

URBAN SETTLEMENTS

22 MAY 2014



Lesson Description

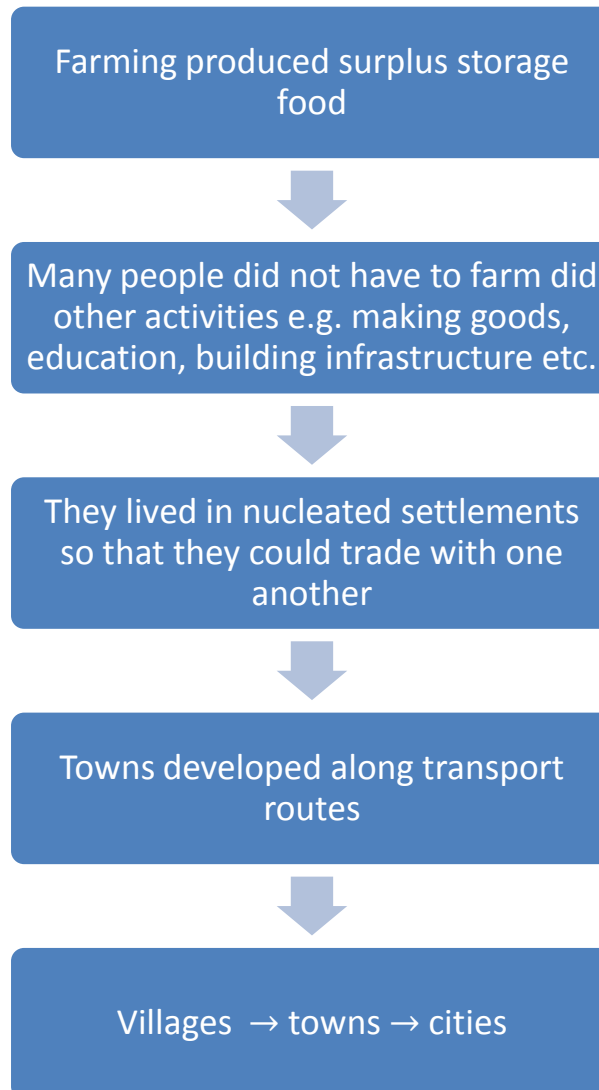
In this lesson we:

- Look at the origin and development of urban settlements
- Consider the urbanisation of the world population
- Discuss related concepts
- Look at how site and situation affect the location of urban settlements
- Discuss classification of urban settlements according to function
- Discuss concepts related to urban hierarchies



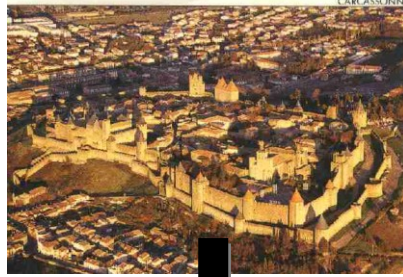
Summary

The Origin and Development of Urban Settlements



notes for...

Pre-industrial towns and cities



Concerned mainly with commerce, trade and craft industries

Industrial towns and cities



Industrial revolution-concerned mainly with manufacturing

Pre-industrial towns and cities



Concerned mainly with services

Urbanisation of the World Population



- Urbanisation refers to an increasing proportion of people living in urban areas.
- Urbanisation is growing rapidly
- At present approximately 70% of most economically developed countries are urbanised
- At present approximately 33% of less economically developed countries are urbanised
- Main factors responsible are natural growth and rural-urban migration

Concepts

- **Rate of urbanization**
Refers to the pace at which urbanisation is occurring.
- **Level of urbanization**
The percentage of the number of people living in urban areas
- **Urban growth**
Refers to increase in the number of people living in urban areas

- Urban expansion



Refers to the physical expansion of an urban area

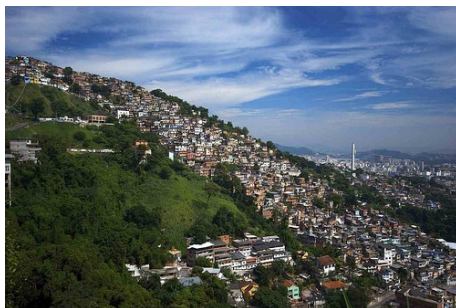
- Urban sprawl



Is the formless expansion of an urban area.

How Site and Situation Affect the Location of Urban Settlements

- Site-refers to the exact location on which the settlement develops.
Factors are:
 - Water supply
 - Relief
 - Underlying structure of the rock and soil
 - Drainage
 - Resources e.g. raw materials
 - Aspect of slope



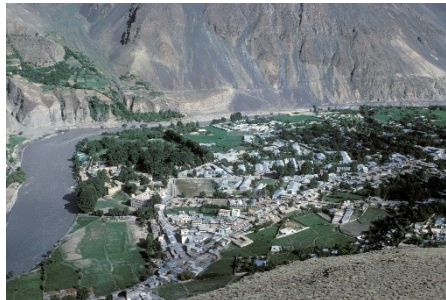
- Situation-refers to location of the settlement in relation to the surrounding area.
Factors are:
 - Transport
 - Access to market

notes for...



Classification of Urban Settlements According to Function

Central Places



Is an urban area that provides urban functions to the surrounding rural area e.g. Beaufort West

Trade and Transport Towns



These towns develop as a result of trade and transport e.g. Cape Town

Break-of-Bulk Points



Where one form of transport is replaced by another e.g. Durban

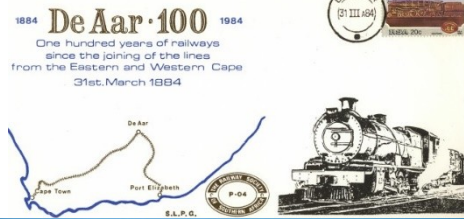
Specialised Towns



These towns develop due to one main function e.g. Umhlanga Rocks

notes for...

Junction Towns



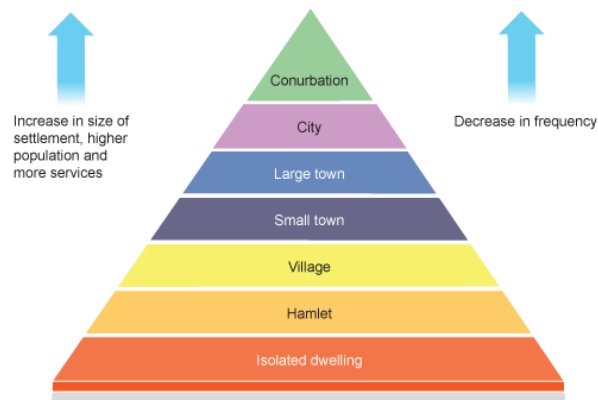
These towns develop at important transport intersections De Aar

Gateway/Gap Towns



It develops around a gap in a physical feature like a mountain e.g. Harrismith

Urban Hierarchies



Urban Hierarchy

- Refers to the ranking of urban settlements according to their significance.
- The number of urban settlements decrease as we move from lower order centres to higher order questions

Threshold Population

- The number of customers needed in order for a business/service to make a profit

Sphere of Influence

- The area from which an urban area gets its customers

Range of Goods

- Refers to maximum distance person is prepared to travel in order to obtain a service or buy a good.

notes for...

Low Order Functions/Services

- Are used everyday/regularly
- Generally found near the customer
- Bread, post office, petrol station etc



High Order Functions/Services

- Specialised and used less frequently
- Found in higher order centres
- Airport, hospital, regional shopping centre station etc



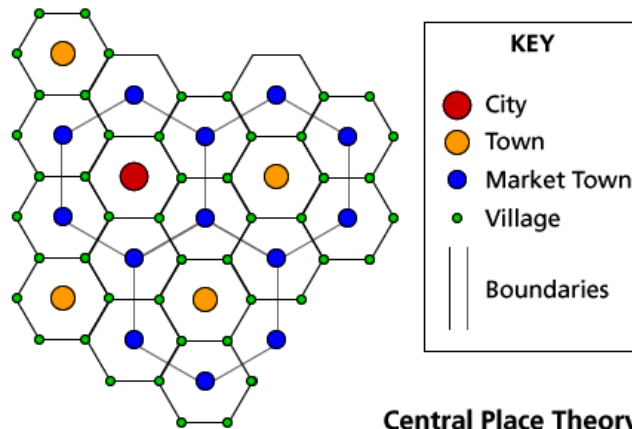
Low Order Centres

- Provide low order goods/services/functions to surrounding area

High Order Centres

- Provide high order goods/services/functions to settlements

Christaller's Central Place Theory



Central Place Theory



Test Yourself

Question 1

Various options are given as possible answers to the following questions. Choose the answer and write only the letter (A–D) next to the question number.

- 1.1 Urban settlements consists of ...
- A secondary and tertiary activities.
 - B secondary activities only.
 - C tertiary activities only.
 - D all of the above.
- 1.2 Urban expansion is the ...
- A increase in the number of people living in an urban.
 - B physical expansion of an urban.
 - C increase in the number of urban settlements.
 - D movement of people into the urban area.
- 1.3 ... is a physical factor determining the site of an urban settlement.
- A Harbours
 - B Defence
 - C Drainage
 - D None of the above
- 1.4 ... is a factor that influences the situation of an urban settlement.
- A Intersection of transport routes
 - B Aspect of slope
 - C Mineral resources
 - D Drainage
- 1.5 The major factor that accelerated urbanisation in current developed countries is ...
- A education.
 - B the developing of skills.
 - C the green revolution.
 - D the industrial revolution.

Question 2

Choose a term from COLUMN B that matches the description in COLUMN A. Write only the letter (A–I) next to the question number.

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
2.1 The exact piece of land on which the settlement is situated.	A. Fertile soil
2.2 The settlements location in relation to the surrounding area	B. Linear settlement
2.3 Is a site factor	C. Site
2.4 Is a situation factor	D. Situation
2.5 Refers to the pattern of a settlement	E. Central place town
2.6 Refers to the shape of a settlement	F. Accessibility to market
2.7 Refers to the function of a settlement	G. Dispersed settlement

Question 3

Choose the correct term from the options given.

- 3.1 Urbanisation refers to the increase in the percentage of buildings/people in the urban area.
- 3.2 Building new shopping malls on the outskirts of an urban area is an example of urban expansion/urban growth.
- 3.3 Looking for gentle slope to build an urban settlement is a situation/site factor.
- 3.4 Durban is an example of a break of bulk point/junction town.
- 3.5 Umhlanga Rocks is an example of a specialized/gateway town.

Question 4

State whether the following statements are true or false

- 4.1 High order goods have a larger threshold population.
- 4.2 Low order service centres have a larger sphere of influence.
- 4.3 Christaller's Central Place Theory emphasizes the distribution, size and relationship between settlements in an area.
- 4.4 A trade and transport city was established due to trade opportunities only.
- 4.5 High order services are found in a lot of rural settlements.

Question 5

Choose a term from COLUMN B that matches the description in COLUMN A. Write only the letter (A–I) next to the question number.

No.	Column A	Column B
5.1	5.1 Low order good	A. Car
5.2	5.2 High order good	B. Airport
5.3	5.3 High order service	C. Post office
5.4	5.4 Low order service	D. Bread
5.5	5.5 Small number of high order goods and services	E. Small town



Improve your Skills

Question 1

Refer to the picture below, a town in South Africa, and answer the questions that follow.



Source: Salgado (2010, p. 128)

- 1.1 Define the term *site* (1x1) (1)
- 1.2 State the site factor, visible in the photograph, that determined the location of this settlement. (1x1) (1)
- 1.3 Explain how this site factor, answer to QUESTION 1.2, was used to locate the settlement. (2x2) (4)
- 1.4 Explain TWO other possible site factors that could have influenced the location of the settlement. (2x2) (4)
- 1.5 Evaluate the situation of this settlement. (3x2) (6)

Question 2

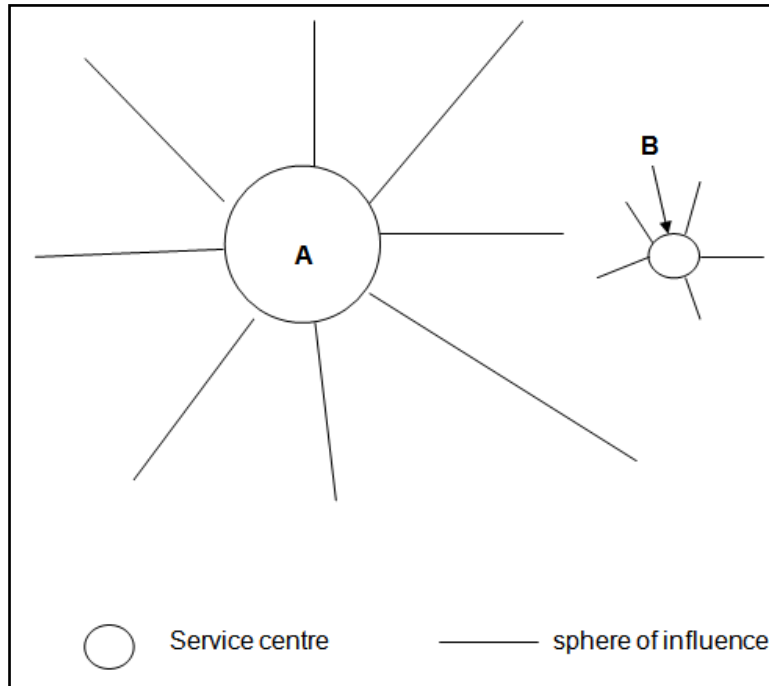
Refer to the cartoon below and answer the questions that follow.



- 2.1 Define the term *urban sprawl*. (1x1) (1)
- 2.2 State THREE urban problems created by urban sprawl (3x1) (3)
- 2.3 Explain THREE environmental impacts that will result From urban sprawl. (3x2) (6)
- 2.4 Discuss possible solutions to urban sprawl. (2x2) (4)

Question 3

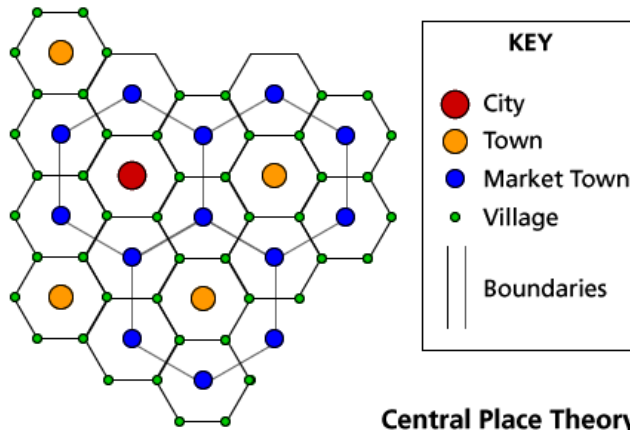
Refer to the diagram below and answer the questions that follow.



- 3.1 Define the following terms.
- a) Sphere of influence
 - b) High order service centre
 - c) Low order service centre (3x1) (3)
- 3.2 Classify settlements A and B as either high order service centre or low order service centre and give a reason for your answer. (2+2) (4)
- 3.3 State TWO goods that people from settlements A generally obtain from settlements B. (2x1) (2)
- 3.4 Threshold population is the number of customers needed in order for a business/service to make a profit.
- 3.4.1 Will a high order or low order good require a higher threshold population? (1x1) (1)
 - 3.4.2 Explain your answer, answer to QUESTION 3.4.1. (2x2) (4)

Question 4

Refer to the diagram below and answer the questions that follow.



- 4.1 Define the term hierarchy of settlements. (1x1) (1)
- 4.2 Give the name of the theory illustrated in the diagram. (1x1) (1)
- 4.3 Explain this theory, answer to QUESTION 4.2, focusing on the following:
 - a) Number of settlements
 - b) Functions of settlements (2 x 2)(4)
- 4.4 Match the following settlements with A, B, C and D on the diagram
 - a) Market town
 - b) Village
 - c) City
 - d) Town (4x1) (4)
- 4.5 Settlement C could also be regarded as a central place. Give a reason for this. (1x2) (2)