

Exploring Global Populations with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To understand the factors that influence human population distribution and density across the globe.

Finn the Dolphin has been mapping the world's oceans and coastlines. He has noticed that some places are very crowded, while others are very empty. Look at the list of factors below and sort them into two columns: 'Factors that encourage people to settle' and 'Factors that make it difficult to settle'. Write your answers in the table provided.

Word bank: Flat land for building · Extreme high temperatures · Access to fresh water · Steep, rocky mountains · Fertile soil for farming · Lack of natural resources · Stable climate · Frequent natural disasters

1. 1. Choose two factors from the word bank that encourage settlement and explain why they help people build towns or cities. (2 marks)

2. 2. Choose two factors from the word bank that make settlement difficult and explain how these might stop people from living there. (2 marks)

3. 3. If a new city is built near a river, why might its population grow faster than a city built on top of a mountain? (2 marks)

4. 4. Many people choose to live in coastal areas. Based on your geography knowledge, suggest one reason why the coast is a popular place for trade and settlement. (2 marks)

5. 5. Imagine a remote island with very little rain and rocky soil. Would you expect the population density to be high or low? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of an imaginary island. Include one area with a high population density (lots of houses and shops) and one area with a low population density (lots of open space and nature). Label the reasons why people chose to live in each area.



Extension challenge: Research a major city in the UK, such as London, Birmingham, or Manchester. Find out how many people live there (the population) and write a short paragraph explaining three reasons why so many people have chosen to settle there over time.