

Kaleidoscope Belfast

Before Listening, Watching, Reading

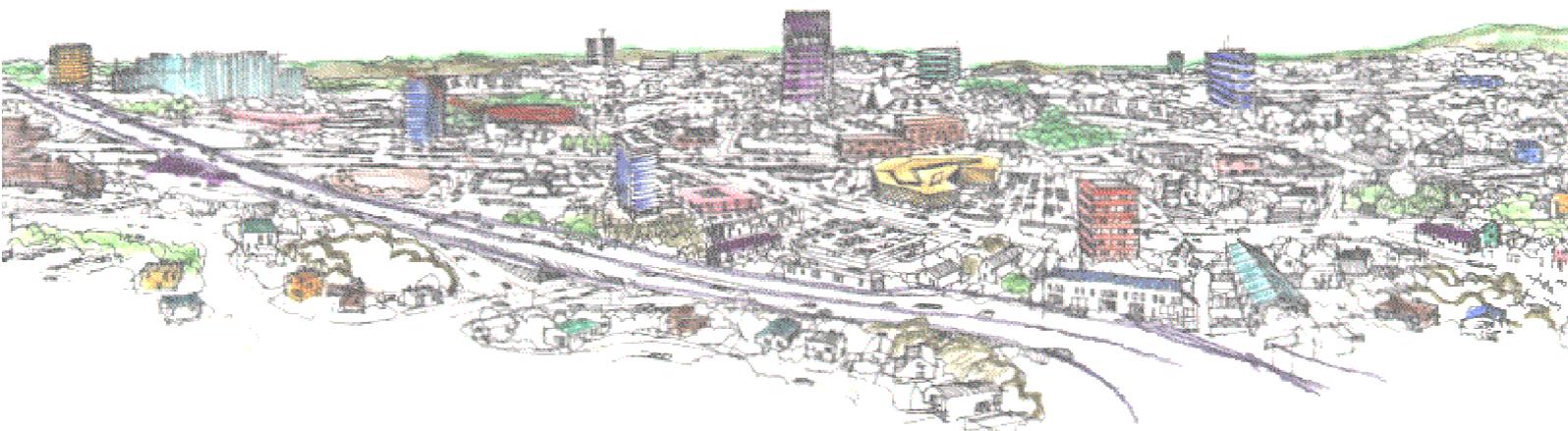
Indicate where Belfast is on the map.



- Do you ever wish you lived in a different place?
If you live in a city, do you ever wish you lived in the country? Why? If you live in the country, do you ever wish you lived in the city? Why?

Answer the following questions using your imagination. Later you can compare your ideas with those of the author.

1. Why did Stephen want his mother to put flowers in window boxes of their house?
2. Why didn't Stephen's mother put flowers in window boxes?
3. What kind of house does Stephen live in?
4. Why did Stephen go on long walks across Belfast?
5. How did Stephen feel when he reached the 'wide open space and green loveliness' of Ormeau Park?
6. Why does the Ormeau Bridge carry 'the tensions of two communities who would not meet halfway'?
7. Why does Stephen feel that the towpath by the river is his 'ultimate bliss'?



After Listening, Watching, Reading

1. Look at your answers in 'Before Listening' again. Compare with what you have heard.
2. Match the pictures from the video with the descriptions.



- a) The houses are terraced, they're small and mean. No one here has a garden.
- b) I leave behind all the chip shops and charity shops of the Newtownards Road, and the great gable-wall murals for the Loyalist paramilitaries.
- c) all the houses terraced and cramped, but somehow neater than ours
- d) There's a side gate that takes you into Stranmillis, all big houses and gardens.

3. What do you think Stephen means when he says 'Aye, grand' to lads he once went to school with?

4. What does Stephen have in common with the dogs he finds in the park?

5. Why did Stephen used to be worried that people would ask him what he was doing in the Botanic Gardens?

6. Plot Stephen's route on the map

