

Grade 4 Geography Assessment: Settlements

Learning objective: To understand the characteristics of different settlements, the reasons for their location, and how they change over time.

Read each question carefully. Ensure you provide full sentences for extended responses. You have 30 minutes to complete this paper.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the coastline. He notes that early humans often built their homes near rivers for water and transport. As time passed, settlements grew. Some became busy urban centres with tall buildings and shopping malls, while others remained quiet, rural villages surrounded by farmland. Today, we look at how these places provide homes, work, and community for everyone.

Word bank: urban · rural · hamlet · village · town · city · infrastructure · settlement · land use · population

1. Define the term 'settlement' and explain one reason why early humans chose to build near rivers. (2 marks)

2. List three features that you might find in an urban settlement that you would be unlikely to find in a small rural hamlet. (3 marks)

3. Explain the difference between a 'rural' area and an 'urban' area. Use at least two words from the word bank in your answer. (4 marks)

4. Max the monkey is looking at a map of a town. He notices a large factory being built on the edge of the town. Suggest two reasons why a factory might be built on the outskirts of a town rather than in the very center. (4 marks)

5. Imagine a small village is becoming very popular and many new houses are being built. Describe two positive impacts and two negative impacts this growth might have on the local environment or community. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Compare a city to a village. Discuss how the infrastructure (such as transport, schools, and shops) differs between the two and why these differences exist. Consider the needs of the people living in those areas. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram of a 'nucleated' settlement, showing a church or town hall in the center with houses clustered around it.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Find out what a 'conurbation' is and write down one example of one in the United Kingdom.