

Year 4 Geography Assessment: Understanding Population

Learning objective: To understand the factors influencing human settlement, population distribution, and the reasons why people choose to live in different environments.

Read each question carefully. Use your geographical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Remember to use full sentences and specific terminology where possible.

Finn the dolphin has travelled the world's coastlines and noticed something interesting: human beings do not live spread out evenly. Some areas are crowded with tall buildings and busy transport networks, while other areas have only a few small cottages nestled in the hills. People choose where to live based on what they need to survive and thrive, such as access to water, work, and comfortable weather.

Word bank: settlement · urban · rural · population density · infrastructure · resources · climate · migration

1. Define the terms 'urban' and 'rural'. Give one example of a feature you might find in an urban area. (2 marks)

2. Finn observes that many large cities are built near rivers or coasts. Explain why proximity to water was historically important for the growth of a settlement. (3 marks)

3. Max the monkey is looking at a map of a city. He notices that the population density is very high in the centre. What does 'population density' mean in this context? (2 marks)

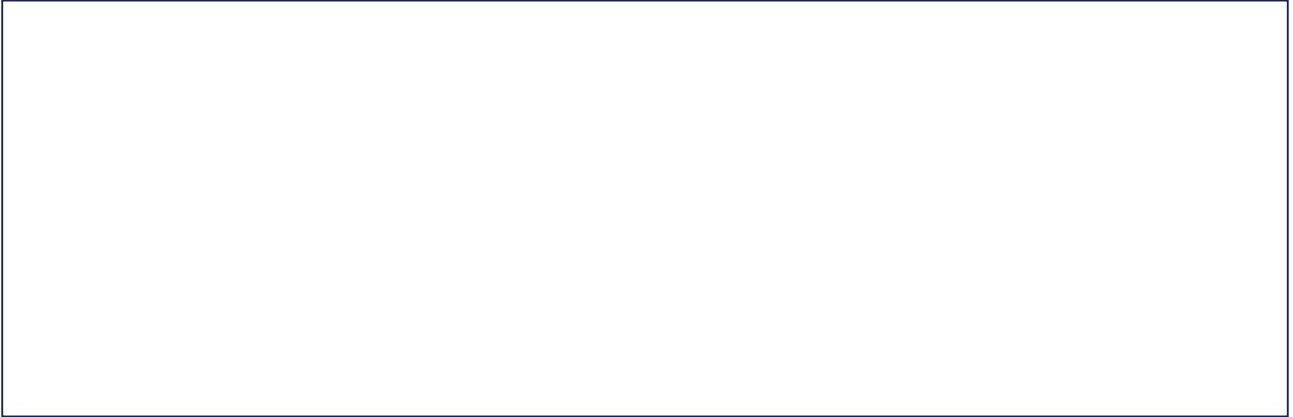
4. Compare and contrast the lifestyle of someone living in a remote rural village with someone living in a bustling city centre. Consider access to resources and transport. (4 marks)

5. List three factors that might encourage a family to move (migrate) from one region to another. (3 marks)

6. Justify why a mountainous region with a very cold climate might have a lower population density than a flat, temperate coastal plain. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Imagine a new settlement is being planned in an empty valley. As the lead geographer, describe where you would build the homes, schools, and shops. Justify your choices by explaining how these locations meet the needs of the population. (7 marks)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view map of a small village. Label one urban feature (like a shop or school) and one rural feature (like a forest or farm).



Extension challenge: What might happen to a small village if a new, large factory was built nearby? Explain how this could change the population, the local economy, and the environment. Total: /25