

Geography

1 Quickly read the text. What do the photos show? Where are there more people?



POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND POPULATION DENSITY AROUND THE WORLD

The current population of the world is 7.814 billion. So where are all the people? Which countries have got a lot of people and which haven't got very many?

Population distribution is how many people are in a particular area. Some parts of the planet have got a lot of people, and others haven't. For example, there are more than five times the amount of people in Japan than there are in Australia.

For example, Australia's population of 23.83 million, divided by the land area of 7,682,300 square kilometres gives a population density of 3.2 people per km².

In a small country with a lot of people, the population density is higher than in a big country with a lot of people. Macau has got a very high population density with 18,534 people per km². Greenland has got a very low population density with 0.026 people per km².

So, why have some areas got a high population density?
Factors that attract population

- a temperate climate
- flat, fertile land
- natural resources

Factors that discourage population

- an extreme climate
- mountains
- thick forests and vegetation



Population density is the average number of people per square kilometre. It tells us if an area has got a lot of people or not. To calculate the population density of a place, we divide the population by the size of the place. Population density = total population ÷ area of land in km²



2 Read the text again. Are the sentences T (true) or F (false)?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1 Population distribution tells us where people live. | T/F |
| 2 There are more people in Australia than in Japan. | T/F |
| 3 Australia has got a high population density. | T/F |
| 4 In an area of high population density, there are a lot of people in a small area. | T/F |
| 5 More people live in areas with a temperate climate and fertile land. | T/F |

3 What do these numbers in the text refer to?

- | | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1 7,682,300 | _____ |
| 2 23.83 million | _____ |
| 3 0.026 | _____ |
| 4 7.814 billion | _____ |
| 5 18,534 | _____ |

4 Work with a partner and discuss the questions.

- 1 Where do most people in your country live?
- 2 Which parts of your country have a high and low population density?

Popular pets

1 Talk about the information with your partner. Answer the questions.

- 1 What is the most popular pet in the UK?
- 2 Which reptiles are popular pets?
- 3 Which pets are equally popular?



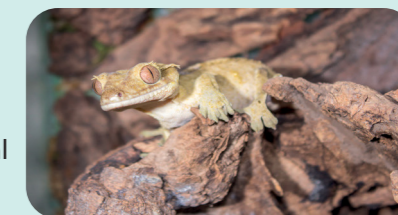
2 Read the texts about some unusual pets. Which of the pets is a mammal, a reptile and a spider?

UNUSUAL PETS



Douglas, the UK

I've got a crested gecko called Dawn. She's green and I think she's a beautiful lizard. Geckos are small and they are very friendly. Geckos grow to around 17–20 cm long. They are nocturnal and can be noisy at night, so Dawn doesn't live in my bedroom. She has got a home called a vivarium with a special light and some plants in it. I buy special reptile food for her, but she also eats small insects.



Cristina, Brazil

My pet is a tarantula. His name is Enrique, and he's two years old. He's got a hairy body and big legs. He's about 14 cm long. Tarantulas are great pets. They are small, quiet and clean, and most are quite gentle. Enrique has got a warm tank to live in. Tarantulas eat insects, and I give Enrique one or two crickets a week. He's an unusual and interesting pet.

Luis, Spain

I've got two chinchillas. They are really cute, with their big, dark eyes and soft grey fur. Chinchillas are easy to look after because they are clean and quiet. Chinchillas can jump over one metre! They aren't big animals – they are around 30 cm long – but they need a big cage. Chinchillas eat lots of hay, pieces of apple or other small sweet treats.



3 Complete the table with information about each pet.

	Crested gecko	Tarantula	Chinchilla
appearance			
length			
home			
food			

4 Work with a partner and answer the questions.

- 1 Do you have a pet at home, or have you ever had a pet? Tell your partner about it.
- 2 What kinds of pets are popular in your country?
- 3 Do you know anyone with an unusual pet? What is it?