

# Y8 Rural Life

## Creative Challenge tasks

### Vlog

Produce a short video which promotes the benefits of enjoying the countryside in your local area.

### Advert

"Escape to the countryside."  
Design an estate agency advert for a rural property.

### Narrative

Write an article for Countryside magazine about the importance of caring for the local environment.

OR

Write a poem which describes a countryside character.

### Play script

Write a scene which begins with the following stage directions.

*Two cars travelling in opposite directions stop on a rural road. Both drivers roll their windows down.*

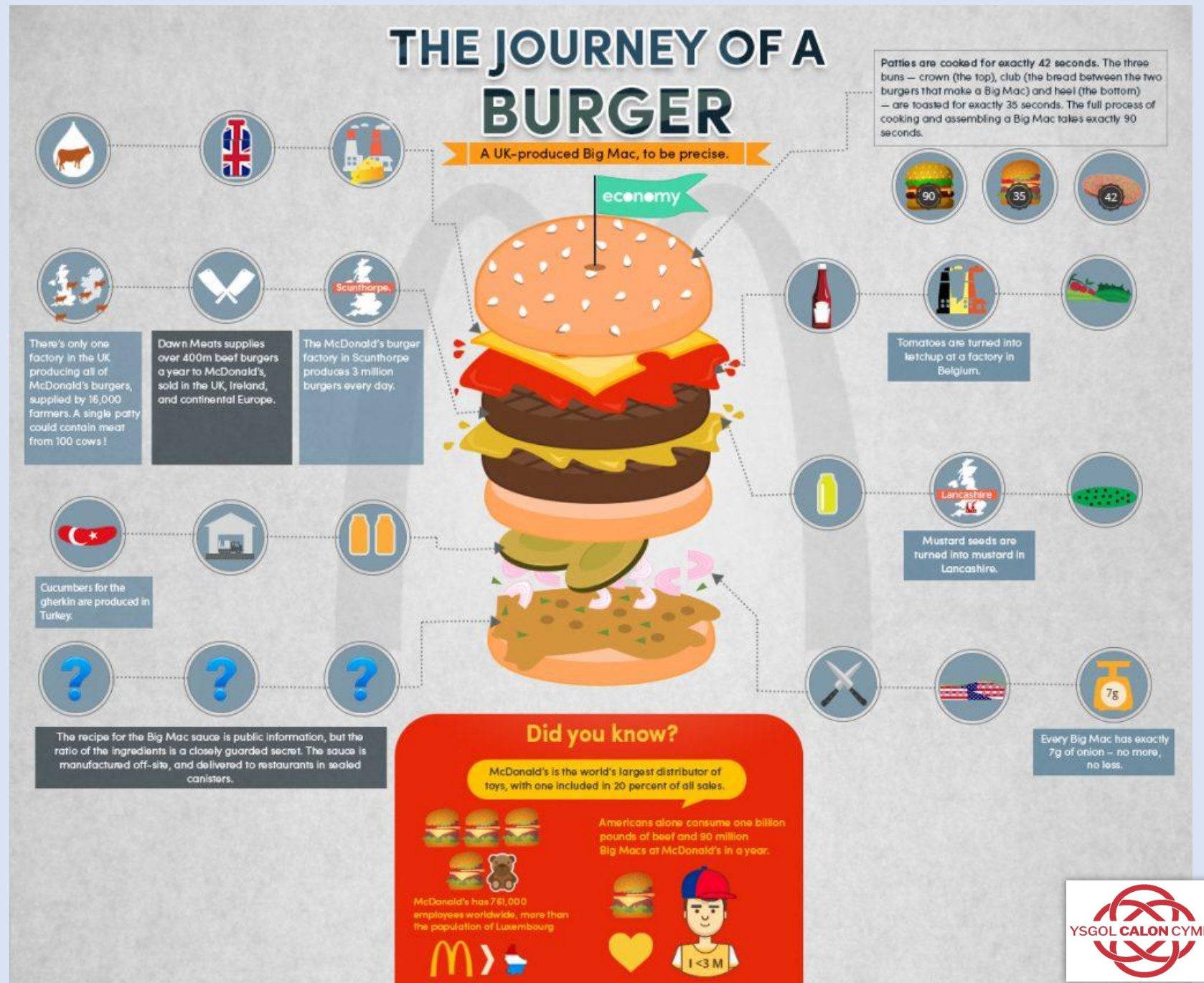
MAT challenge: Try using local dialect!



# Food Miles

Read this infographic and answer the following questions:

1. Name the company that makes McDonald's burgers.
2. What information is not shared by McDonald's?
3. List two countries who export ingredients for the Big Mac
4. Which takes longer, cooking the meat or toasting the bun?





## Reading Text: Big Mac Food Miles

Task: Read the text.

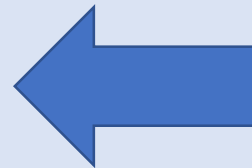
**Explain why the McDonald's Big Mac 'travels 8,000 miles to reach your plate'.**

In your answer you may have included the following:

- Some ingredients are imported from other countries, such as the US.
- Macdonald's says European countries can't provide the type of onion they want to use.
- Even British ingredients have to travel a long way to reach London.
- Lettuce has to be imported from Spain when it is out of season.
- Dill pickles are imported from Turkey.

**Revealed: How a McDonald's Big Mac travels 8,000 MILES to reach your plate (including onions flown in from the US)**

- McDonald's UK mostly uses British ingredients in its Big Macs but imports others
- Its onions travel 4,400 miles from the US, and its pickles 1,900 miles from Turkey
- Even its British ingredients can travel far, such as its northern Irish cheese
- Lettuce is imported from Spain when not in season, which adds to the average



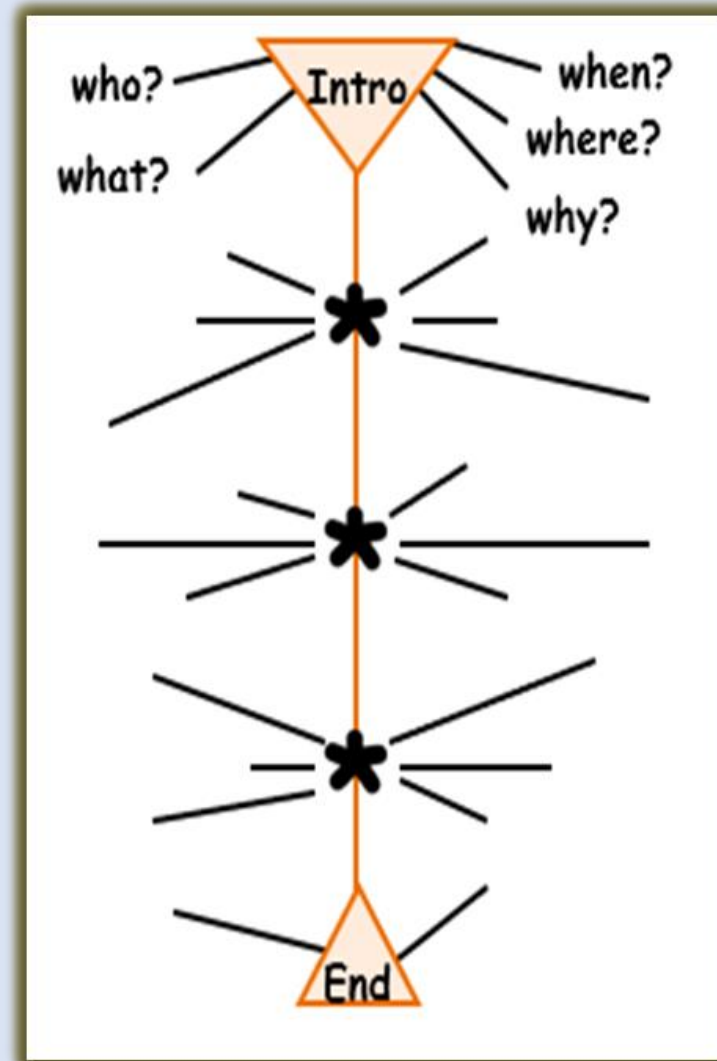
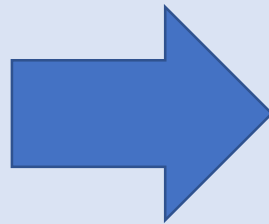
**Check your answer!**

# Writing task – ‘Junk food generation’

**Task:** It has been suggested that young people today have a very poor diet and bad eating habits. Do you agree? You will write an article for young people using the title: ‘Junk Food Generation’.

## Some ideas to consider in your plan:

- Habits – what do young people do?
- The cost of healthy food and junk food
- Work habits – is there time to cook healthy food?
- Fussy eaters?
- Junk food and inactivity go hand-in-hand
- Quality of food in school canteen?
- Who is to blame?
- Impact of poor diet?
- What can be done?



Task: Complete the discussion planning skeleton in your book.

# Writing task – ‘Junk food generation’

How successful were you?

Use this checklist to self-assess your work.



## SUCCESS CRITERIA

### Challenging

- ✓ Write one-two sides A4
- ✓ Paragraph your ideas – at least 3 main paragraphs
- ✓ Set out the article correctly
- ✓ Clearly discuss the topic and provide your opinion

### More Challenging

- ✓ Vary language use with a range of techniques: tripling, rhetorical question, statistics
- ✓ The article is lively and interesting to read
- ✓ Use a range of details/examples in your article

### Most Challenging

- ✓ Research the topic. What does scientific research tell us about the impact of junk food? Do the majority of young people have a poor diet? Does the evidence differ? What is your opinion?
- ✓ Remember writing at the highest level will be convincing and almost error-free.

# Writing task



## Watch the video clip: 'The Future of Farming'

Task: Plan and write a blog or vlog on one of the following topics:

- The future of local farming
- How to attract investment in rural areas
- The need to diversify
- Business opportunities for rural areas
- How to protect rural communities
- The pros and cons of living in a rural area
- Mental health services in rural communities



**Need help creating a blog or vlog? Use these links:**

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/how-write-a-good-blog>

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/vlogging>

## Oracy task – Individual presentation

Task: Read the article from a local newspaper about the building of wind turbines in Powys.



Imagine that you are a resident in an area of Powys where there are plans to build a new wind farm.

You will be attending a council meeting where members of the community have been invited to express their views.

You have been elected to speak on behalf of your community.

**Prepare and present a speech expressing whether or not you think the wind farm should be built.**



# How to write an effective speech

## Introduce yourself and your topic

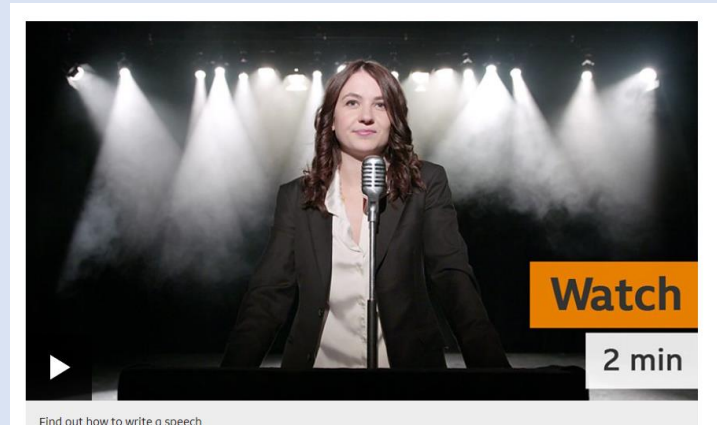
- \* Start with an introduction saying who you are and what you will be talking about
- \* OR you could start with a question to get them thinking
- \*OR joke about the subject to get them laughing
- \*OR use a story or anecdote to get them interested.

## Plan the structure of your speech

- \* Plan your speech carefully – brainstorm ideas first
- \* Use the right language for the purpose and situation
- \* Keep it simple – if there are any difficult terms or names, explain them.
- \*Make sure it's clearly organised into paragraphs – one topic per paragraph
- \*use topic sentences to show your audience that you are changing your subject

## When you deliver your speech

- \* Make 'cue cards' to use – don't just read from a bit of paper! Put down topic sentences and important words to help you remember what you want to say.
- \* Use eye contact with the audience but don't stare at just one person.
- \*stand still – even if you're nervous, if you jiggle around it will distract from what you want to say.
- \* Use visual aids like pictures or props for your audience to look at.
- \* Practise before hand to make sure you are loud enough and not too fast.
- \*Vary the tone, volume and speed of your speech to keep the audience engaged.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z6672sg>



BBC Bitesize – online lessons

Watch the videos on how to write a speech.





# Oracy task – Individual presentation



## Planning Skeleton

Greet your audience  
Introduce yourself

Intro

State which community  
you represent

Arguments for the wind  
farm (one reason per  
paragraph)

1.

2.

3.

Arguments against the  
wind farm (one reason per  
paragraph)

1.

2.

3.

Sum up your argument/make your  
final plea for them to side with you.

End

Thank your audience for  
their attention

# A new windfarm is going to be built in your area. Do you agree or disagree with this decision?

## Arguments for a wind farm

- It provides green energy and our supplies of fossil fuels are running out
- An average onshore wind turbine can produce enough energy to supply 1,500 average households with electricity
- Wind farms provide cleaner and safer energy sources than alternatives such as nuclear power
- Building the wind farm will support the economy of the local area
- Most wind farms are in remote places

## Arguments against a wind farm

- Many people think that they spoil the beauty of the countryside
- There are already wind farms in Powys – increasing the number makes them stand out more
- It may have an impact on house prices and tourism
- Wind power is not as efficient as other energy sources
- They may have a negative impact on wildlife and habitats

# Individual Presentation

How successful were you?

Use this checklist to self-assess your work.



## SUCCESS CRITERIA

### All

- ✓ Confidently speak to your audience, making eye-contact
- ✓ Use pace, pauses and variety of tone to make your feelings and thoughts clear and meaningful
- ✓ Adapt and shape talk to suit the situation - remember your audience
- ✓ Have a clear beginning, middle and end and use connectives to structure your talk. E.g. 'Firstly'...
- ✓ Speak for 3 - 5 minutes with notes only for support

### Most

- ✓ Use research, evidence and facts to show your knowledge and understanding of the topic
- ✓ Use a range of persuasive strategies to engage the audience: audience appeals, rhetorical questions, facts and statistics etc.

### Some

- ✓ The speech is organised with clarity and control and shows ambition. You 'own the room'.
- ✓ Minimal and subtle use of notes, if required.
- ✓ Research the topic. Can you find examples of other places in Wales or the rest of the UK that have been impacted by the development of wind farms?