

Exploring Settlements with Finn the Explorer

Learning objective: To understand, describe, and compare different types of human settlements and the reasons for their location.

Use this writing frame to help Finn the Explorer document his latest geographical survey. Write in full, descriptive sentences and use the word bank to help your writing flow.

Finn the dolphin has travelled across the globe to investigate why humans choose to build their homes in specific locations.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in contrast · natural resources · infrastructure · proximity · topography · sustainable · urbanised · isolated · essential services

1. Introduction to your settlement: Identify the settlement you are studying and describe its general characteristics. Start by saying: 'The settlement I have chosen to investigate is...' (2 marks)

2. Physical Geography: Explain why the landscape influenced the location of this settlement. Consider: 'The topography of the area provided...' (3 marks)

3. Human Geography: Describe the key features of the settlement, such as transport links or businesses. Start by saying: 'The human features that make this settlement successful include...' (3 marks)

4. Comparison: Compare this settlement to a different type (e.g., a city vs. a village). Start by saying: 'In contrast to a small village, this urban center...' (4 marks)

5. Justification: Why is this location beneficial for the people living there? Explain by saying: 'I believe this location is advantageous because...' (4 marks)

6. Future Growth: What might happen if the population of this settlement doubles? Explain your reasoning: 'If the population were to increase significantly, the settlement would need to...' (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an urban planner. Write a short proposal explaining where you would place a new settlement if you had to start from scratch. Justify your choice of location by discussing water supply, transport links, and access to natural resources. Use the phrase 'I have selected this site because...' to begin your argument.