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WORKSHEET 22

School: Ba Sangam College

Name: _____

Subject: Geography

Year: 13

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| Strand | GEO 2 Human Geography |
| Sub strand | GEO 13.2.1 Urbanisation |
| Content Learning Outcome | Investigate and report on the typology of views on urbanisation and its consequences. |

CHAPTER 3: URBANISATION

Urbanisation involves the study of urban expansion which is caused by the overwhelming migration of rural dwellers to the urban centre.

- It is the process by which an increasing proportion of the total population, usually that of a country, lives in towns and cities.

Chapter Focus: At the end of this chapter, students should be able to:

- define the concepts relating to urbanisation.
- identify the factors contributing to urban expansion.
- explain the main functions of towns and cities.
- differentiate the models of urban structure.
- identify and explain the different problems associated with urbanisation and their solutions in First World Countries and Third World Countries
- identify both positive impacts and negative impacts of urbanisation

URBANISATION

- As a country moves from a mainly rural agricultural economy to a more industrial, commercial economy, the population becomes increasingly urbanized.
- It was not until the rapid growth of industry in the 19th century that large-scale urbanisation began in parts of Western Europe and North Eastern part of the United States of America.
- Over urbanisation occurs when migrants are driven from rural areas to large cities where slow economic growth does not allow the provision of sufficient jobs, or shelter.

- **Over urbanisation-** cities whose rate of urbanisation outpaces their industrial growth and economic development.

Factors Contributing to Urban Expansion or Urban Growth

- **Population growth** resulting from a **high rate of rural-urban migration** and high natural increase. This results in the formation of millionaire cities and mega cities.
- **Economic growth** in urban areas lead to developed educational and medical services, improved transportation, employment opportunities/ better paid jobs, developed infrastructure systems (roads, ports and airports facilities) and greater accessibility to information technology/ mass media.
- **Physical geography** of the urban areas also allows for the **influx of population**.
- **Lack of affordable housing** has led to the creation of squatter settlements or shanty towns in urban areas which attracts rural dwellers to move to urban areas, thus leading to urban expansion.
- **Demand for more living space** by people moving in from rural to urban areas. Authorities have developed low- cost housing areas that those with low wages can afford.
- **Transportation** in urban areas have vastly been improved or developed.
- **Government Developmental Policies** have been put in place in terms of education, housing, employment, transportation, etc that have largely contributed to the inflow of people from the rural to urban areas.
- **Lack of proper planning policies** by authorities to decentralise services and allow for more land space in the suburban areas.
- **Failure of the authorities** to enforce planning policies with regards to population movement, resource management, environment conservation etc, so when people fail to understand the policies and what they are made to achieve, non- compliance with policies follows.
- **Housing investment** in urban areas has resulted in people to be attracted to live there and while for some, there are available for extension of their houses or for setting up a backyard garden, etc.
- **Large lot sizes in urban areas** attract individuals, families and businesses to move in great numbers

Activity:

1. Define the following: (4 marks)

- a) urbanisation b) urban expansion c) rural- urban migration d) over-urbanisation

2. Explain two reasons why people move to urban areas in large numbers. (2 marks)

3. Describe three factors that contribute to the growth or expansion of urban centers. (2 marks)

Main functions of Towns and Cities(pg.202-203)

1. Centre of government and administration
2. Trading Centre
3. Industrial Centre
4. Education Centre
5. Centre for cultural diffusion
6. Port area

CASE STUDY: SINGAPORE

- Singapore once had a large and rapidly increasing number of slum dwellers and an unplanned and overcrowded central area.
- In 1960, Singapore set up the Housing and Development Board (HDB) in 1960.
- The HDB cleared old property near to the Central Business District (CBD), especially the Chinese, Arab and Indian ethnic areas and created purpose-built estates (with 10,000-30,000 people).

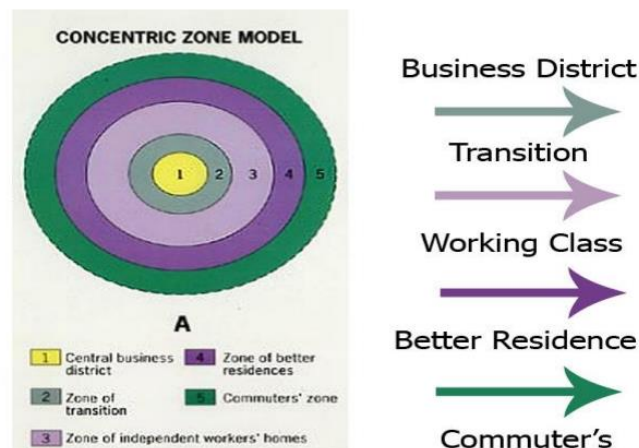
- HDB built housing units of 1-3 bedrooms in closely-packed high-rise flats and these were for low-income families and rents were low.
- However, a quarter of every wage-earner's salary is automatically deducted and individually credited by the government into a central pension fund.
- Since 1974, the HDB has built many 4-5 bedroom units for the average and high-income families who have then been expected to buy their own property.
- The large estates were developed on the neighbourhood concept of British new towns.
- Each estate contains much greenery and is well provided with amenities such as shops, schools, banks, medical and community centers.
- All the new towns have been linked to and are within half an hour of the city by MRT (Mass Rail Transport railway).
- Each estate has its own light industries, producing clothing, food products and high-tech goods.
- Estates are models of cleanliness with the buildings constantly being painted, grass areas cut and absence of litter and graffiti
- In 2008, the Housing and Development Board (HDB) won a United Nations Public Service Award for its home ownership programme.

MODELS FOR URBAN STRUCTURE

There were models which tried to describe and explain the then urban structure were put forward (Waugh, 2009).

Bid – rent theory

The bid rent theory is a geographical economic theory that refers to how the price and demand for real estate change as the distance from the central business district (CBD) increases. It states that different land users will compete with one another for land close to the city centre. This theory is based upon the reasoning that the more accessible an area (i.e., the greater the concentration of customers), the more profitable.



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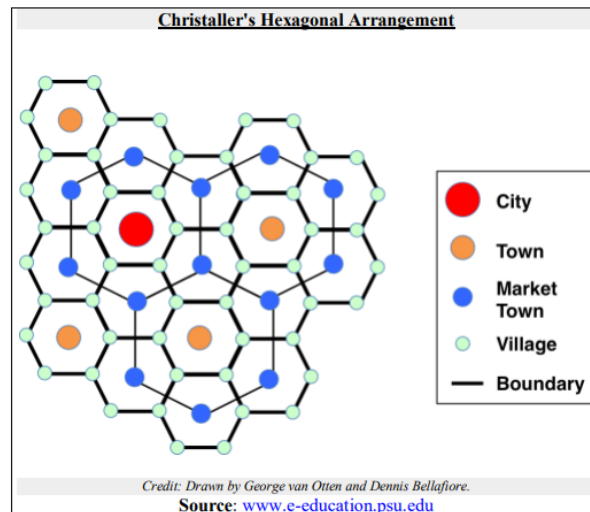
1. Christaller's Model (Central Place Theory)

Walter Christaller was a German who, in 1933, published a book in which he attempted to demonstrate a sense of order in the spacing and function of settlement.

A central place is a settlement that provides goods and services, which may vary in size from a small village to a conurbation or primate city and forms a link in a hierarchy.

The two principles underlying Christaller's theory were the range and the threshold of goods and services (Waugh, D. 2009). In Christaller's model, each settlement is situated in the center of the region it serves. Logically (assuming no restrictions), this should result in a circular complementary (market or service) region.

If we assume that the threshold for customers who shop in hardware stores is fifty miles, then it would follow (in keeping with Christaller's assumptions) that on a flat plane, we should be able to find hardware stores in centers located fifty miles apart. Such an arrangement on the landscape, however, would leave areas that are not served by any hardware facilities. Thus, the most efficient shape for a service area (in the Christaller model) is not a circle, but a hexagon.



- Towns do not grow in a haphazard way, but rather they tend to develop with recognisable shapes and patterns.

- Although each urban area is unique, it is likely to share certain generalised characteristics with other settlements. Some land use models are:

2. Burgess Concentric Model

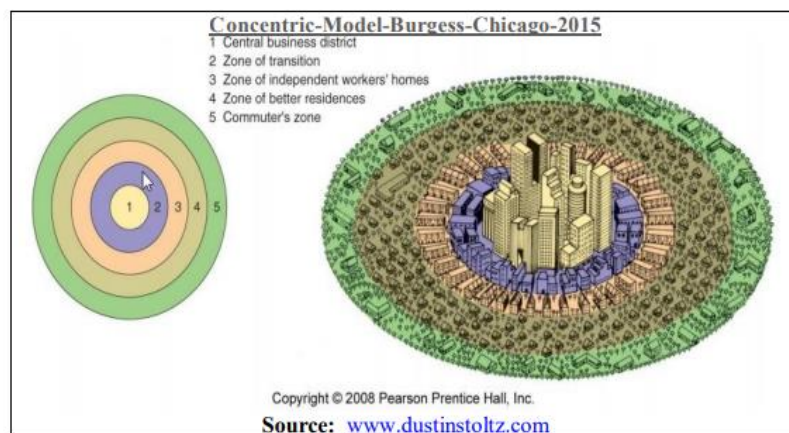
3. Hoyt's Sector Model

4. Harris and Ullman (Multiple Nuclei Model)

5. Peter Mann's Theory

2. Burgess Model (Concentric Zone Theory)

- This theory was created in 1925 by Ernest W. Burgess who claimed that in the centre of all towns and cities there was a Central Business District (CBD).
- Towns grew outwards from the CBD in a concentric pattern.
- The resultant circles were based on the age of houses and the wealth of their occupants, with buildings becoming newer and occupants more wealthy with increasing distance from the CBD.
- As the city grows and the CBD expands, the concentric rings of land use are pushed further out the area of immediate change adjacent improving to the expanding. CBD is known as the Zone in transition (usually from residential to commercial) 207
- For two main reasons, it is the most accessible land to public transport. Land prices generally decrease away from central area.



- The five zones are:

- (i) Central Business District (CBD): contains the major shops and offices; it is the centre for commerce and entertainment and the focus for transport routes.
- (ii) Transition or Twilight Zone: where oldest housing is either deteriorating into slum property or being 'invaded' by light industry. The inhabitants tend to be of poorest social groups and first generation immigrants.
- (iii) Zone of Independent Worker's homes: occupied by those who have 'escaped' from zone 2 or by second generation immigrants who work in nearby factories. They are compelled to live near to their place of work to reduce travelling costs and rent.
- (iv) Zone of better residences: occupied by people who can afford better homes due to good salaries they are paid at work. (v) Commuter Zone: occupied by people who can afford the expensive properties in the suburbs and the high cost of travelling daily to the city.