# Unit 15

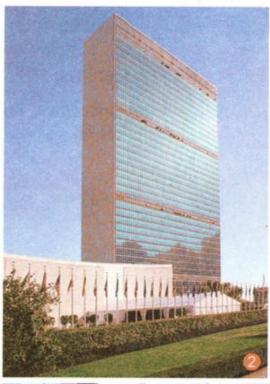
# CITIES

# A. READING

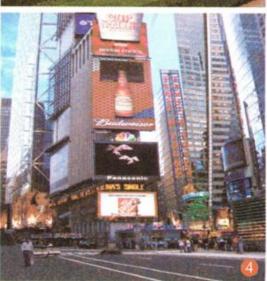
# Before you read

 Work in pairs. Below are some well-known places in New York.
Match the names to the pictures.









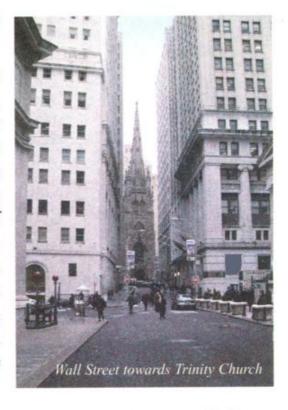
- a. The Empire State Building
- b. The United Nations Headquarters
- c. Times Square
- d. Central Park

- Answer the questions.
- 1. Where is New York?
- 2. What do you know about the city?

# While you read

Read the passage, and then do the tasks that follow.

New York City is located in the southeastern part of New York State. It developed at the point where the Hudson and Passaic rivers mingle with the water of the Atlantic Ocean. New York Harbour, which is ice-free in all seasons, is one of the largest and finest in the world. With a population of more than 7 million in the city and 19 million in the whole metropolitan region, and the total area of 946 square km, New York is the largest city in the United States.



The city was founded by the Dutch in 1624. At first, it was called Fort Amsterdam, and then New Amsterdam. In 1664, the English took over the city and renamed it New York. New York is a very unusual city. Although it is not the capital of the country, it is the home of the United Nations and the centre of global finance, communications, and business. New Yorkers are people who come from all over the United States and many different countries in the world. The city is characterised by its hundreds of tall offices and apartment buildings, some of which are among the tallest buildings in the world. Visitors to New York are all attracted by places such as the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State Building, Wall Street, and the Broadway theatre district. New York is also the place where tourists can visit some world famous art galleries and museums.

Task 1. The words in A appear in the reading passage. Match them with their definitions in B.

A	В
1. metropolitan region	a. not covered with ice
2. take over	b. mix with
3. unusual	c. get control of
4. ice-free	d. city and large area around it
5. mingle with	e. special

# Task 2. Decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

	I I
1. New York is the name of both a state and a city.	
2. New York Harbour has a lot of ice in winter.	
3. New York is on two rivers.	
4. The United Nations Building is in New York.	
5. New York belonged to the Dutch when it was founded.	

# Task 3. Answer the questions.

- 1. Where is New York City?
- 2. What is its population?
- 3. Why was New York originally called New Amsterdam?
- 4. What makes New York an unusual city?
- 5. What places in New York are visitors attracted to?

# After you read

Work in groups. Discuss the following question.

- If you could visit New York, which place(s) of interest there would you like to see? Why?

#### B. SPEAKING

Task 1. Complete each question in A with a suitable word in B.

A		В
1. When was the city _	?	a. people
2. What is the	like?	b. area
3. What are the	like?	c. population
4. How many	are there?	d. founded
5. What is the	of the city?	e. parks
6. What is its	?	f. transport

Task 2. Work in pairs. One reads the information about New York and the other about London. Then ask and answer questions about the two cities.

#### New York

Founded: 1624

Population: 7 million

Area: 946 square km

National holidays: 7 days

Many high buildings

One big park

People: friendly, open

Transport: convenient

#### London

Founded: 43 AD

Population: 7 million

Area: 1610 square km

National holidays: 14 days

Few high buildings

Five big parks

People: formal, reserved

Transport: convenient

# Example:

A: When was New York founded?

B: It was founded in 1624. And what about London?

A: It was founded in 43 A.D.

# Task 3. Read and practise the dialogue.

- A: So we've learned a lot about New York and London. Let's make some comparisons between them.
- B: All right. First, the area of London is 1610 square km, and that of New York is 946 square km, so London is larger.
- A: That's right. But its population is **as big as** that of New York. Both cities have a population of 7 million.
- B: Yes, but New York has more high buildings than London.

Work in pairs/groups. Make similar comparisons between London and New York, using the information in Task 2.

Task 4. Work in groups. Tell each other which of the two cities you prefer and give reasons.

#### Example:

I prefer London to New York because it has more parks, and...

#### C. LISTENING

# Before you listen

Work in pairs. Look at the picture and answer the questions.

- 1. What is it?
- 2. What does it look like?
- 3. What has it got on its head?
- 4. What has it got in its left hand?
- 5. What is it holding in its right hand?
- 6. What is it wearing?



# While you listen

Task 1. Listen to the passage and choose the correct answers.

1.	The Statue of Liberty is in
	A. the centre of New York City
	B. New York Harbour
	C. the suburbs of New York City
2.	The Statue was made by
	A. the French
	B. Americans
	C. the British
3.	The Statue was completed in
	A. 1886
	B. 1884
	C. 1866
4.	The Statue was made because
	A. French people wanted to show their friendship with American people
	B. American people wanted to show their friendship with French people
	C. French people wanted to show their friendship with British people
5.	Tourists can visit the Statue
	A. every day, including Christmas Day
	B. every day, except Sunday
	C. every day, but not on Christmas Day

Task 2. Listen again, and fill in the missing information in the table below.

Formal name	Liberty Enlightening the World
Height	
Weight	
Material	
The base	
Opening time	

# After you listen

Work in groups. Tell each other what you have learned about the Statue of Liberty, using the information in the table.

#### D. WRITING

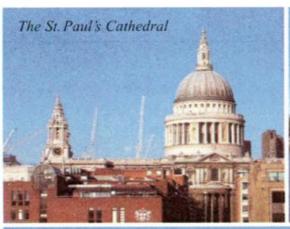
# Describing a city

Task 1. Read the description of London. Then write the answers to the questions.

London, which is the capital city of the United Kingdom, was founded by the Romans in 43 AD. It has a population of about 7 million. Situated in southern England, on the River Thames, the city covers an area of 1610 square km.

London is famous for many things. Tourists come from all over the world to visit its historic buildings, such as St. Paul's Cathedral, and the Houses of Parliament. They also come to visit its theatres, its museums and its many shops. The most famous shop is Harrods, where you can buy almost anything.

The best thing about London is the parks. There are five of them in the city centre. They cover a large area of the city, and are ideal places for people to get away from the noisy and busy city life, and relax.







- 1. Where is London situated?
- 2. How big is it?
- 3. What is its population?
- 4. What kind of city is it?
- 5. When and by whom was it founded?
- 6. What is it famous for?
- 7. What is best about the city?

Task 2. Write a description of a city or a town in Vietnam you know well, using the questions above as suggestions.

#### E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- Pronunciation: /θ /-/ð /
- Grammar and vocabulary:
- 1. Non-defining and defining relative clauses
- 2. Although to connect contrasting ideas

#### Pronunciation

• Listen and repeat.

/θ/		/ð/	
think	thin	they	then
thought	something	those	another
mouth	birthday	clothes	brother

- Practise the sentences.
- 1. I thought Mr. Smith was thirty-three.
- 2. But next Thursday will be his thirtieth birthday.
- 3. Something about him makes me think he is like my brother.
- 4. The roses that you gave him are beautiful.
- 5. Look at the clothes on that thin man over there!

# Grammar and vocabulary

Non-defining and defining relative clauses

New York Harbour, which is ice-free in all seasons, is one of the largest and finest harbours in the world.



Exercise 1. Underline the relative clauses in these sentences, and indicate if they are defining (D) or non-defining (ND). Add a comma where required.

- 1. Washington D.C. which is located on the East Coast of the United States has many interesting and historical places to visit.
- Brasilia which is located on the Granadá River became the capital of Brazil in 1960.
- 3. Mexico City which has a population of nearly 20,000,000 is the largest metropolitan area in the world.
- 4. Seoul which hosted the 1988 Summer Olympics is well-known for its shopping centres.
- 5. Kyoto which used to be the capital of Japan has many temples.

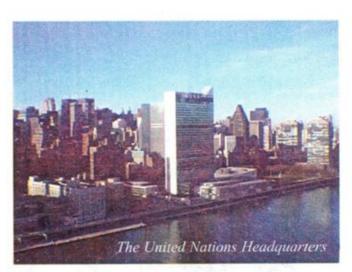
#### • Connecting contrasting ideas: Although

Exercise 2. Combine the following sentences using although.

#### Example:

New York is not the capital of the USA. It is the home of the United Nations.

- Although New York is not the capital of the USA, it is the home of the United Nations.



- 1. There is not much to do in the countryside. I prefer living in the countryside.
- 2. There is a lot of pollution in Los Angeles. It is an ideal place to live.
- 3. The shops are crowded. People are not buying much.
- 4. The city is a favourite tourist destination for many people. It has its problems.
- 5. It is a safe neighbourhood. It is best to be careful.