**Urban Environments Objectives - Optional Unit 2 - Paper 1**

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| **Geographic inquiry** | **Geographic knowledge and understanding** |
| **1. The variety of urban environments**  page49image15696 | |
| The characteristics and distribution of urban **places**, populations and economic activities | Characteristics of urban places, including site, function, land use, hierarchy of settlement (including megacities) and growth process (planned or spontaneous)  Factors affecting the pattern of urban economic activities (retail, commercial, industrial), including physical factors, land values, proximity to a central business district (CBD) and planning  Factors affecting the pattern of residential areas within urban areas, including physical factors, land values, ethnicity and planning  The incidence of poverty, deprivation and informal activity (housing and industry) in urban areas at varying stages of development |
| **2. Changing urban systems** | |
| How economic and demographic **processes** bring change over time to urban systems | Urbanization, natural increase and centripetal population movements, including rural–urban migration in industrializing cities, and inner city gentrification in post- industrial cities  Centrifugal population movements, including suburbanization and counter- urbanization  Urban system growth including infrastructure improvements over time, such as transport, sanitation, water, waste disposal and telecommunications  • *Case study of infrastructure growth over time in* ***one*** *city*  The causes of urban deindustrialization and its economic, social and demographic consequences |
| **3. Urban environmental and social stresses** | |
| **Geographic inquiry** | **Geographic knowledge and understanding**  page50image4016 |
| The varying **power** of different stakeholders in relation to the experience of, and management of, urban stresses | Urban microclimate modification and management, including the urban heat island effect, and air pollution patterns and its management  • *Case study of air pollution in* ***one*** *city and its varying impact on people*  Traffic congestion patterns, trends and impacts  • *Case study of* ***one*** *affected city and the management response*  Contested land use changes, including slum clearances, urban redevelopment and the depletion of green space  • *Detailed contrasting examples of two affected neighbourhoods and their populations*  Managing the impacts of urban social deprivation, including the cycle of deprivation and geographic patterns of crime |
| **4. Building sustainable urban systems for the future**  page50image16664 | |
| Future **possibilities** for the sustainable management of urban systems | Urban growth projections for 2050, including regional/continental patterns and trends of rural–urban migration and changing urban population sizes and structures  Resilient city design, including strategies to manage escalating climatic and geopolitical risks to urban areas *Two detailed examples to illustrate possible strategies*  Eco city design, including strategies to manage the urban ecological footprint • *Two detailed examples to illustrate possible environmental strategies*  Smart city design and the use of new technology to run city services and systems, including purpose-built settlements and retrofitting technology to older settlements |