

Edexcel A Geography GCSE

Topic 4: Changing Cities Glossary of Key Terms

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Glossary of Definitions - Challenges of an Emerging World

Central Business District (CBD) - The centre of a city where many offices and shops are located.

Commuter Village - A rural village separate from the city but within commuting distance (by car, train, etc) for its residents to work in the city.

Counter Urbanisation - Migration away from a city because of urban problems (crime, congestion, etc).

De-centralisation - The movement of population, shops, offices and industry away from CBDs into housing estates, retail and business parks in the suburbs.

Dereliction - Where buildings are left unused or abandoned.

Deindustrialisation - Declining industrial activity in a region or economy which causes high levels of unemployment.

Globalisation - The increasing connections between places and people across the world, through trade, ideology and cultural exchanges.

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.

Lower Income Country (LIC) - A country of low wealth and a limited level of development.

Megacity - A city with a population greater than 10 million people.

Middle Income Country (MIC) - A country of sufficient wealth and a good level of development.

Multicultural City - A city that shares and encourages multiple cultures and religions, besides the national culture.

Net Migration - The total number of people entering minus the number of people leaving a country.

Population Density - The number of people living per square meter 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.



Quality of Life - The environment and community a person is part of, as well as their health and access to essentials.

Regeneration - Upgrading existing areas to improve its appearance or reputation by constructing new buildings for urban, industrial, commercial and rural areas.

Remittance - A family member living in a different country can send money back to their country of origin to support their family substantially.

Re-urbanisation - Migration into an area or town that had been abandoned in the past.

Rural-Urban Migration - Individuals move their homes from a rural area to the urban city, for work opportunities or a better quality of life.

Social Inequality - The difference in quality of life between groups in society such as incomes, age, gender, ethnicity and disabilities.

Squatter Settlements - Clusters of temporary housing in which migrants or low income families live in, often built on unfavourable land.

Suburbanisation - Migration to live on the periphery (suburbs) of a city or town.

Suburbs - Residential land surrounding the city, offering more space, cheaper land but further from the CBD.

Transnational Company (TNC) - A business with operations in more than one country.

Urbanisation - The increase in the proportion of the population living in urban areas.

Urban Sprawl - The process of a city growing and spreading out, taking over surrounding greenfield land.

World City - A city with global influence through politics, businesses or travel.

