make things faster (about 1800 CE to early 1900s).
modern era	The time we live in now, with computers, cars, and lots of new technology.
impact	The affect an event or person had on someone or something.

History: the impact of the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest happened in 1066, when William I, a Norman from northern France, invaded England and defeated the Saxons.

Before the Conquest, Edward the Confessor was King of England. He died in January 1066 without a child to take over. Three men wanted to be king: Harold Godwinson, a powerful Saxon noble; Harald Hardrada, the King of Norway; and William of Normandy. The English leaders chose Harold Godwinson to be king.

First, Harold had to fight Harald Hardrada at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. Harold won, but his army was tired. Just days later, William I landed in the south of England. William had the Pope's support, which made him seem chosen by God. Harold rushed south and the two armies met at the Battle of Hastings in October 1066.

The Saxon shield wall was strong at first, but William's cavalry (soldiers on horses) and archers helped to break it. Harold was killed, and William became king.

William brought many changes. He built motte-and-bailey castles to control England and scare the Saxons. Many rebellions followed. William crushed the worst one with the Harrying of the North, destroying villages and crops.

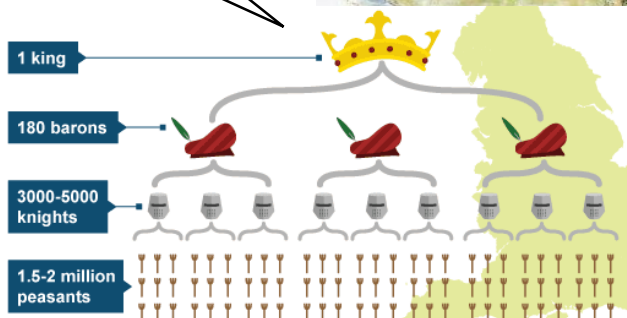
He brought in the feudal system, giving land to barons, who gave land to knights. At the bottom were peasants who worked the land. In 1085, William ordered the Domesday Book to record who owned what.

Some historians think the Normans brought a "truckload of trouble." Others say they changed England forever.



A motte-and-bailey castle

The feudal system



Did the Normans really bring a 'truckload of trouble' to England?

- 1 An interpretation is written by a historian about something or someone in the past, based on the evidence they've studied.
- 2 Simon Schama's interpretation of the Norman Conquest: "There are moments when history is unsubtle; when change arrives in a rush, decisive, bloody, traumatic, a truckload of trouble, wiping out everything that gives you your bearings: custom, language, law, loyalty. 1066 was one of those moments."

Key terms (pay attention to spelling and capital letters)

3	Norman Conquest	When William I invaded and took over England from the Saxons, 1066-c1080s.
4	Saxons	The people who had lived in England since c500AD.
5	Normans	Invaders from Normandy in northern France, led by William I.
6	motte-and-bailey castles	These were built by the Normans to protect their soldiers, put down rebellions easily, and to scare and intimidate the Saxons.
7	rebellion	A violent uprising against the king.
8	Harrying of the North	William I's punishment for the Saxon rebellions. He ordered farms and fields to be burned. Thousands of people starved as a result.
9	feudal system	This was a way of organising people to show who was in charge. Almost all Saxons were now in the lowest group: peasants.
10	barons	Rich and powerful men who held land granted to them by William. They provided the king with knights to fight for him when he needed them.
11	knights	Soldiers on horseback who provided knight service for the barons. The barons gave them land in return.
12	peasants	The lowest group in the feudal system. They did labour service (farm work) on the knights' land in exchange for smaller bits of land on which to grow their own crops.
13	Domesday Book	A huge survey recording who held what land and how much the land was worth, ordered by William in 1085. He could have wanted to know how much more tax he could raise, or which areas of England he could raise an army from.

Key facts

- 14 Before 1066, England was well-governed and wealthy, but not well-defended because it had few castles. It already had connections with Normandy and Norway.
- 15 William I defeated the last Saxon king, Harold Godwinson, at the Battle of Hastings in October 1066.
- 16 There were a series of serious rebellions by Saxons against William I between 1068 and 1071.
- 17 The Harrying of the North devastated parts of northern England. William's soldiers killed thousands of Saxons, destroyed villages, killed livestock and spread salt on the land to prevent crops growing there for many years.
- 18 William I seized the land of all the Saxons who rebelled or had fought against him at Hastings. He gave this land to his Norman followers as a reward.
- 19 By c1100, only 13 of the 1000 landowners in England were Saxon; the rest were Norman.
- 20 The Normans abolished slavery in England. The Saxons had allowed people to be bought and sold and forced to work against their will.