

My capital city

London has a population of about nine million people. It lies on the River Thames, (1) nearly 2,000 years ago. From about 1800 until World War II, London was the biggest city in the world, but now it's Shanghai, (2) .

London is famous for many things. Tourists come from all over the world to visit its historic buildings, such as Buckingham Palace, (3) , and the Houses of Parliament, (4) and hear the famous clock, Big Ben. They also come to visit its theatres, its museums and its many shops, such as Harrods, (5) . And of course they want to ride on the London Eye, next to the river!

Like many big cities, London has problems with traffic and pollution. Around four million people use the London Underground on its busiest days. Car drivers in the city centre pay the Congestion Charge, (6) , but there are still too many cars on the streets. The air isn't clean, but it is cleaner than it was 100 years ago.

For me, the best thing about London is the parks. There are five in the city centre. But I often go to London with my seven-year-old son, (7) Hamleys toy shop, (8) toy shop in the world!

