

# Contemporary Urban Environments

## Lesson preparation sheets

### Topics and syllabus outline

#### Urbanisation

1. Urbanisation and its importance in human affairs. Global patterns of urbanisation since 1945.
2. Urbanisation, suburbanisation, counter-urbanisation, urban resurgence.
3. The emergence of megacities and world cities and their role in global and regional economies.
4. Economic, social, technological, political and demographic processes associated with urbanisation and urban growth.
5. Urban change: deindustrialisation, decentralisation, rise of service economy.
6. Urban policy and regeneration in Britain since 1979.

#### Urban Forms

1. Contemporary characteristics of mega/world cities. Urban characteristics in contrasting settings.
2. Physical and human factors in urban forms.
3. Spatial patterns of land use, economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas, and the factors that influence them.
4. New urban landscapes; town centre mixed developments, cultural and heritage quarters, fortress developments, gentrified areas, edge cities. The concept of the post-modern western city.

#### Social and economic issues associated with urbanisation

1. Issues associated with economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas.
2. Strategies to manage these issues

#### Urban Climate

1. The impact of urban forms and processes on local climate and weather.
2. Urban temperatures: the urban heat island effect. Precipitation: frequency and intensity. Fogs and thunderstorms in urban environments. Wind: the effects of urban structures and layout on wind speed, direction and frequency.
3. Air quality: particulate and photo-chemical pollution.
4. Pollution reduction policies.

#### Urban Drainage

1. Urban precipitation, surfaces and catchment characteristics; impacts on drainage basin storage areas; urban water cycle: water movement through urban catchments as measured by hydrographs.
2. Issues associated with catchment management in urban areas. The development of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS).
3. River restoration and conservation in damaged urban catchments with reference to a specific project. Reasons for and aims of the project; attitudes and contributions of parties involved; project activities and evaluation of project outcomes.

#### Urban Waste and its disposal

1. Urban physical waste generation: sources of waste: industrial and commercial activity, personal consumption. Relation of waste components and waste streams to economic characteristics, lifestyles and attitudes.
2. The environmental impacts of alternative approaches to waste disposal: unregulated, recycling, recovery, incineration, burial, submergence and trade.
3. Comparison of incineration and landfill approaches to waste disposal in relation to a specified urban area.

#### Other contemporary urban environmental issues

1. Environmental problems in contrasting urban areas: atmospheric pollution, water pollution and dereliction.
2. Strategies to manage these environmental problems.

#### Sustainable urban development

1. Impact of urban areas on local and global environments. Ecological footprint of major urban areas.
2. Dimensions of sustainability: natural, physical, social and economic. Nature and features of sustainable cities. Concept of liveability.
3. Contemporary opportunities and challenges in developing more sustainable cities.
4. Strategies for developing more sustainable cities.

#### Case Studies

**Case studies** of two contrasting urban areas to illustrate and analyse key themes set out above, to include:

- patterns of economic and social well-being
- the nature and impact of physical environmental conditions.

With particular reference to the implications for environmental sustainability, the character of the study areas and the experience and attitudes of their populations.

**Topic: Global patterns of urbanization since 1945**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:** Pages 418 -419 of David Waugh, "Geography, an integrated approach"  
Geofactsheet 37 – megacities  
Pages 379 to 381 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al

**Glossary:**

- Urbanisation
- Rural
- Globalisation
- Informationalisation
- Colonialisation
- Industrialisation
- Natural Population growth
- Rural to urban migration
- Urban
- Rate of change
- Push factor
- Pull factor

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Diagrams or maps:**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Topic: Suburbanisation, counter urbanisation and urban resurgence**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:**

*Pages 385 to 388 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al*

**Glossary:**

Suburbanisation

Counter urbanisation

Urban resurgence

Urban sprawl

Edge cities

Decentralisation

Green belts

Suburbanised village

Deindustrialisation

Urban Doughnut effect

"White flight"

Ghetto

Segregation

Commuting

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies – UK and urbanisation**

**Topic:** The emergence of megacities and world cities and their role in global and regional economies.

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:** Pages 385 to 388 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al  
*Geofactsheet 37. Megacities*

**Glossary:**

World city

Megacity

Millionaire city

Edge city

Industrialisation

Colonialisation

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Diagrams or maps:**  
**Figure 9.12**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies – Mumbai (Bombay on geofactsheet) India**

**Topic:** Urban change: Urban policy and regeneration in Britain since 1979.

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:**

Pages 388 to 391 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al

<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/World%20Cities/Newcastle/Newcastle.htm>

**Glossary:**

The service economy

Mechanisation

Tertiary activities

Quarternary Activities

Urban Policy

Urban Development Corporations

Single regeneration budgets

Urban regeneration

Gentrification

New Deal for Communities (NDC)

City Challenge

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Produce a timeline of change in Newcastle upon Tyne -** <http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/World%20Cities/Newcastle/Newcastle.htm>

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
  
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
  
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

<b>Topic: Urban Forms</b>	<b>Contemporary Urban Environments</b>
<b>Reading:</b> <i>Pages 391 and 393 to 394 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al</i>	
<b>Glossary:</b> Physical Factors Human factors Urban form Urban morphology Spatial patterns of land use Economic inequality Social segregation Cultural diversity Central business District Distance Decay Peak Land Value Intersection	
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Key learning points:</b>	<b>Diagrams or maps:</b> <b>The bid rent model</b>
<b>Questions to ask at the start of next lesson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)</li><li>• Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)</li><li>• Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)</li></ul>	
<b>Case studies</b>	

**Topic: New Urban Landscapes**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:**

*Pages 394 to 398 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al*

**Glossary:**

Town centre mixed development

Cultural and heritage quarters

Gentrification

Fortress Landscapes

Postmodernism

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

Town centre mixed development

Cultural and heritage quarters

Gentrification

Fortress Landscapes

Postmodernism

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies**

**Topic: Social and economic issues associated with urbanisation**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:**

Pages 398 to 404 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al

**Glossary:**

Economic inequality

Social segregation

Index of multiple Deprivation

Urban social exclusion

Inequality

Cultural diversity

Ethnicity

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Diagrams or maps:**

**Sketch of figure 9.22**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies – London**

<b>Topic: Urban Climate</b>	<b>Contemporary Urban Environments</b>	
<p><b>Reading:</b>  <i>Pages 405 to 412 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al</i>  <i>Geo factsheet 50</i></p>		
<p><b>Glossary:</b>          Urban Heat Island           Albedo           Microclimate           Photochemical pollution           Temperature inversion           Particulate air pollution           Venturi effect           Air quality</p>		
<b>Notes</b>		
<p><b>Key learning points:</b></p>	<p><b>Diagrams or maps:</b>  <b>Figure 9.26</b></p>	
<p><b>Questions to ask at the start of next lesson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)</li>   <li>• Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)</li>   <li>• Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Case studies</b></p>		

<b>Topic: Urban Climate – Air Quality</b>	<b>Contemporary Urban Environments</b>	
<b>Reading:</b> Pages 413 to 415 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al <a href="http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Weather%20and%20climate/Microclimates/Air_quality.htm">http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Weather%20and%20climate/Microclimates/Air_quality.htm</a>		
<b>Glossary:</b> Carbon Monoxide  Nitrogen Dioxide  Sulphur Dioxide  Photochemical smog  Clean Air Act		
<b>Notes</b>		
<b>Key learning points:</b>	<b>Diagrams or maps:</b> <b>Figure 9.40</b>	
<b>Questions to ask at the start of next lesson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)</li><li>• Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)</li><li>• Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)</li></ul>		



<b>Topic: Urban Drainage</b>	<b>Contemporary Urban Environments</b>	
<b>Reading:</b> <i>Pages 415 to 419 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al</i>		
<b>Glossary:</b> Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems  Urban Hydrology  Catchment management  Urban water balance		
<b>Notes</b>		
<b>Key learning points:</b>	<b>Diagrams or maps:</b> <b>Urban hydrograph</b>	
<b>Questions to ask at the start of next lesson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)</li><li>• Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)</li><li>• Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)</li></ul>		
<b>Case study – Cheonggyecheon River Project</b>		

**Topic: Urban Waste and its disposal**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:**

*Pages 420 to 425 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al*

Geofactsheet 111 – Waste management

**Glossary:**

Waste management

Waste management hierarchy

Disposal

Landfill

Incineration

4Rs

Physical reprocessing

Biological reprocessing

Energy recovery

Waste reduction

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Diagrams or maps:**

**Draw the waste management hierarchy**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
  
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
  
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies**

**Amsterdam**

<b>Topic: Other contemporary urban environmental issues</b>	<b><u>Contemporary Urban Environments</u></b>
<b>Reading:</b> Pages 425 to 431 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al Geofile 515 Geofile 522	
<b>Glossary:</b> Air Pollution Water Pollution Low impact development Appropriate technology Dereliction Brownfield sites Greenfield Sites Land remediation	
<b>Notes</b>	
<b>Key learning points:</b>	<b>Diagrams or maps:</b>
<b>Questions to ask at the start of next lesson</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)</li><li>• Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)</li><li>• Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)</li></ul>	
<b>Case studies</b> <b>London</b>	

**Topic: Sustainable Urban Development**

**Contemporary Urban Environments**

**Reading:** Pages 431 to 436 of "AQA A level Geography" by Skinner et Al

**Glossary:**

**Ecological Footprint**

**Sustainable development**

**Sustainable city**

**Liveability**

**Urban resilience**

**Notes**

**Key learning points:**

**Diagrams or maps:**

**Figure 9.6**

**Questions to ask at the start of next lesson**

- Low level (Name, List, define, Recall, relate, Describe)
- Medium Level (Explain, Compare, Classify, Justify, Apply)
- Hard level (Speculate, Interpret, Analyse, Sequence, Summarize, Develop, Synthesise, Adapt, Judge, Rank, Evaluate, Prove)

**Case studies**

**Copenhagen**