

Read the text about the weather on different areas of the UK again and fill in the missing words.

In terms of sunshine, the favoured spots are the south coast of England with over 1,850 hours a year on average, about 40% of the maximum number of hours that are possible. In contrast, Shetland manages less than 1,100 hours per year – only about a quarter of the hours possible.

Wettest of all are the highest parts of Snowdonia and the Lake District where over 4,000 mm of rain falls in a typical year, with the western Scottish Highlands almost as wet.

The driest areas are those near the Essex coast and the Thames Estuary, receiving less than 550 mm a year. However, this area, along with the rest of south-east England and East Anglia, is the most prone to thunderstorms.

In terms of mean temperature, the coldest areas are Scotland's Grampian mountains with averages only a few degrees above freezing, over 100 frosts each year and more than 60 days of lying snow each year. The warmest places are central London and the west coast of Cornwall, but the southern coasts are not far behind. Here, frost and snow are relatively rare.

Upland and coastal areas are the windiest, especially those on the west and north such as the Western and Northern Isles of Scotland. Here we find the highest frequency of gales. The least windy places tend to be low-lying, well inland and towards the south, especially in valleys, forests and built-up areas.