

Urban Issues and Challenges

Brownfield Land	Land that has been previously built on. The buildings may still be standing or demolished.
Commuter Settlement	A residential area where a significant proportion of the population travels regularly to a nearby city or town for work, rather than working locally.
Dereliction	Where buildings are left unused or unoccupied.
Ethnic Minorities	Groups of people that make up a small proportion of the total population.
Formal Work	Employment which has a contract, set wage, and is taxed and fully registered
Greenfield Land	Land that hasn't been built on before, often used for farming or left naturally
Informal Work	Self-employed or temporary work, which provides a small wage and limited health regulations. Usually unregulated and not taxed.
Integrated Transport	A system that links different types of transportation to give commuters access to the whole city.
International Migration	The movement of people between countries, for work or long term residence.
Megacity	A city with a population greater than 10 million people
Multiculturalism	A city that shares and encourages many different cultures and religions, besides the national culture
National Migration	When people (usually young people) move to a new area within their home country in order to find employment or greater opportunities
Population Density	The amount of people per square area of land. It's a measure of how squashed together or spread out a population is.
Pull Factors	Reasons why a person may feel attracted towards living in the city
Push Factors	Reasons why a person may feel they need to move away from a rural area
Regeneration	A city tries to change its appearance or reputation through new building constructions.
Remittance	A family member living in a different country can send money back to their country of origin to support their family substantially.
Respiratory Conditions	Illnesses that affect your breathing, for example asthma or lung disease.
Rural-Urban Migration	Individuals move their homes from a rural area to the urban city, for work opportunities or a better quality of life.
Sustainability	A city which has minimal environmental damage and social inequality, whilst conserving resources for the future
Squatter Settlements	Clusters of temporary housing which migrants or low income families live in, often built on unfavourable land
Urban Greening	Growing more vegetation and trees in the centre of a city. For example, growing plants of office rooftops or mini allotments on pavements
Urban Sprawl	The process of a city growing and spreading out, taking over surrounding greenfield land.

Challenge of Natural Hazards (Tectonics)

Conservative plate margin	A plate margin where two plates are moving alongside each other.
Constructive plate margin	A plate margin where two plates are moving away from each other.
Continental crust	The thicker, less dense crust that makes up the continents.
Convection current	The movement of a fluid caused by a difference in temperature or density.
Destructive plate margin	A plate margin where two plates are moving towards each other.
Hazard risk	The probability that a natural hazard will negatively affect a population.
Hotspot	An area where unusually hot magma breaks through the middle of a plate and creates a volcano.
Immediate responses	Actions taken as soon as the hazard happens and in its immediate aftermath.
Long-term responses	Actions taken after the immediate responses when the effects have been minimised.
Magma	Molten rock found beneath the Earth's surface.
Mantle	The area underneath the crust which contains magma.
Monitoring	Detecting and recording physical changes and warning signs of a hazard.
Natural hazard	A naturally occurring event that is a threat to a population.
Oceanic crust	The thinner, denser crust that makes up the ocean floor.
Planning	Having systems in place so that the population is prepared for a hazardous event.
Plate margin	The point at which two plates meet.
Prediction	Using monitoring, historical trends and modelling to predict hazardous events.
Primary effects	The effects that are directly caused by the hazard itself.
Protection	Increasing resistance to natural hazards by designing features that withstand them.
Secondary effects	The effects that result from the primary effects.
Subduction	When a plate is pushed below another plate at a destructive margin.
Tectonic hazard	A natural hazard caused by the movement of tectonic plates.
Tectonic plates	Large slabs of the Earth's crust that sit and move on top of the mantle.
Tsunami	A large wave caused by displacement of water when plates move.

Living World

Abiotic components	Non-living parts of an ecosystem like sunlight, nutrients, climate.
Biodiversity	A large variety of animal and plant life living in the same ecosystem
Biome	Also known as a global-scale ecosystem; a large, distinct region of the Earth with similar climate, soil, plants and animals.
Biotic components	Living things in an ecosystem.
Buttress roots	Large roots above ground for support.
Canopy	Top layer of rainforest trees forming a roof.
Carbon sink	Stores more carbon than it releases.
Clear felling	Cutting down all trees in an area.
Cold Environment	Regions of the Earth that experience sustained below freezing temperatures.
Consumers	Organisms that receive energy from consuming (i.e. eating) living organisms.
Decomposers	Organisms which break down organic matter and release the nutrients back into the ecosystem.
Deforestation	The permanent removal of forest.
Drip-tip	Pointed leaf tip to shed water.
Ecosystem	A natural system in which a community of plants and animals interact with each other and their physical environment.
Ecotourism	Tourism focused on sustainability and conservation.
Epiphytes	Plants that live on other plants.
Food chain	A linear relationship showing the biotic interactions within an ecosystem, from a producer to a final consumer.
Food web	A representation of the interactions between multiple producers and consumers within a specific ecosystem, shown through a series of different food webs.
Fragile Ecosystem	The concept of an ecosystem being so sensitive to change that even small changes within the environment can have large and potentially destructive impacts.
Interdependence	The concept of multiple things depending on each other for survival and where one change in an ecosystem can lead to a chain reaction of other changes
Logging	Cutting down trees for timber.
Nutrient cycling	The transfer of nutrients through an ecosystem, from the decay of organic material into the production and energy of living organisms.
Permafrost	Permanently frozen ground.

Polar regions	Areas near Earth's poles characterised by vast ice sheets and ice caps.
Producers	Organisms that convert energy from the environment (mainly sunlight) into sugars (glucose).
Selective logging	A sustainable forestry practice where only certain trees are chosen and cut down, rather than removing all the trees in an area.
Tundra regions	Cold, treeless regions with permafrost.
Understory	Layer below canopy but above forest floor.
Wilderness	Land untouched by humans.