



## Understanding texts and charts

### One-hundred thousand net champions recruited

More than 100,000 volunteers have promised to help a campaign to get more people on the internet. Government digital champion Martha Lane Fox hopes they will “engage people with the joys of being on the internet”. Nine million people in the UK have never used the internet. According to the Office of National Statistics, the majority (7.3 million) of those are aged over 55.

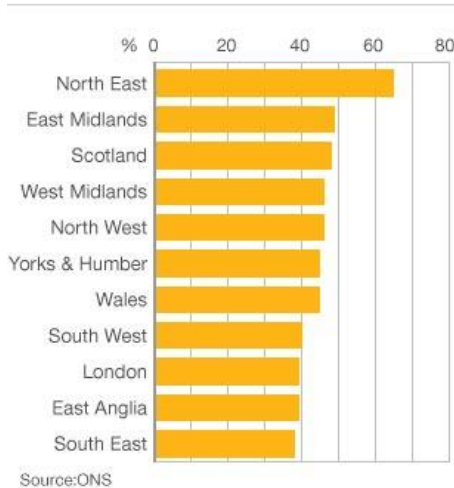
Ms Lane Fox was appointed as the UK's digital champion in 2009, at which time she was tasked with getting the poorest four million Britons online by the time of the London Olympics in 2012. Race Online 2012, as the campaign is known, has changed its focus and now aims to make the UK “the world's first networked nation”.

Ms Lane Fox explained, “I just want to enthuse people and inspire them and I think the rest will take care of itself,” she told the BBC.

The 100,000 volunteers are made up from workers at Mecca Bingo, Post Offices, libraries and from 40,000 scouts.

(Adapted from BBC website.)

Over-55s who've never been online



Look at the text above and answer these questions:

1. What sort of a text is this and what might be its purpose?
2. Where do the statistics come from? How can we judge if they are accurate?
3. What is the job title of Martha Lane Fox? What did this mean in the beginning and how has that now changed?
4. What do you think “the world’s first networked nation” might mean?
5. Why do you think the BBC added a chart showing ‘Over-55s who have never been online’? What is the link with the text?

Look at the chart now and answer these questions:

6. Which part of the UK has the most over-55s who have never been online?
7. In the South West, what percentage of the over-55s has never been online?