Changing Cities

Urbanisation
The increasing proportion of people living in urban areas (towns & cities). As the % of people living in areas increases, the % of people living in rural areas decreases.

a) Changes in urbanisation
For the first time ever, more than 50% of the world's population live in urban areas. This is projected to rise to 68% by 2050. Urbanisation will largely take place in emerging or developing countries (LICs). There are 2 main reasons for this:
1. Natural changes – birth rates are often higher than death rates in cities. More babies being born than people dying = population increase
2. Migration (push/pull factors).

b)

	Push (away from the countryside)	Pull (to the city)
Social	• Lack of access to clean water • Poor education opportunities • Lack of healthcare • Lack of good quality housing • Poor access to infrastructure like power grid/electricity	• Good access to clean water • Access to electricity • More schools and education opportunities • More healthcare facilities
Economic	• Unemployment • Poorly paid jobs	• Formal and informal job opportunities
Environmental	• Infertile soils (difficult to farm and make a living)	

C) HICs: % of population in urban areas = steady
- HICs industrialised much earlier – job opportunities became available in such cities much earlier on
- Improvements in infrastructure in HICs is built to accommodate large populations – commuters can work in cities and live in the countryside
- Poor environmental quality/crowing in HICs means that people are choosing not to live there

LICs: % of population in urban areas = growing rapidly
- Industrialisation happened more recently and so people are moving to the city to take advantage of job opportunities
- Industrialisation led to the mechanisation of farming which causes unemployment in the countryside resulting in more people wanting to move to urban areas
- Quality of life is perceived to be higher cities

C) Urban trends in developed/less developed regions

The urban population in HIC's is still increasing but at a steady rate. 6% increase

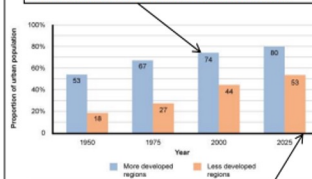The urban population in LIC's is growing more rapidly. 9% increase predicted between 2000 and

D) Megacities
Increased urbanisation has resulted in the emergence of megacities. These are cities with 10 million or more inhabitants. There are currently 47 megacities, Tokyo (Japan) is the largest, with 38million. New Africa and Asia will be home to the most megacities

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Topic content			
I can describe trends in urbanisation over the last 50 years in different parts of the world and describe and explain how and why urbanisation has occurred at different times and rates in different parts of the world.			
I can describe the distribution of UK population and the location of major urban centres.			
I can explain regional differences in the rate and degree of urbanisation in the UK.			
I can describe the importance of Birmingham's connectivity in regional and global contexts and describe the structure of the city in terms of its functions and building age.			
I can describe and explain the processes of urbanisation, suburbanisation, counter-urbanisation and re-urbanisation in the context of Birmingham.			
I can explain how migration has affected different parts of Birmingham and identify Birmingham's key population characteristics.			
I can explain the link between economic change and inequality in Birmingham.			
I can describe and explain the recent changes in retailing in Birmingham and the impact of these changes.			
I can describe strategies for making urban living more sustainable and improving the quality of life in Birmingham, and explain the challenges of making urban living more sustainable in Birmingham.			
I can describe the site and context of Mexico City and the importance of its connectivity in regional and global contexts, and describe the structure of the city in terms of its functions and building age.			
I can explain reasons for past and present trends in population growth in Mexico City and identify causes of national and international migration to Mexico City and how it impacts different part of the city.			
I can describe the link between Mexico City's growth and inequality and explain why there are wealthy and poor areas and the reasons for the inequality.			
I can describe the results of Mexico City's rapid urbanisation and the impact on people and the environment.			
I can describe the characteristics of bottom-up and top-down strategies and the advantages and disadvantages of these approaches, and evaluate how well government policies improve the quality of life within Mexico City.			
I can use and interpret line graphs and calculate rate of change/annual or decadal percentage growth.			
I can use satellite images to identify different land use zones in urban areas.			
I can use population pyramids, choropleth maps and GIS.			
I can use Census output area data for 2011.			
I can calculate the ecological footprint of people in the city, and compare it to other locations.			
I can use GIS/satellite images, historic images and maps to investigate spatial growth.			
I can use quantitative and qualitative information to judge the scale of variations in quality of life.			

Key Vocabulary

Urbanisation	An increase in the proportion of people living in towns and cities
Natural Increase	This occurs when birth rates are high and death rates are low so there is a net increase in the population
Rural to Urban migration	When people leave the countryside and move to cities
Megacity	A city with a population of more than 10 million people
Push Factors	Something that forces someone to leave an area. E.g. war.
Pull Factors	Something that attracts someone to another area e.g. a good job
Population Density	The number of people per square kilometre
Site	The actual location of a settlement; the point where it first grew from
Situation	Where the settlement is compared with the surrounding area
Function	The primary purpose of a settlement e.g. port

Key Vocabulary

Industrialisation	The growth of industry (factories) in a country
Deindustrialisation	The closing down of industry in a country. This occurred in the 1970s in the UK
Decline	A city getting worse
Regeneration	Something improving
Brownfield sites	An area of land that has previously been built on
Inequality	When people are unequal in a society
Favelas	A settlement for poor people found on spare ground in the city. May not have running water or sewage disposal
Top down projects	A project that is ran by the government. Large scale and very expensive.
Bottom Up projects	A project that is ran by local people. Small scale and more affordable.
Sustainable	Something that will continue into the future without a negative impact.

Developed Case Study- Birmingham

Context and Structure

Site	Located on Bham plateau in a prime part of the Midlands region.
Situation	Located centrally in England. Good road links to the North and South.
Connectivity	A range of transport networks connecting the city at different scales- airports, M5, M6, M42
Cultural	22% of the population born outside the UK.
Environmental	Leading cities for parks, with an estimated 571 parks covering 3500 hectares. 15th most sustainable cities.

CBD	Inner City	Suburbs	Urban-Rural fringe
Main hub of city with offices, shops, theatres and hotels. Redevelopment including bullring.	Redeveloped in the 1970s. Tightly packed terraces and blocks of flats.	Built during the 1930s, 50s, 60s. Building density is much lower, mainly semi-detached housing.	Fewer, larger, more recently built detached houses. Out of town shopping centres.

Processes that change a city

Urbanisation– influenced by manufacturing.

Suburbanisation– 1920s rising pop. Meant building new housing on outskirts of city.

Counter Urbanisation– 5 new comprehensive developed areas built in inner cities.

Re-urbanisation– More people want to live in centre again close to work amenities.

Migration
➤ National- people are moving out to retirement destinations and people are moving in because increased investment in Bham CBD.
➤ International- people moving in who have fled conflict in countries such as Syria. In the past people moved to fill key job posts.

Impacts of migration
1. There are now younger people in the City. 20-35 biggest group.
2. Multiculturalism- 42% of residents are from ethnic groups other than white. 16% EAL.
3. Ethnic communities- in the 1970s many migrants settled in certain areas where these areas are now adapted.
4. Housing- Higher housing demands than housing available.
5. Services- Having more people in the city is putting pressure on key services.

De-industrialisation- The process where the city has less factory based work. The main reasons are: globalisation, technological advances, and de-centralisation and transport developments. This is linked to deprivation in Bham where 40% live in most deprived areas in England.

Retailing Changes
❖ Decline in CBD- retailing has declined. To address this the city council has supported redevelopment projects including Bullring.
❖ New Shopping centres- edge and out of town centres have advantages such as; for retailers- cheaper, larger units than in CBD. For consumers- free, easy parking.
❖ Rise of internet shopping- Benefits include; 24 hour shopping, special discounts, 'arm chair shopping'.

Impact of decentralisation- the movement of shops to out of town locations caused a 12% decline in trade in the CBD. Building on 'brownfield sites'. Growth in trade but what impact of covid?

City Living:
1. Employment and Education- Youth unemployment has reduced in recent years. Youth Promise Pledge. The city has 17 teaching schools- one of the highest number in the country.
2. Housing and Health- 2016 £59 million project to improve the energy efficiency of homes. Plan to improve insulation, trying to improve the health and wellbeing. Co2 tax (cars)
3. Affordable housing- Birmingham Municipal Housing trust and capita have been working together to build new affordable housing. 1576 new homes.

Developing/Emerging case study- Mexico City

Context and Structure

Site	Began as a settlement on an island in Lake Texcoco in Aztec times.
Situation	Located on the central plateau, a flat landscape surrounded by mountains and volcanoes.
Connectivity	Major highways make it the main link between North and South America. It is the national base for theatre, TV and radio.
Cultural	Mexico City is the largest Spanish speaking city in the world.

CBD	Inner City	Suburbs	Urban-Rural fringe
Main financial hub characterised by office blocks, including Mexican Stock exchange and gov. buildings.	Characterised by slums. First built in the 19th century. 'Vecindades' are abandoned multi-storey colonial mansions converted into cheap flats.	Areas like Ciudad satellite characterised by middle class housing, mainly built to owners orders.	Land use dominated by unregulated shanty towns.

Population – A rapidly growing city.

➤ During the 1950s Mexico City's population was approx.. 2 million but by 2010 it was 19 million. This makes it a mega-city.
➤ Causes: Natural increase- during the 1950s a high birth rate and a fall in the death rate meant population grew rapidly.

Migration:
The main flow of migrants to Mexico City is from rural areas with people looking for alternative jobs to farming, better housing, clean water and improved health. Few migrants move from the USA but live in wealthier areas.

Impacts of migration
1. Need for homes has led to more self-built housing at the city edge leading to larger shanty towns
2. Greater use of open spaces- higher population density and greater poverty
3. Many migrants moving to the city are young adults but lack of jobs is increasing the rates of crime.
4. Rise in car ownership is increasing both air and noise pollution, causing health problems
5. Fear of crime is leading to segregation of people, with the wealthier living in gated communities.
6. Difficulties in supplying clean water with rising demand, putting pressure on the cities reservoirs.

Extreme wealth vs poverty:
Rapid population growth has resulted in inequalities.
• Wages- minimum wage should be US$4 per day. But 1 in 3 workers are paid less.
• Education- the poorest 10% on average only have 2 years of school attendance. Whilst richest 10% average 12 years.
• Services- Shanty towns have no running water, electricity or food shops unlike wealthier areas.

Impact of rapid urbanisation
➤ Squatter settlements- illegally built homes by migrants.
➤ Under-employment
➤ Pollution- as Mexico City is surrounded by mountains so pollutants are trapped.
➤ Inadequate services- the city generates 13,000 tonnes of rubbish every day but struggle to dispose of all of it, often waste is dumped on the streets.

Solving City Problems:

Community Based Projects
- A number of community projects have been established.
- Cultiva Ciudad is working to help educate children
- Rooftop gardens have taken off with residents growing healthier foods.

Sustainable Transport Schemes:
- 2005 the Gov. introduced metrobus- which is estimated to reduce 35,000 tonnes of Co2 emissions annually.
- Bus rapid transport system.

Waste Recycling:
- In 2011 the gov. introduced a trading system of trash for food.
- Barter market was set up with residents exchanging waste for vouchers. These vouchers were then traded with local farmers for food.