

Finn's Settlement Explorer: Choosing the Perfect Spot

Learning objective: To understand the reasons why settlements are located in particular places and the differences between hamlets, villages, towns, and cities.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the coastline and rivers. He has found four different locations where people might want to build a new settlement. Read the descriptions of the locations below, then use the word bank to match the correct settlement type to the description. Finally, answer the questions to explain why people choose to live in these places.

Word bank: Hamlet · Village · Town · City

1. Location A: A very small group of houses in the countryside with no shops or school. Which settlement type is this? (1 mark)

2. Location B: A large place with many thousands of people, lots of tall buildings, a busy railway station, and big museums. Which settlement type is this? (1 mark)

3. Location C: A place larger than a village but smaller than a city, with a high street, several schools, and a local market. Which settlement type is this? (1 mark)

4. Location D: A small settlement with a few hundred people, a small shop, and a primary school. Which settlement type is this? (1 mark)

5. Finn explains that long ago, people built settlements near rivers. Why was having a water source important for early settlers? Give two reasons. (2 marks)

6. If you were building a new settlement, would you prefer to build it near a forest or near a flat, open field? Explain your reasoning using one geographical feature. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of a small village. Include a river, a bridge, a primary school, and at least five houses. Label the features that make it a good place to live.



Extension challenge: Imagine a new town is being built. If it costs £5,000,000 to build a new bridge and £2,500,000 to build a new library, what is the total cost for both? Write a sentence explaining why a town council might choose to spend money on these facilities.