



The island of Great Britain is the largest island in Europe and there are lots of people living here. Some parts of our country are very densely populated and so land-space is very valuable. If trees are to survive and to be protected, there has to be a good reason for them to be growing in a certain place.

WHAT TO DO:

Working with a partner, study the photographs carefully. In the boxes opposite each photograph write as much as you can about the trees, including where you have seen groups of trees like these before, whether the trees are coniferous or deciduous, and what is the purpose or function of these trees.



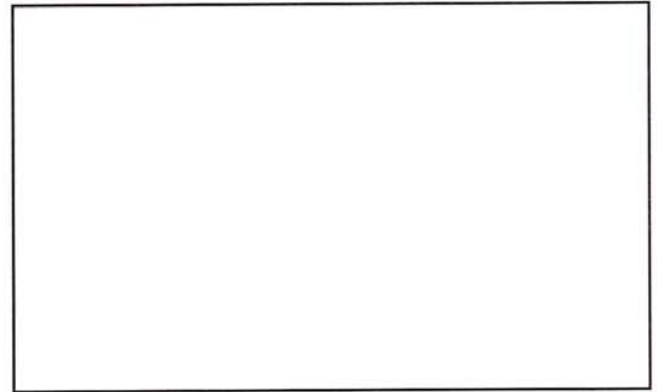
CONIFER PLANTATION



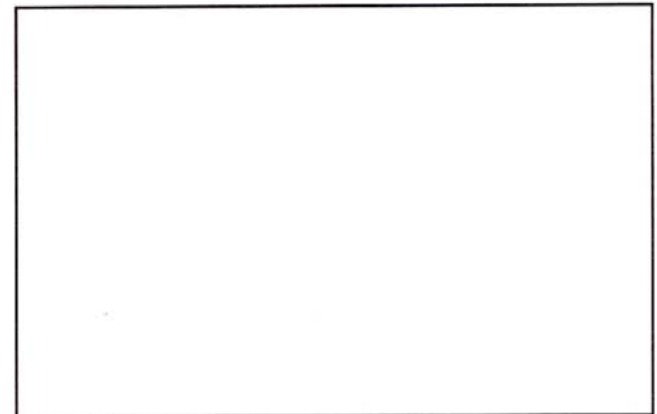
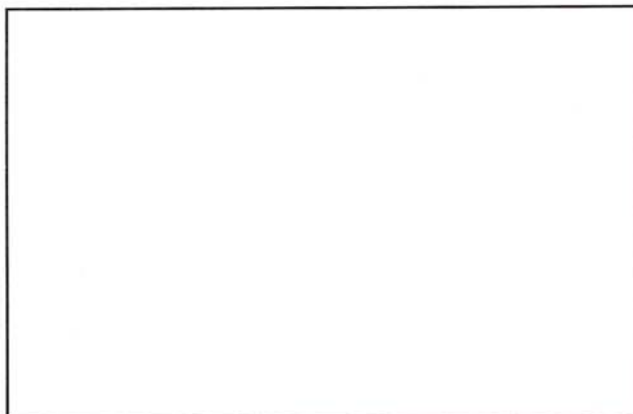
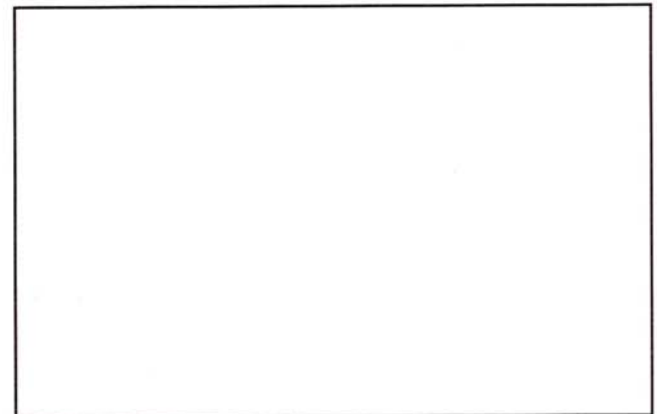
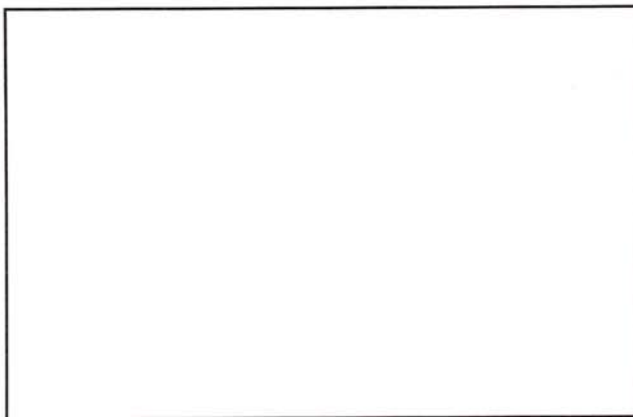
ORCHARD



ANCIENT MIXED WOODLAND



Here are two more boxes in which you can draw settings for trees that you have seen, or that you have found drawn in books. Write about your tree drawings in the same way.



Britain 2020: roaming wolves and metered noise

Patrick Wintour

WITHIN 25 years, children will be driven around a predominantly forested Britain by their privately insured parents in electronic cars on privately run motorways, in search of free-roaming wolves, bears and beavers. This was, anyway, the bizarre vision proffered yesterday by the Adam Smith Institute, one of the think tanks claiming to influence the thinking of Downing Street.

The vista conjured up by Dr Madsen Pirie, director of the ASI, is designed to give John Major a new challenge with which to enthuse a disenchant-ed country.

Dr Pirie claims his objectives are obtainable and yesterday invited a depressed nation to lift its eyes beyond the recession to Britain in the year 2020.

Private security firms will patrol villages and housing estates and surveillance cameras will cover the bulk of Britain.

On-the-spot noise meters would detect excessive noise.

"An aggressive planting policy" by a privatised Forestry Commission would see the proportion of Britain covered by forests increase from 5 per cent to 65 per cent, with trees planted on farmland, former mines and industrial waste-land.

A successful campaign, the ASI claims, would lure wolves back to Britain, something that would prove attractive to eco-tourists. If Britain is lucky, the new wooded habitat would also attract bears and beavers.

FORESTS OF THE FUTURE

Read this newspaper article carefully. Discuss with your work partner:

- what the writer is saying;
- which parts of the article are fact;
- which parts of the article are predictions;
- how this view of Britain would affect people's jobs, homes, transport, holidays;
- which things would be improved by these changes.