

# UFO Sightings

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Adapted from <https://freshstudentliving.co.uk/2021/06/25/ufo-sightings-uk/> and other sources



## THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE.

Have you ever wondered what else is out there? Previously classified government documents that recorded UFO sightings in the UK have recently been published online for the first time!

The government once put some serious manpower behind UFO sightings in the UK. For years, the Royal Air Force (RAF) was responsible for recording public reports and submitting them to the National Archives.



Fortunately, enough time has passed for the records to be made public. Thanks to a Freedom of Information request, the Government published the information online this year.

The final record is from 2021, detailing over 926 sightings from across the UK. Reports came in from more than 56 places across England, as well as areas of Scotland, Wales and even the Channel Islands.

### Best Time to Spot a UFO

If you're wondering how to look for UFOs, it turns out most reported sightings don't happen in the early hours of the morning as most movies suggest.

According to the document, most sightings occur between 8pm and midnight across the UK, with the bulk of reports coming in between those hours. Between 10 and 11pm is the sweet spot, with almost 100 sightings.

### Want to know what to look for?

**London - 22 February:** "An object with white and alternating red lights at an angle came from Southeast London towards Canary Wharf. It stopped in mid-air and an alternating sequence of red lights flashed at 180 degrees. Lights switched side instantly."

**Kent - 15 April at 8:30pm:** "Two objects, five minutes apart, heading east to west. They looked like orange fiery balls but made no sound. They travelled at the speed of a plane. They had no tail."

**Lancashire - 25 July at 23:39pm:** "Five really bright orange flame ball type objects seen flying across the sky, moving irregularly. One moving faster than a plane and one zig-zagged down towards the ground, then reappeared after the other four had moved across the sky and had gone."

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## Do We Believe the Truth is Out There?

In a 2020 poll, around 36% of people said they believe in extra-terrestrials against 29% who said they don't, with the remaining 35% totally undecided on the matter. The poll did show that at 43%, the largest group of believers are under the age of 34 and that men are more likely to believe than women.

Occupation has been recorded across sightings, with air traffic control employees, pilots, police officers, journalists, teachers, amateur astronomers and RAF members themselves among those who have reported UFO sightings in the UK.

## Surge in Sightings in 2021

UFO sightings in the UK – and across the world – skyrocketed this year when people took to Twitter to report a mysterious string of lights in the sky, with many speculating that it could be aliens.

If you fancy some UFO spotting while in self-isolation and are wondering how to report a UFO sighting in the UK today, our advice is to contact your local police force. You should also inform the Government on their website.

[UFO reports in the UK - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Good luck!



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## Speaking & Listening

1. Discussion – what are your thoughts on UFO's? (L1.6, L2.8)

## Reading - answer the questions about the leaflet on pages 1-2

2. What is the purpose of the text? (L1.12)
3. Who was responsible for submitting the public records of UFO sightings to the National Archives? (L1.9)
4. List 4 organisational features of the text. (L1.14)
5. Find and highlight 4 types of punctuation. Explain the purpose of each. (L1.18)
6. On a 24hr clock, when is the best time to spot a UFO? (L1.9)

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## Reading (continued)

7. What two organisations should be informed if you spot a UFO? (L1.9)
8. Why do the eyewitness accounts have speech marks? (L1.18)
9. Who or what allowed the Government to publish the details of UFO sightings? (L1.9)
10. Where was the witness that saw the UFO zigzag towards the ground? (L1.9)
11. What words or phrases have been used to make the leaflet look factual? (L1.11, L1.16)
12. What is the effect of noting the occupation of the witnesses? (L1.11, L2.14)  
Write a detailed paragraph explaining your reasons.

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## Writing

(L1.24, L2.25, L2.26, L2.27 and many other content descriptors – see footnote)

The Southampton UFO Group have been investigating the unexplained and mysterious objects in the skies above Hampshire over the past 15 years.

Recently, there have been numerous reports of UFO sightings nearby. You've been asked to write an **objective report** about these sightings for the group magazine.

You must include:

- A title and opening sentences clearly explaining what the report is about.
- Paragraphs of information for each of the headings.
- Tables/pictures/diagrams to add information.
- Facts linked within each paragraph.
- A conclusion – summary of key points.
- Factual language.
- Appropriate tense.
- Correct spelling.
- Correct punctuation.

Include some of the words below in your report.

eyewitness	alien	fear	phenomena
disappeared	bizarre	concern	investigation
government	mysterious	scared	encounter
officials	unidentified	intelligence	meteor
secrecy	classified	unexplained	researchers
confidential	scientists	skies	galaxy
top secret	saucer	experiment	military

Covers many aspects of Level 1 and Level 2 Reformed Functional Skills English (writing). Find full details of all Speaking, Listening & Communication; Reading and Writing content at: *Subject content functional skills: English. DfE (Feb 2018)*, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/functional-skills-subject-content-english>