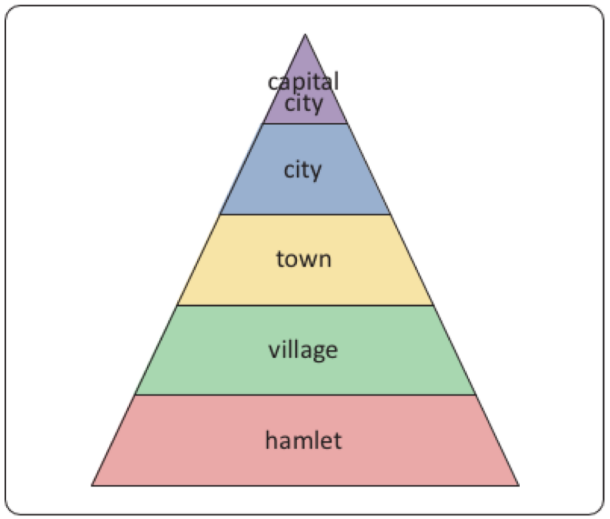
Year 5 Autumn 2: Investigating our World

Subject Specific Vocabulary	
Ordnance Survey	Ordnance Survey are Britain's national mapping agency.
settlements	A place where people live.
capital city	A city where a regions government is located.
city	A permanent and densely settled area.
town	Towns are smaller than cities and do not usually have a cathedral.
village	Villages are small settlements with a church. Usually, a few hundred people live in a village.
hamlet	Hamlets are small settlements without a church. Less than one hundred people live in hamlets.
motorway	A main road with multiple lanes built for fast travel over long distances.

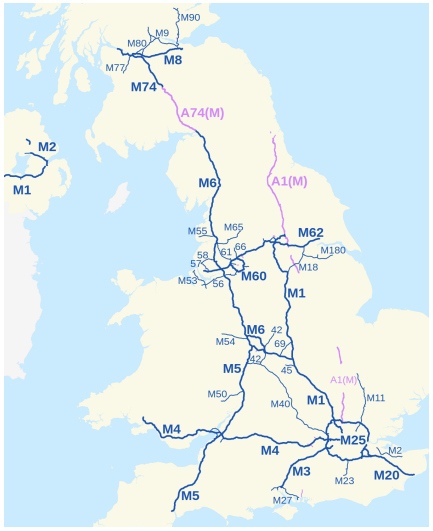
Settlement Hierarchy

Settlement hierarchy is a way of grouping and ranking settlements according to their type, significance, number and size. The main types of settlement in the United Kingdom are capital cities, cities, towns, villages and hamlets.



The most significant type of settlement is at the top of the diagram, and the least significant is at the bottom.

Settlements get bigger, have a larger population and have more facilities, workplaces and transport links as they go up the settlement hierarchy. The number of each type of settlement increases as they go down the settlement hierarchy.

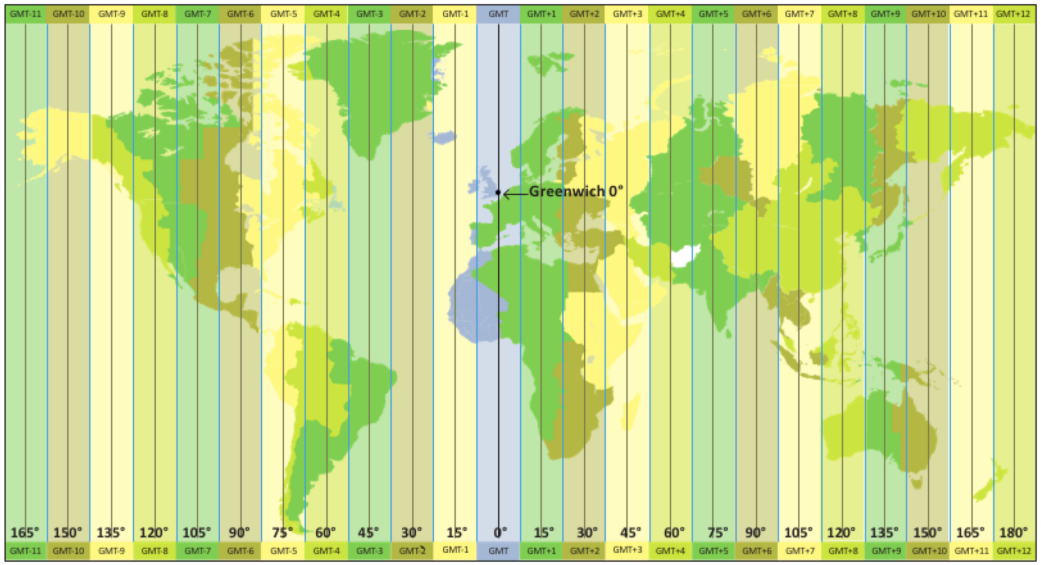


Motorway Transport Network

A motorway is a main road with multiple lanes built for fast travel over long distances. In the United Kingdom, they run north to south and east to west across the country. Motorways connect towns, cities and transport links, such as A roads, airports or ferry terminals. Motorways allow people and goods to move quickly around the country. Some of the major motorways near us are M25, M1, M4, M20 and M3.

Time Zones

The time is different in different countries around the world. The world is split into 24 meridians. These are lines of longitude that run from the North Pole to the South Pole. The Prime Meridian is the starting point for all the other meridians. Its position is 0°. It runs through Greenwich, in England. All times around the world are calculated from the Prime Meridian. The time at the Prime, or Greenwich, Meridian is known as Greenwich Mean Time, abbreviated to GMT. If meridians are to the east of Greenwich on a map, hours are added to GMT. If they are to the west of Greenwich, hours are taken away from GMT. Times zones are labelled to show how many hours they are ahead of, or behind, the Prime Meridian, for example GMT+1 or GMT-1.



6-figure grid reference

A six-figure grid reference is six numbers that locate an exact position of a human or physical feature within a grid square on a map. On an Ordnance Survey map, markers divide each grid square into 100 smaller squares. We go 'along the corridor' to the left side of the square and 'up the stairs' to the bottom left-hand corner of the square to find the six-figure grid reference. For example, the six-figure grid reference for the viewpoint, Valley View, is 193 008.

