



Exploring Scandinavia

Learning Objective:

To explore the weather and climate of Scandinavia.



Can you remember where in the world Scandinavia is?

**Which three countries form Scandinavia?
What are their capital cities called?**





Did you remember correctly?



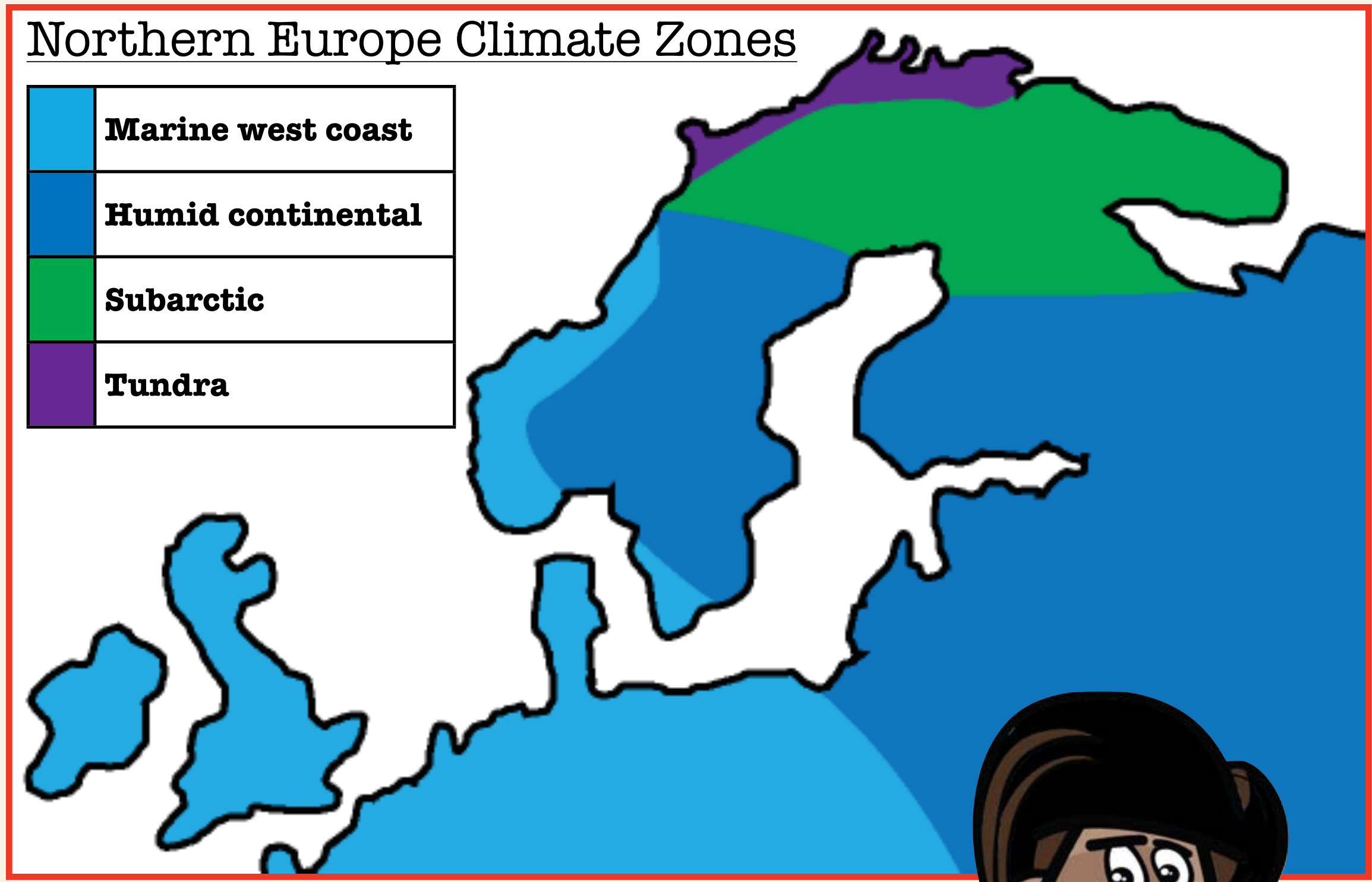


What would you expect the climate in Scandinavia to be like, based on where in the world is it?

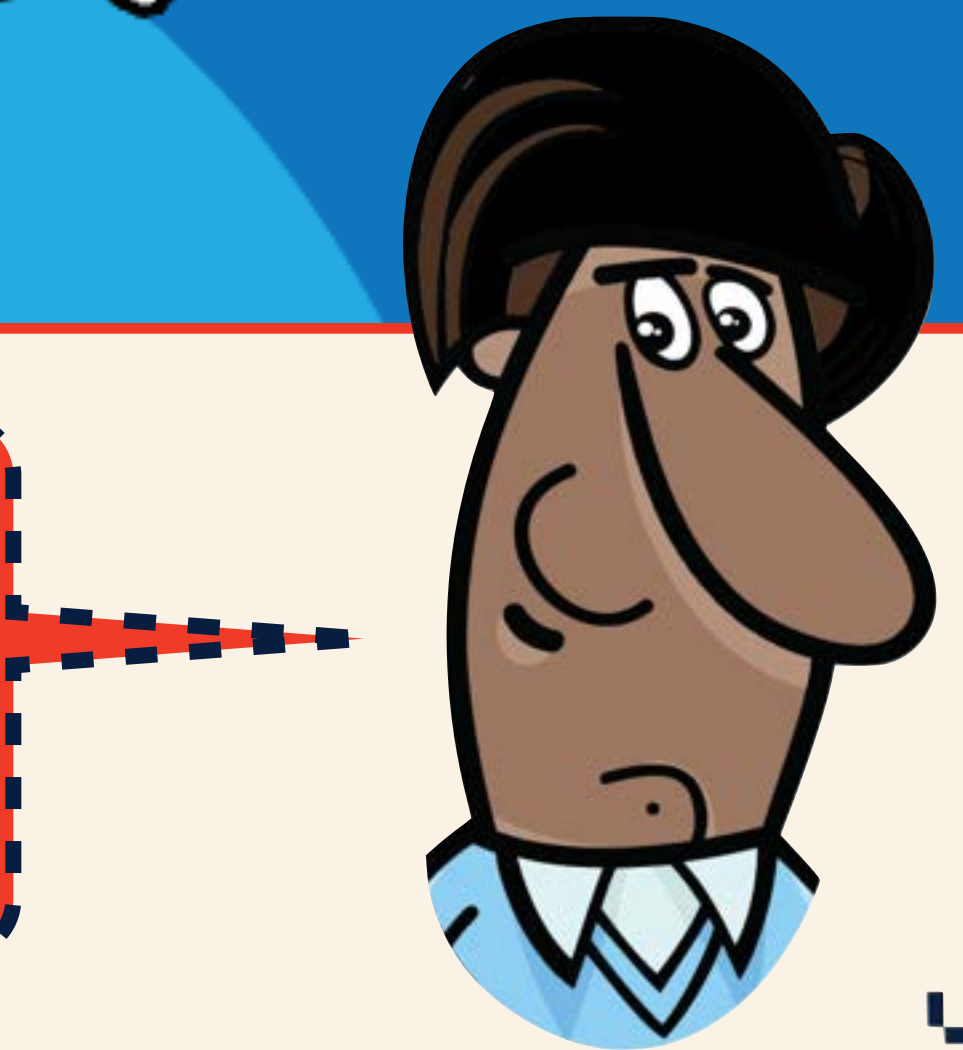




This map shows some of the main climate zones of northern Europe.



Do you know how to describe any of these climates?





The red dotted line on this diagram shows where the Arctic Circle is. The Arctic Circle is an imaginary line of latitude that goes around the whole Earth. In the centre of the Arctic Circle is the North Pole.



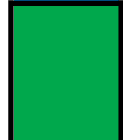
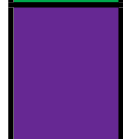
Anything above the Arctic Circle is very cold and much of the land is constantly covered in ice.

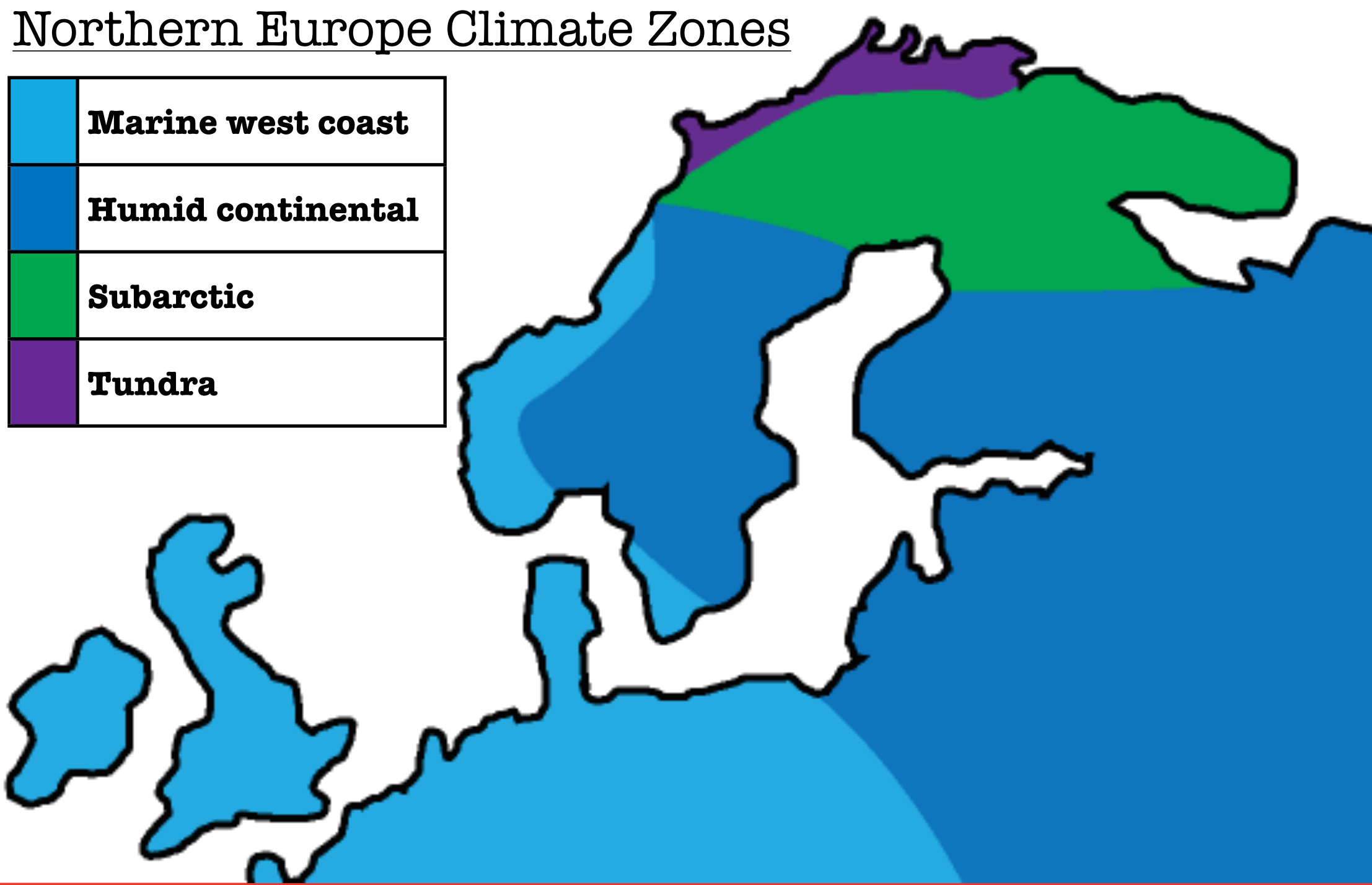


Which parts of Scandinavia are within the Arctic Circle?



Northern Europe Climate Zones

	Marine west coast
	Humid continental
	Subarctic
	Tundra



The most northerly parts of Sweden and Norway have a **tundra** climate. The tundra climate is one of the harshest in the world. These regions are very cold and dry and there is a permanent layer of frozen subsoil called **permafrost**. The tundra is also treeless as there is not enough sunlight during much of the year for trees to grow.

Northern parts of Sweden and Norway have a **subarctic** climate. This means that they have very long, cold winters and short, cool summers. The rest of Scandinavia has less harsh conditions and a climate similar to other European countries although winters are often colder.



This photo shows a tundra area in northern Norway. What can you see?

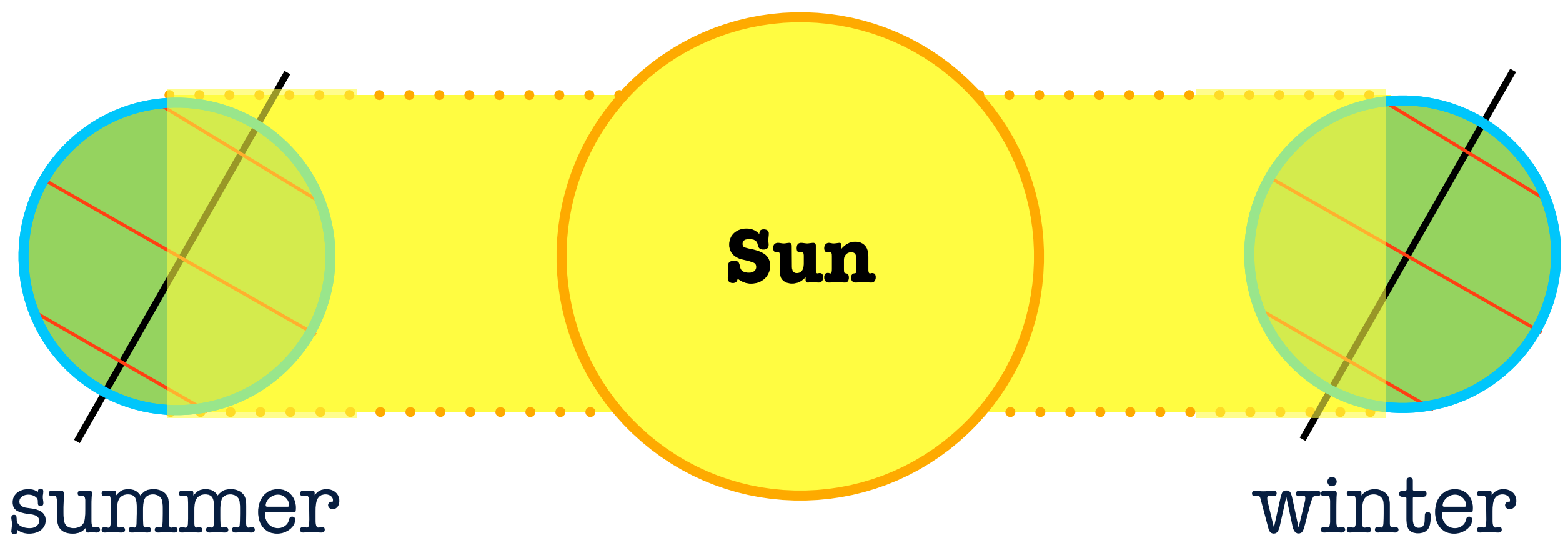




As well as having very cold winters, they also have very short days during the winter and very long days during the summer. In the parts of Scandinavia that extend into the Arctic Circle, during some parts of winter the sun will never rise, giving total darkness twenty-four hours a day. In parts of summer, the sun never sets which means it is constantly daylight.

Why do you think this is?





Hours of daylight change during the year because of the tilt of the Earth's axis and because the position of the Earth changes as it rotates around the sun during the year.

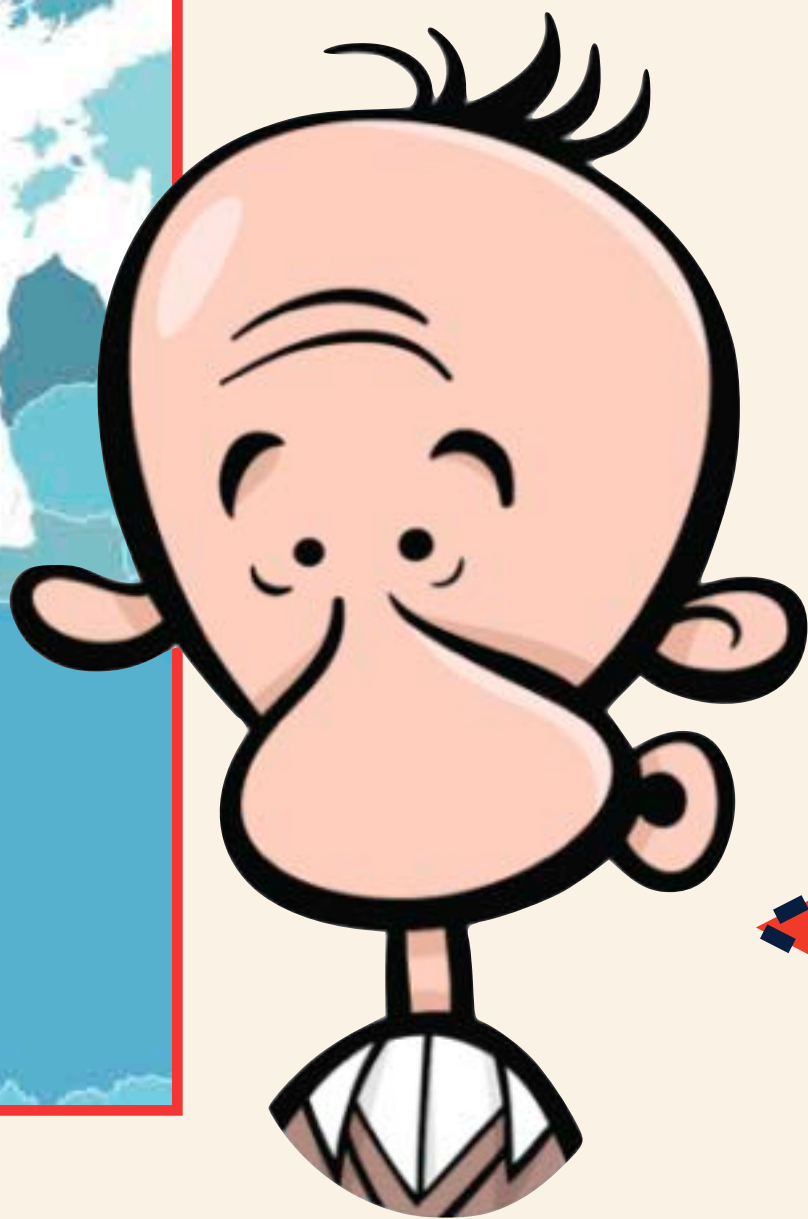


Can you use this diagram to help you explain why some parts of Scandinavia have no light during winter and no darkness during summer?





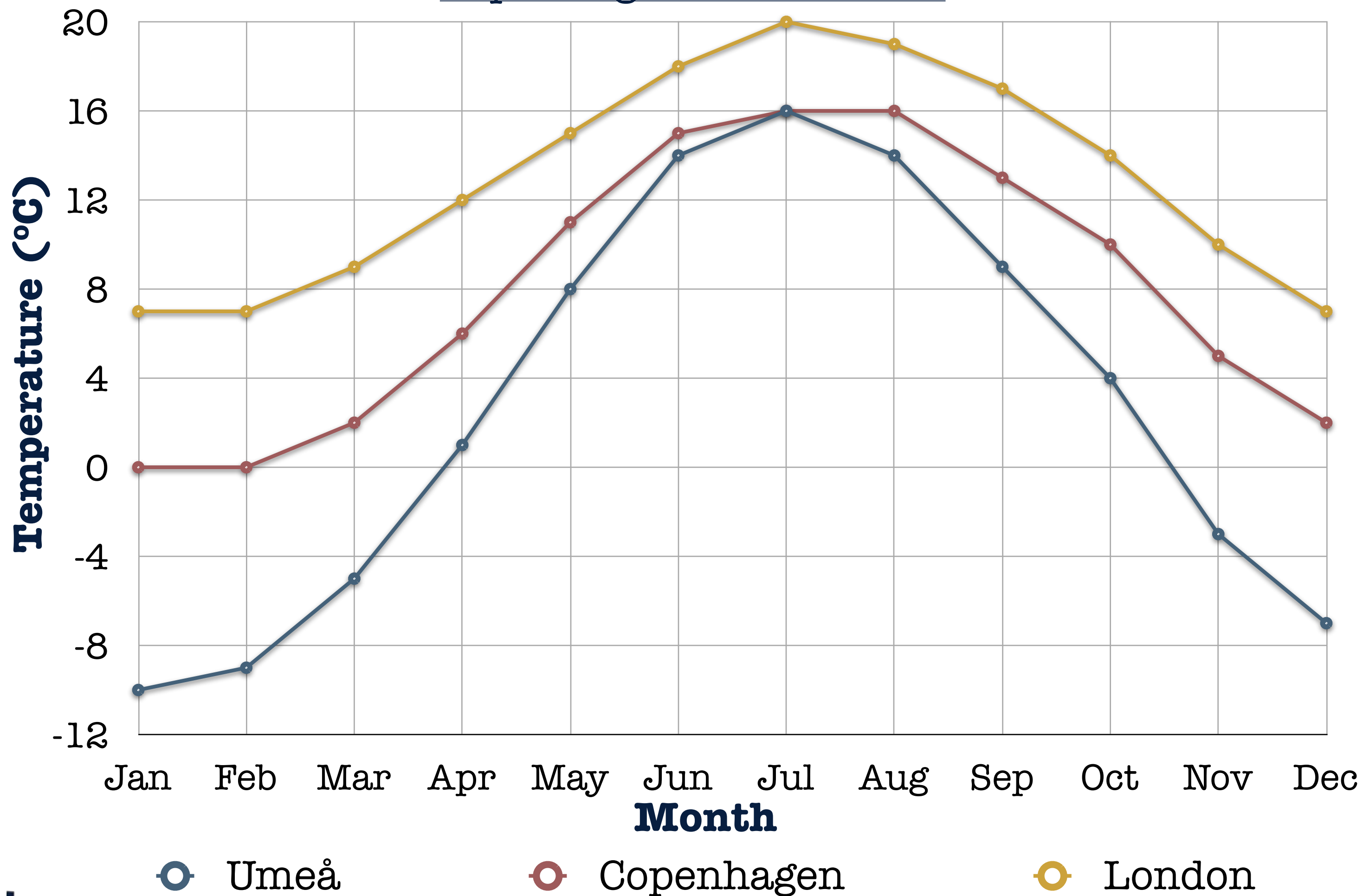
The graph on the next slides shows the average daily temperatures for London (UK), Copenhagen (Denmark) and Umeå (Sweden).



Which of these cities would you expect to have the lowest average temperatures?



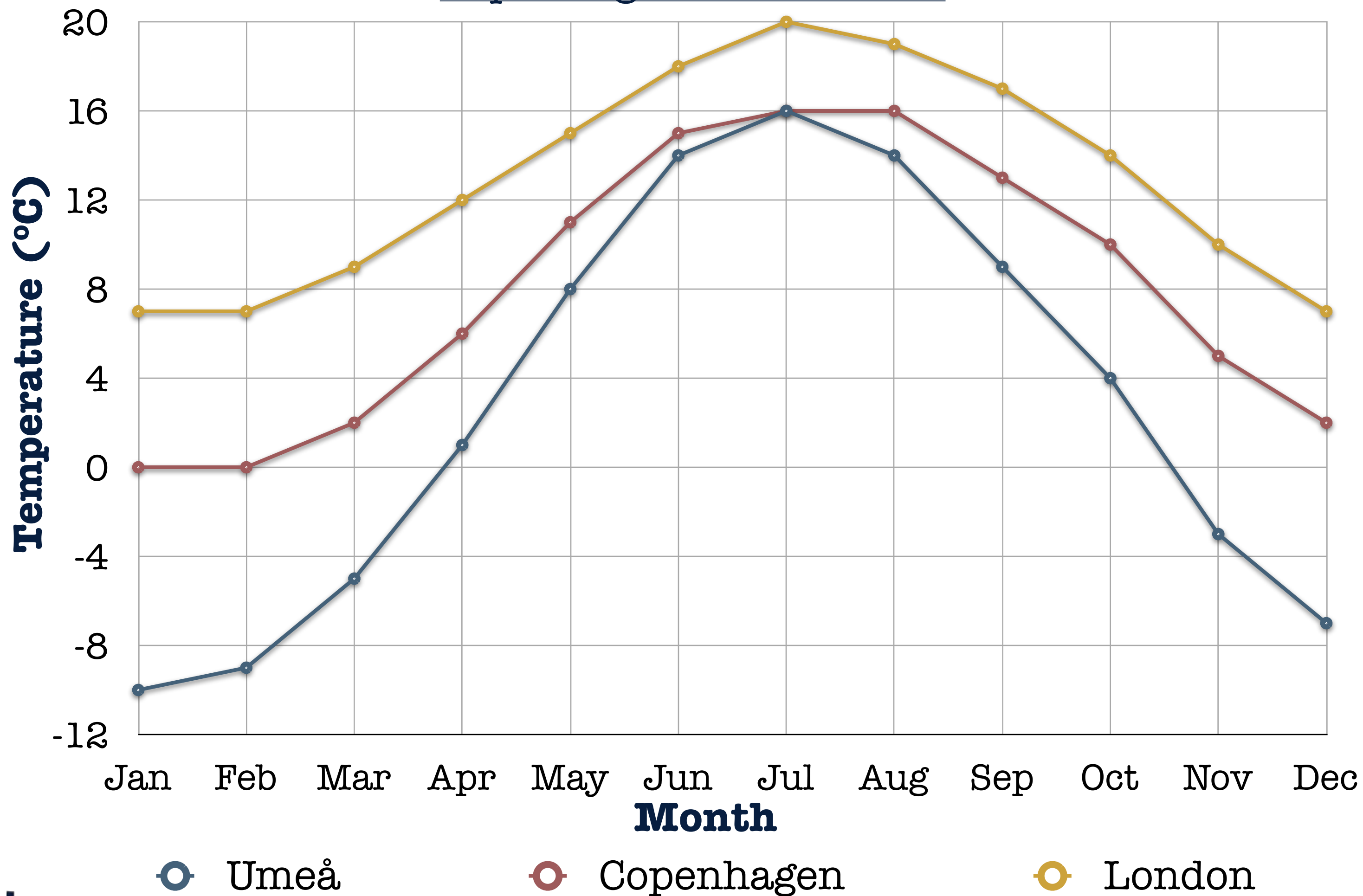
A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



Which city has the lowest average temperatures? Was your guess correct?



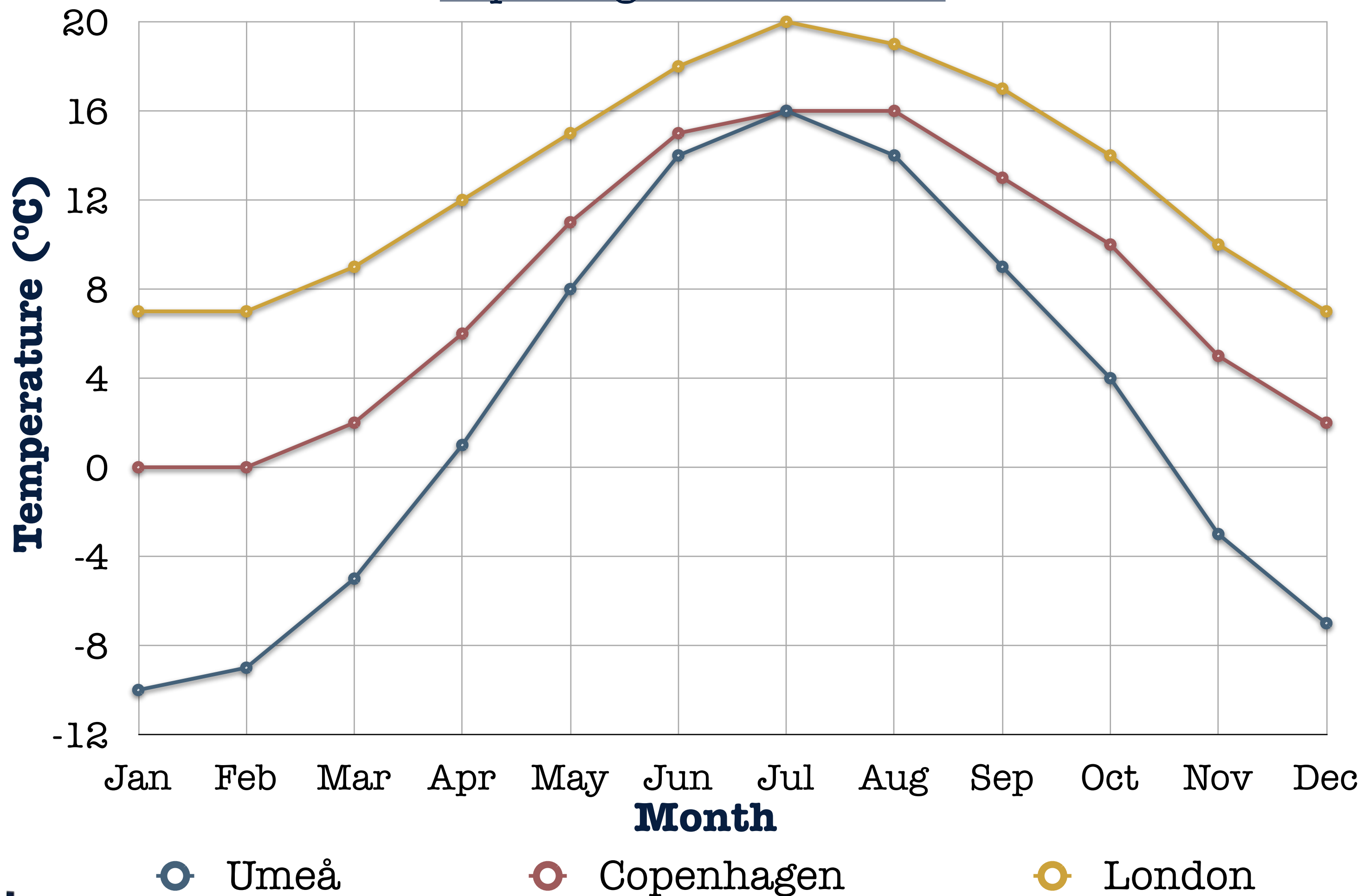
A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



How much warmer is London than Umeå in January?



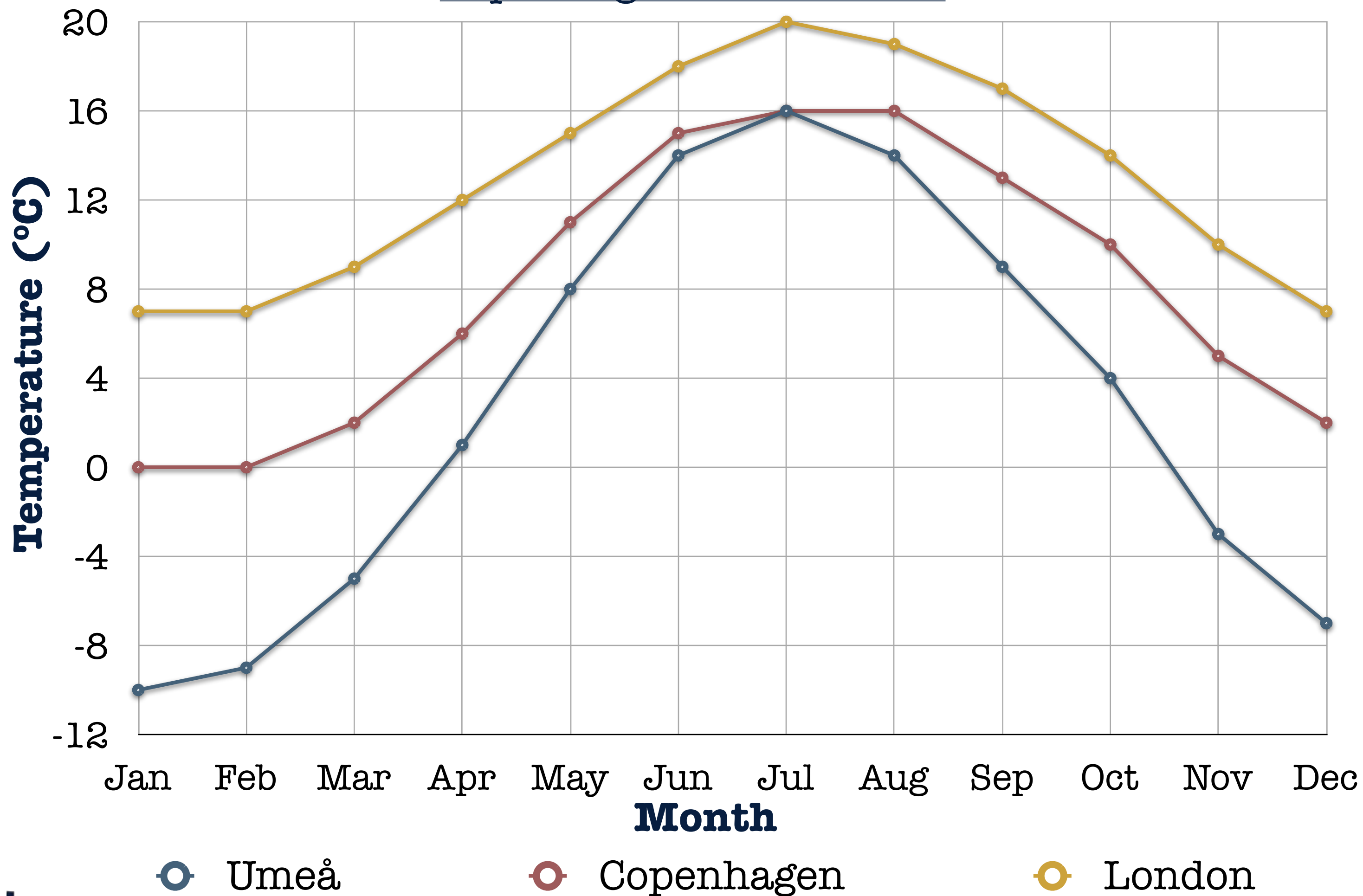
A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



London is 17°C warmer than Umeå in January!



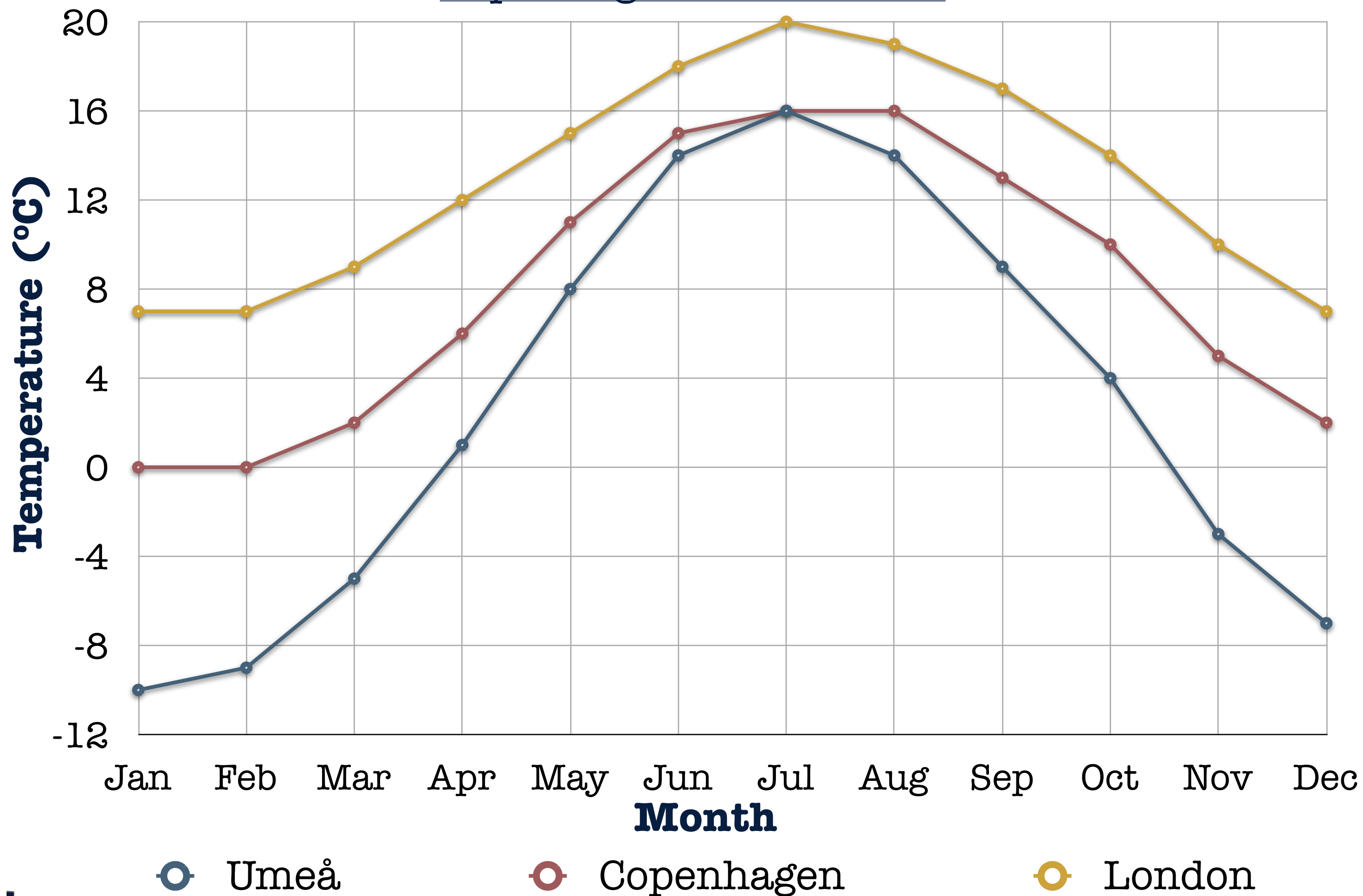
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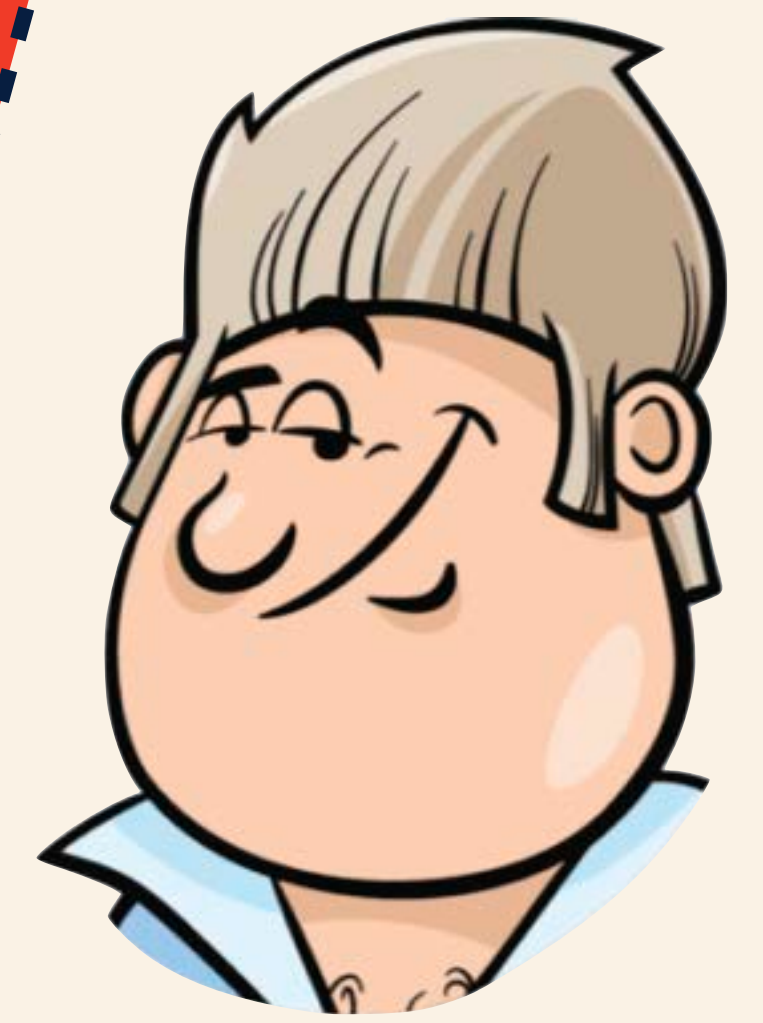
How much colder is Copenhagen than London in March?



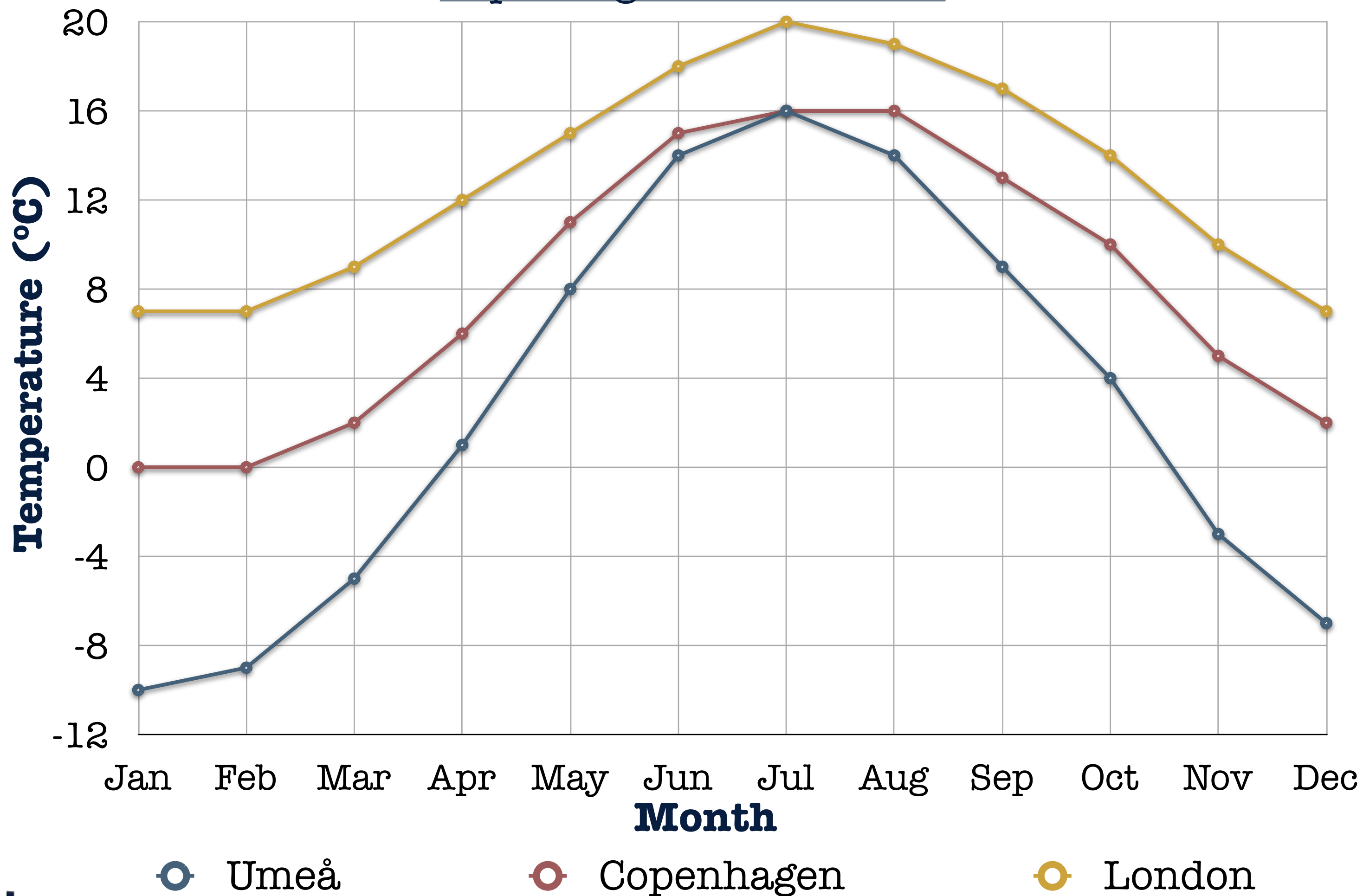
A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



Copenhagen is 7°C colder than London in March!



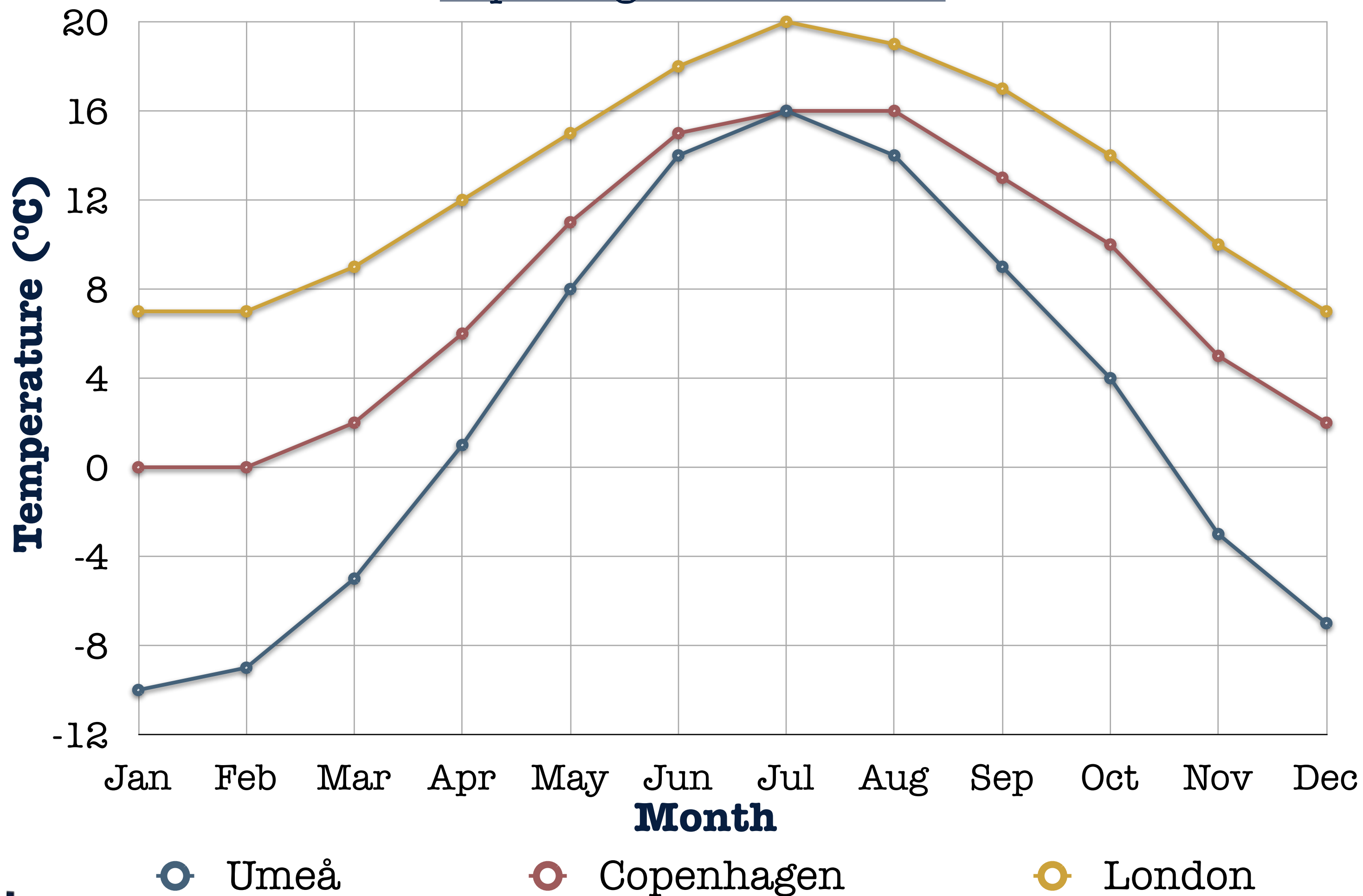
A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



The average July temperature in Umeå is 16°C. During which months in London is the temperature approximately this warm?




A line graph to show the average daily temperatures of Umeå, Copenhagen and London.



The temperature in London in May and September is approximately the same as the temperature in Umeå in July.





There are other factors besides the average temperature we can look at when we are exploring what the weather and climate of a place is like, such as the amount of precipitation (rain, snow or sleet) a place gets or how windy a place is.

Today you are going to be using some graphs and charts to help you find out more about the weather and climate in Scandinavia. Who's ready?!





Plenary:



**How might
the climate in
Scandinavia affect
people's everyday lives?
What might they do
differently to people
in the UK?**





The long, snowy winters in Scandinavia mean that there is a big winter sports culture. Sports such as cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, ice-skating, bobsledding and ski jumping are all very popular in Scandinavia.



Cross-country skiing



Bobsledding





This is the Holmenkollen ski jump in Oslo. Can you see the ski jumper flying through the air?!



My name is Anna and I live in Lillehammer in Norway. Our winters are long and cold but I enjoy them because we can do fun activities like tobogganning, ice-skating and skiing. We even have skiing lessons at school!



Do you think you would like to have long winters? What would you enjoy? What would you not enjoy?

