

# A vibrant city

1 You are considering going on a study course in the UK for three months. When deciding where to go, which three things on this list are most important to you?

- historical town
- a choice of language schools
- wide range of shops
- near countryside
- well-connected by rail
- somewhere well-known
- good nightlife
- plenty of places to eat
- excellent hospital
- close to an airport
- successful football team
- other: .....

2 Compare your ideas with a partner. Did your partner choose the same things? Why? / Why not?

3 Read the article. Which items on the list in exercise 1 are mentioned?

## OUR CITY REPORTER

Name: Tom Bailey

Lives: I live in Leeds, a city in Yorkshire, in the north of England.

Favourite waste of time: Chilling with my mates in the park.

Typical phrase: 'Yo!' It's how I greet most people.



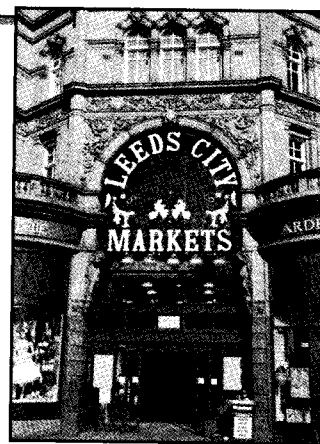
## LOCATION

Leeds is near three national parks (areas of protected countryside) and is only one hour from Manchester and two hours from London by train. It also has its own international airport.



## BUILDINGS

Many of the important buildings in the city centre are from Victorian times, such as the Leeds market building.



**Q:** What is Leeds famous for?

**Tom:** Nowadays Leeds is probably best-known as a great shopping destination! It's been voted the best place to shop in the whole of the UK, beating London! Other than that, Leeds is a brilliant place for a night out, because of the many nightclubs and venues in the city.

**Q:** What do you love and hate about your city?

**Tom:** I love Leeds because it's a big, vibrant city and the locals are really friendly and helpful.

The only thing that bugs me is the traffic – it clogs up the city centre at rush hour and if you're stuck in your car, it just feels like you're wasting time.

Of course, like any big city there are areas I wouldn't really feel safe walking around, such as Chapel Town or Harehills, but these are not areas you would go to by accident if you were visiting the city.

## SHOPPING: The Trinity Centre

You'll need money to burn here! There are 120 shops, cinemas and cafes.



Leeds

## DID YOU KNOW?

With around 750,000 inhabitants, Leeds is the third largest city in the UK.

## LEARNING ENGLISH

There are a number of English language schools in Leeds. The schools, which are often small and independent, offer a good range of English language courses and a personal approach to learning.