

GROUP 5 : LONDON HISTORY AND POPULATION

LONDON BRIDGE

The first 'London Bridge' was built by the Romans. Rebuilt many times, it was the only bridge in London until 1750.



London was founded by the Romans around the year 43, on the left bank of the river Thames, near its estuary. It was easily defensible because the south bank was marshy (*marécageux*) and there was only one bridge that led to the city.

Today's City of London, a world centre for business and finance, is built on the site of Londinium, the original Roman city.

HOW LONDON DEVELOPED



About 40,000 people lived in Londinium. After the departure of the Romans in 450 A.D., the city declined. In 1200 there were only 20,000 inhabitants and in 1350 the population was 50,000.

After that, the city began to prosper again. Of course, there were epidemics, wars and fires but in 1600, there were around 200,000 people living in London, in 1700 about 500,000 and one hundred years later, about 950,000.

During the Industrial Revolution, many people came from (*venaient de*) the countryside to look for (*chercher*) work in London and in 1900, 4.5 million people lived in the capital city.

London has a population of 8,800,000 inhabitants (estimation in 2016). It is one of the most populated city in Europe.

LET'S WORK NOW !

A. Questions diverses :

1. Qui a fondé Londres ? _____
2. Deux raisons qui ont fait que Londinium était une ville qui pouvait être facilement défendue :

3. Comment s'appelle le fleuve qui coule à Londres ? _____ en anglais, la _____ en français.

B. Complète ce tableau démographique :

YEARS	450		1600	1700		1900	
POPULATION		20,000			950,000		8,800,000

Quel événement majeur du 18^{ème} siècle a permis à Londres de connaître une rapide et formidable croissance démographique ? _____

Londres est-elle la plus grande ville d'Europe ? _____ Quels mots le prouvent ? _____

C. Vocabulaire. Retrouve dans les paragraphes les mots signifiant :

fleuve : _____ habitants : _____ gens : _____ campagne: _____