

Exploring Our Growing World

Learning objective: To understand the concept of population, including how it changes and why people choose to live in certain areas.

Read the passage below about world population carefully, then answer the questions that follow using full sentences.

Finn the dolphin has spent years travelling the world's oceans, but he is fascinated by the land too. He often visits human settlements to learn about population, which is the total number of people living in a specific place. Currently, the world's population is over eight billion people. However, these people are not spread out evenly. Some areas, like large cities, have a very high population density, meaning many people live close together in a small space. Other areas, like mountain ranges or vast deserts, have a very low population density because the landscape makes it difficult to build homes or find food and water. People often choose to live where there is work, good transport, and access to essential resources like clean water and healthcare. Recently, many people have moved from rural villages to busy cities, a process called urbanisation. As our global population continues to grow, we must think carefully about how to share our planet's resources fairly so that everyone has what they need to live a happy and healthy life.

Word bank: population · urbanisation · settlement · resource · migration · density

1. According to the text, what is the definition of 'population'? (2 marks)

2. Name two types of environments mentioned in the text that usually have a low population density. (2 marks)

3. Why might a family choose to move from a quiet rural village to a large, busy city? (3 marks)

4. What does the term 'urbanisation' tell us about how human living habits are changing? (3 marks)

5. Why is it important for us to think about how we share the Earth's resources as the population grows? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a split-screen image: on one side, show a sparsely populated rural area with a few houses and fields; on the other side, show a densely populated city with tall buildings, roads, and many people.



Extension challenge: Research the population of your own town or city. Find out if the population has increased or decreased over the last ten years and write a short paragraph explaining why this might have happened.