6 Urban change and its problems – Part 2

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	**Write it 3 times** (English)		
Gentrification			
Urban renewal			
Filtering			
Redlining			
Urban sprawl			
greenbelt			
smart growth			
New Urbanism			
edge city			
squatter settlements			
Segregation			
The urban heat island			

Recall

Part 1 gave you urbanisation, central place theory and the internal models.

This sheet covers what happens to cities as they change – and the problems that come with growth.

New ideas

1 Processes reshaping the inner city

Gentrification : higher-income residents move into a declining central neighbourhood, property values rise, and lower-income residents are displaced. It improves the building stock and destroys the community that lived there – both halves belong in an answer.

Urban renewal is state-led redevelopment of declining areas, historically by clearance. **Filtering** is the passing down of housing from higher to lower income groups as it ages. **Redlining** was the refusal of loans in areas mapped as risky, usually on racial grounds; **blockbusting** was the practice of provoking panic selling to profit from turnover.

2 Sprawl and the responses to it

Urban sprawl is low-density expansion into surrounding countryside. It consumes farmland, raises car dependence and infrastructure cost per household, and hollows out the centre.

Responses: a **greenbelt** legally restricts building around a city; **smart growth** concentrates development along transit corridors; **New Urbanism** designs walkable mixed-use neighbourhoods; **transit-oriented development** puts density at the stations.

An **edge city** is a concentration of offices and retail on the periphery, at a motorway junction rather than in the historic centre.

3 Squatter settlements

In rapidly urbanising countries, in-migration outruns formal housing supply and **squatter settlements** grow on land the occupants do not own – often steep, flood-prone or otherwise unwanted ground.

They are characterised by insecure tenure and missing services rather than by poverty alone, which is why **site-and-service schemes** and tenure regularisation are the standard policy responses.

4 The problems that recur in questions

Segregation by income or ethnicity. **Food deserts** where fresh food is unavailable within reasonable reach. **Congestion** and the air quality that follows. **Housing affordability**. **The urban heat island** , where dark surfaces and waste heat leave a city several degrees warmer than its surroundings. **Infrastructure strain** on water, sanitation and waste.

■ 5 Sustainable urban design

The measures that appear in mark schemes: mixed-use zoning so people live near work; public transport investment; brownfield redevelopment ahead of greenfield; urban green space; water recycling; and density high enough to make services viable.

Each has a trade-off worth naming – density against amenity, greenbelt against housing supply, gentrification against displacement.

Practice

Try these in order. The methods are all above.

6.6 Define gentrification and state one negative consequence. [3]

6.7 Explain two costs of urban sprawl. [2]

6.8 Explain what makes an area a squatter settlement. [2]

6.9 Explain one cause of the urban heat island effect. [2]

6.10 State one benefit and one drawback of a greenbelt policy. [2]