

HSC GEOGRAPHY COURSE

URBAN PLACES



THE CHALLENGE OF HOUSING & TRANSPORT

The aim of this unit is to prepare you to respond well to questions about mega cities in the HSC Geography exam. Questions about megacities can come up in all three sections of the exam but we will focus on section II & III. All the information you need to complete this unit of work is available on the <http://urbanplacesmegacities.weebly.com> website. Before you commence this unit of work you should read the **syllabus** page and the **assessment** page in the website to gain an understanding of what is required. You should also read the relevant section of the Kleeman text (p 131-155) to gain an overview of mega cities.

HOUSING IN MEGACITIES

ACTIVITY 1: The nature of slums and squatter settlements

One of the key characteristics of housing in mega-cities is the development of slums or squatter settlements. Let's investigate these urban features more deeply. Read the first two sections of the Cities Alliance website: What are slums? Why do slums develop?

1. What are the key features of slums? Write your answer in dot points.

2. What are the common names for slums in Brazil, Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh?

3. Why do slums develop? List 4 dot points.

4. List the push/pull factors in rural-urban migration?

5. What influence does governance have on slum development?

* The next section of this website addresses responses to slums. Come back to this page later in the unit.

ACTIVITY 2: SKILLS & TOOLS

View the photographs of slum settlements throughout the world. What does each photograph tell you about life in slum settlements?

- Write notes in the table below
- Compare your ideas with a partner

PHOTO 1	
PHOTO 2	
PHOTO 3	
PHOTO 4	
PHOTO 5	
PHOTO 6	
PHOTO 7	
PHOTO 8	
PHOTO 9	
PHOTO 10	

HOMEWORK ACTIVITY: TOUGHEST PLACE TO BE A BINMAN

Toughest place to be a bin man is a documentary which tracks the experience living and working in two very different cities. A London bin man spends a week in the slums of Jakarta, doing the same job he does back home in London - collecting people's garbage. The story highlights many of the problems of mega cities including lack of employment opportunities, poor health and sanitation, lack of infrastructure and waste disposal facilities, spatial inequality. The story also clearly demonstrates housing conditions of the urban poor. As you watch, make notes in the table in your worksheet comparing the living and housing conditions in Jakarta and London.

HOUSING	JAKARTA	LONDON
Location		
Environment including noise, air, water, surroundings, aesthetics		
Building materials		
Space		
Sanitation		
Services		
Inequality		
Conflict		

ACTIVITY 3: CASE STUDY OF DHARAVI SLUM IN MUMBAI

1. Watch the official trailer for the documentary: Dharavi: Slum for sale, and answer the questions on your worksheet to build up an understanding of Mumbai and its largest slum -Dharavi.

1. What is the population of Mumbai?
2. What proportion of Mumbai's population lives in slums?
3. How many people are estimate to live in Mumbai's largest slum?
4. Where is Dharavi located within the city?
5. What is being proposed for the slum site?

2. Watch the 12-minute documentary Mumbai Makeover about the plan to demolish the slum and answer the questions on your worksheet to build up an understanding of the issue.

1. What was there prior to the slum being built?
2. What is the positive side of the slum?
3. What industries and services are mentioned?
4. What is the cash turnover of the slum?
5. What service does the slum provide to the people of Mumbai?
6. Describe the home and living conditions of the Zabair family?
7. What are the benefits of living in the slum according to the family?
8. Why does the government want to redevelop the slum?
9. What do the authorities say they will provide to the slum dwellers?

10. What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of the plan?

THE POSITIVE SIDE OF MEGACITIES

Read the article *Taking lessons from informal settlements* and list six dot points the author makes about why the author thinks informal settlements may be beneficial. Do you agree?

--

RESPONSES TO HOUSING CHALLENGES

ACTIVITY 1: JIGSAW READING

Work in groups of 6 to complete the following jigsaw. Go to the challenges tab on the menu and click on RESPONSES. Choose ONE of the articles to read and make notes in the table provided.

1. Explain the strategy(s)
 2. List the benefits in dot points and say who are the main beneficiaries.
 3. List the disadvantages in dot points and say who these disadvantages affect.
- Reform your groups and explain the strategy you read about to the other group members.
 - Listen to the explanations from the other group members and take notes.
 - Read the other 3 articles for homework and complete your notes.

Explanation of housing strategy	Benefits	Disadvantages

THE CHALLENGE OF TRANSPORT

ACTIVITY 1: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ON TRANSPORT IN MUMBAI

Watch the first 5 minutes of the video on Mumbai's transport problems and what the city is doing to address them.

The challenge of transport: Briefly describe Mumbai's train system. Where do the trains run? How many trips are made each day? What percentage of Mumbai's commuters use public transport? How many people travel by train each day? What are some of the train system's unique features?

ACTIVITY 2: PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

1. As you watch the documentary make a note of some of the problems and solutions faced by commuters and the staff who drive and manage the train system. Also note some of the solutions or improvements that have been implemented?

PROBLEMS	SOLUTIONS

2. Describe the traffic congestion in Mumbai. What factors have led to the increase in traffic congestion?

3. What major project is underway to create more roads? Where will it be located?

4. Briefly describe how the bridge will be constructed and its main features?

What other purpose will the bridge serve besides transportation?

--

ACTIVITY 3: TRAFFIC PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

Identify some ways in which people or the government have responded to the challenge of traffic congestion. Explain each of these responses and make a note of what their advantages and disadvantages are.

Explanation of responses	Advantages	Disadvantages
MEXICO CITY		
DHAKA		

