Guess the place speculating practice
Modals of deduction/ probability/ possibility and determiners with place names
Choose a place below or a more specific example of it and give hints about where you are thinking of. After each hint, your partner will try to make a true statement with one of the guessing phrases below, e.g. "It could be Belgium". Continue giving hints and listening to your partner's guesses until they feel sure enough to say "It must be…" (which means they think there is only one possibility, i.e. it couldn't be anywhere else), then tell them if that final guess is correct or not. Before they say "It must be…", don't say if they have guessed the actual correct place or not, only say "That's true" if the statement that they made is possible (including having the right level of certainty or uncertainty). Say "Actually,…" if there is something that makes that statement the wrong level of certainty or uncertainty.

Useful language for describing places
● There are (a few/ many)…
● There is a famous/ an ancient/ a huge/ a beautiful/ a World Heritage/ a ruined/ an important/ a unique/… + a beach/ seaside/ shore/ big wheel/ bridge/ canal/ river/ stream/ castle/ fort/ church/ cathedral/ temple/ shrine/ mosque/ synagogue/ city walls/ gallery/ museum/ hill/ slope/ mountain/ historic house/ traditional buildings/ traditional architecture/ historic quarter/ island/ lake/ palace/ park/ garden/ parliament building/ town hall/ city hall/ skyscraper/ square/ stadium/ sports ground/ theatre/ opera house/ theme park/ tower
● It's (a bit/ fairly/ very) polluted/ green/ quiet/ big/ famous/…
● A good/ bad point is…
● It's (located)…

Useful phrases for guessing
➢ It must be…
➢ It's almost certainly…
➢ It's probably…
➢ It might be/ It may be…
➢ It could (possibly) be…
➢ It probably isn't…
➢ It almost certainly isn't…
➢ It can't be…

Useful phrases for responding to guesses
Positive responses
● Mmm, yes, that's possible.
● Yes. It could possibly/ may/ might/ can't be./ It probably/ almost certainly is(n't).
● Yes, that's right. It must be… and it is.
Negative responses
● Well, it could be that place but I wouldn't say "probably" because there are many different options/ because…
● Well, it could be that place but I wouldn't say "must" because there are some different options/ because…
● No, it can't be… because…
● Actually, it must be… because there aren't any other options/ because…

Places to describe and guess
- The Alps (e.g. Mont Blanc)
- Antarctica/ The South Pole
- The Arctic/ The North Pole
- Austria (e.g. Vienna)
- The Caucasus (e.g. Chechnya and Georgia)
- Central America
- Central Asia (e.g. Kazakhstan)
- The Czech Republic (e.g. Prague)
- Eastern Europe
- The EU
- Former Yugoslavia (e.g. Croatia or Macedonia)
- The former USSR (e.g. Ukraine or Russia)
- Germany (e.g. Munich or Cologne)
- Greece (e.g. Athens)
- The Himalayas (e.g. Mount Everest or K2)
- Ireland/ The Republic of Ireland
- Italy (e.g. Milan, Rome, Naples, Venice, Florence, The Leaning Tower of Pisa, or Turin)
- Mainland China (e.g. Beijing, Guangzhou or the Great Wall of China)
- The Low Countries (e.g. Bruges or Brussels in Belgium, or The Netherlands)
- The Maldives
- The Mediterranean (e.g. Cyprus, Malta or The South of France)
- The Middle East (e.g. Jerusalem, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Turkey, or Jordan)
- North Africa
- North Korea
- Paris (e.g. the Eiffel Tower)
- Perth
- Portugal
- Scandinavia (e.g. Sweden)
- The Seychelles
- South America (e.g. the Amazon)
- South Asia/ The Indian Subcontinent (e.g. India or Nepal)
- South Korea (e.g. Seoul)
- Southeast Asia (e.g. Phi Phi Island in Thailand, Vietnam or The Philippines)
- Sub-Saharan Africa (South Africa, The Democratic Republic of Congo, etc)
- Switzerland (e.g. Lake Geneva)
- The (United) States (e.g. Washington DC, "The Big Apple", The Rockies, Mount Rushmore, The Great Lakes or LA)
- The UK/ The United Kingdom (e.g. Northern Ireland, London, Lake Windermere in the Lake District, the Cotswolds, The Thames, or Wales)
- The area that you are in now
- The county/ prefecture/ region/ state that you are in now
- The nearest station to where you are now
- The closest (big) shopping area to where you are now
- The tallest mountain in this country
- A nearby river or lake

Without looking above or writing anything, discuss what could go below and in what order:
Expressions for saying how likely or unlikely something is
100% sure

0% chance

Discuss where the phrases below the fold could go in the space above (again, without writing anything)

---fold, cover or cut---
Mixed expressions for saying how likely or unlikely something is
- ➢ It can't be…
- ➢ It could (possibly) be…
- ➢ It might be/ It may be…
- ➢ It must be…
- ➢ It probably isn't…
- ➢ It almost certainly isn't…
- ➢ It's almost certainly…
- ➢ It's probably…

Check your answers with the first page.

Articles with place names presentation
Brainstorm kinds of places that take "the"*, first of all without looking above.*

One expression on each line below is wrong without "the" and the other is correct now and would be wrong with "the". Put "the" next to one expression on each line.

Alps	Mont Blanc
Antarctica	South Pole
Former USSR	Russia
Himalayas	Everest
Ireland	Republic of Ireland
Florence	Leaning Tower
Mainland China	Great Wall of China
Belgium	Netherlands
Maldives	Phi Phi Island
Mediterranean	Cyprus
South of France	South Asia
Middle East	Saudi Arabia
UAE	Turkey
Paris	Eiffel Tower
EU	Eastern Europe
South Asia	Indian Subcontinent
Thailand	Philippines
Amazon	Lake Geneva
United States	Central America
Washington DC	Big Apple
Rockies	Mount Rushmore
UK	Northern Ireland
Great Lakes	Lake Windermere

Check your answers above.

Which kinds of words usually take "the"?