

West Derby School Geography Department

Y7 Settlement Revision Guide

Overview:

The topics which are covered in this end of unit exam are:

- Settlement site
- Settlement pattern
- Changes in settlement function
- Burgess Model
- Greenfield vs Brownfield sites
- Sustainable transport

Settlement site:

Site and situation

Settlements are places where people live. Many settlements have things in common and so they can be grouped to make it easier to study them.

Site and situation

Site - this is the place where the settlement is located, e.g. on a hill or in a sheltered valley.

Situation - this describes where the settlement is in relation to other settlements and the features of the surrounding area, e.g. is the settlement surrounded by forest or is it next to a large city?

Early settlements

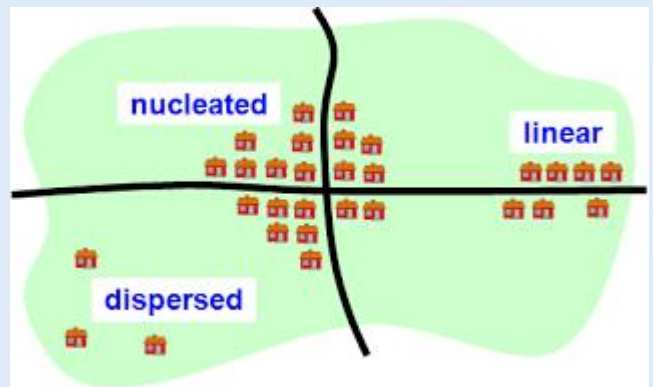
Early settlers often looked for certain features in an area to make life easier:

- flat land, to make building easier and safer
- local raw materials, e.g. wood and stone, to build homes
- a local water supply for drinking, washing, cooking and transport
- dry land, so that people can build on areas that don't flood
- a defensible site, e.g. a hilltop or river bend, to protect from attackers
- good farm land with fertile soils, so people could grow crops
- shelter, e.g. to protect from bad weather
- transport links, e.g. a ford or low crossing point of a river

Settlement pattern:

A settlement pattern means the shape of a settlement. The shape of early settlements was usually influenced by the surrounding landscape:

- a **dispersed settlement pattern** is where the buildings are spread out and is often found in upland areas;
- a **nucleated settlement pattern** is where a lot of buildings are grouped together and is often found in lowland areas;
- a **linear settlement pattern** is where the buildings are built in lines and is often found on steep hillsides.



Changes in settlement function:

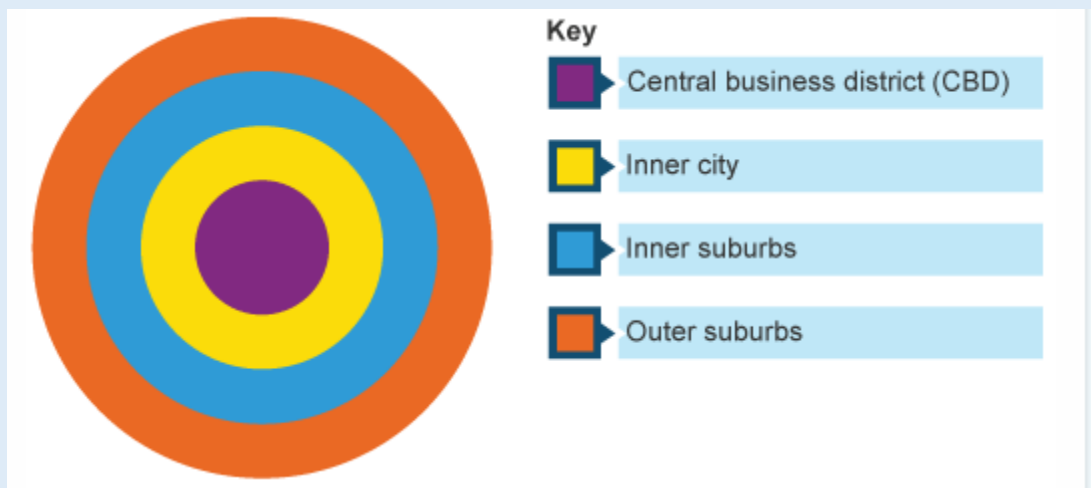
How has the function of Benidorm changed through time?

Benidorm in Spain developed due to its physical location. Being located close to hills enabled the settlement to become a **defensive** site. It was also near the sea, so its primary function was linked to the **fishing** industry. When the settlement grew, water was channelled from inland, and supported a growing **agricultural** function for citrus fruits and olives.

However the development of the main road to Alicante in the 19th century enabled the development of Benidorm as a **seaside resort** and this has become its main function today.



Burgess Model:



Use the links below to learn about the characteristics of each zone:

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/geography/spaces/settlement_urban/revision/4/
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPtvc8a8wic>

Greenfield vs Brownfield sites:

Brownfield sites:

- Are often on disused or derelict land.
- Are more available in the North and Midlands (but most housing demand is in the south east).
- Are valuable as existing buildings can be split up into more homes on any one site.
- The site has already been developed so reduces urban sprawl.
- Use unsightly areas for building developments, so improves the urban environment.
- Are found in urban areas, so building housing there reduces demand on car use.
- Are more expensive to build on as often the land needs to be cleared first (especially if land is contaminated from previous industrial use).

Greenfield sites:

- Are sites which have not previously been built on. This includes the greenbelt land around cities.
- Are cheaper to build on.
- Are not favoured by environmentalists, as it encourages urban sprawl.
- will mean that countryside is built on.
- Encourage commuting and traffic congestion as people travel into urban areas from the countryside.

Sustainable Transport:

Oxford:

Different methods of sustainable transport:

- Park and Ride
- Electric/Hybrid buses
- Speed bumps
- Cycle lanes
- Bus lanes
- Pedestrianised areas
- Parking management - permit zones

Park and Ride:

- Oxford was the first in the country
- 1973 - 250 cars
- Present day: 5 car parks - 5000 cars
- Over 1 in 5 cars Park and Ride

Cycle Lanes:

- 22,000 cyclists each day ride vs. 48,000 cars, 5,000 buses, 1,000 motorbikes and 9,000 goods vehicles.
- 37 miles of designated cycle lane
- 3 national cycle routes

Hybrid buses:

- Buses launched in 2010
- Fleet of 26 double decker's
- Emit 30% less carbon



De-industrialisation in rural areas:

Benefits of rural de-industrialisation:

- There's less environmental pollution - old areas of industry are landscaped (put back to fit in with the local environment.)
- Ugly buildings are removed so there is less visual pollution
- Land can be returned back to farming, called re-agriculturalisation
- Old industrial land may be used for wildlife, recreation or landfill
- Different industries start to invest - in Consett, NE England, new industry makes £110million per year. 50% more than the original steel plant made

Costs (disadvantages) of rural de-industrialisation:

- Jobs can be lost in rural areas - closure of the Consett steel plant, NE England, in 1980, resulted in 4000 job losses
- The **domino effect** results - less income means less spending power which will impact on other economic activities
- There is less income from tax, because there are no industries to pay tax
- The government has to pay out more money in unemployment benefits
- Rural communities breakup - young people move away from the area to find jobs, leaving behind an ageing population

Further research:

Use the following link to develop your understanding of settlement even further:

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/urban_environments/settlement_characteristics_rev1.shtml