

CONTEMPORARY URBAN ENVIRONMENTS (OPTION)

3.2.3.1 URBANISATION	R	A	G
Urbanisation and its importance in human affairs			
Global patterns of urbanisation since 1945			
Urbanisation, suburbanisation, counter-urbanisation, urban resurgence			
The emergence of megacities and world cities and their role in global and regional economies			
Economic, social, technological, political and demographic processes associated with urbanisation and urban growth			
Urban change: deindustrialisation, decentralisation, service economy			
Urban policy and regeneration in Britain since 1979			
3.2.3.2 URBAN FORMS	R	A	G
Contemporary characteristics of mega/world cities			
Urban characteristics in contrasting settings			
Physical and human factors in urban forms			
Spatial patterns of land use, economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas, and the factors that influence them			
New urban landscapes: town centre mixed developments, cultural and heritage quarters, fortress developments, gentrified areas, edge cities			
The concept of the post-modern western city			
3.2.3.3 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH URBANISATION	R	A	G
Issues associated with economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas			
Strategies to manage these (social and economic) issues			
3.2.3.4 URBAN CLIMATE	R	A	G
The impact of urban forms and processes on local climate and weather			
Urban temperatures: the urban heat island effect			
Precipitation: frequency and intensity			
Fog and thunderstorms in urban environments			
Wind: the effects of urban structures and layout on wind speed, direction and frequency			
Air quality: particulate and photo-chemical pollution			
Pollution reduction policies			

3.2.3.5 URBAN DRAINAGE	R	A	G
Urban precipitation, surfaces and catchment characteristics; impacts on drainage basin storage areas; urban water cycle: water movement through urban catchments as measured by hydrographs			
Issues with catchment management in urban areas. The development of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS)			
River restoration and conservation in damaged urban catchments with reference to a specific project. Reasons for and aims of the project; attitudes and contributions of parties involved; project activities and evaluation of project outcomes			
3.2.3.6 URBAN WASTE AND ITS DISPOSAL	R	A	G
Urban physical waste generation: sources of waste – industrial and commercial activity, personal consumption			
Relation of waste components and waste streams to economic characteristics, lifestyles and attitudes			
The environmental impacts of alternative approaches to waste disposal: unregulated, recycling, recovery, incineration, burial, submergence and trade			
Comparison of incineration and landfill approaches to waste disposal in relation to a specified urban area			
3.2.3.7 OTHER CONTEMPORARY URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	R	A	G
Environmental problems in contrasting urban areas: atmospheric pollution, water pollution and dereliction			
Strategies to manage environmental problems			
3.2.3.8 SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT	R	A	G
Impact of urban areas on local and global environments. Ecological footprint of major urban areas			
Dimensions of sustainability: natural, physical, social and economic			
Nature and features of sustainable cities			
Concept of liveability			
Contemporary opportunities and challenges in developing more sustainable cities			
Strategies for developing more sustainable cities			
3.2.3.9 CASE STUDIES	R	A	G
Case studies of two contrasting urban areas to illustrate and analyse key themes set out above, to include: patterns of economic and social well-being ...with particular reference to the implications for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental sustainability • the character of the study areas • the experience and attitudes of their populations 			
Case studies of two contrasting urban areas to illustrate and analyse key themes set out above, to include: the nature and impact of physical environmental conditions ...with particular reference to the implications for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental sustainability • the character of the study areas • the experience and attitudes of their populations 			