

Exploring Human Settlements: A Geography Field Report

Learning objective: To analyse the location, growth, and function of human settlements using geographical vocabulary.

Use this writing frame to construct a detailed report about a settlement. Use the word bank to help you link your ideas and ensure your explanations are clear and detailed. Refer to Finn the dolphin's map-reading tips to ensure you include locational details.

Human settlements, ranging from tiny hamlets to sprawling cities, have evolved over centuries to meet the diverse needs of the people who inhabit them.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · in contrast · due to · infrastructure · urbanisation · topography · proximity · predominantly · resource-rich · sustainable · conurbation

1. Introduction: Describe your chosen settlement and its geographical location. Start by stating: 'The settlement I have chosen to investigate is...', then explain why its specific site was historically favourable. (3 marks)

2. Land Use and Infrastructure: Explain how the land is used within this settlement. Start by writing: 'The layout of this area is influenced by...', and describe the balance between residential, industrial, and commercial zones. (3 marks)

3. Growth and Change: Compare how the settlement has changed over time. Start with: 'Historically, this settlement began as... but it has since expanded because...'. Justify why urbanisation might have occurred here. (4 marks)

4. Economic Connections: Explain the role of trade or services. Start by saying: 'The economy of this settlement relies heavily on...'. Consider what goods or services are exported or provided to surrounding areas. (3 marks)

5. Challenges and Future: What might happen if the population continues to grow rapidly? Start with: 'If the population increases significantly, the settlement may face challenges such as...'. Propose one sustainable solution. (4 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise the main features of your settlement. Start with: 'In conclusion, the survival and success of this settlement depend on...'. Explain why geography remains the most important factor in its ongoing development. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine a new settlement is being built in a remote, mountainous region. Create a 'Planning Proposal' justifying where you would place the primary water source, the transport links, and the housing. Use the phrase 'I have chosen this site because...' and evaluate the potential environmental impact of your choices.