

Year 11 into 12 step-up task

Investigating sustainability

This clearly links in with the 1st human Geography topic we study in Year 12

Aim: To research at least two cities that are attempting to become more sustainable making detailed case study notes on both (see below). Then to attempt to write an answer to the 20 mark essay (below).

Learning objectives: -

1. To know what is meant by sustainability
2. To understand the features / characteristics of a sustainable city
3. To practice research skills – reading articles, watching podcasts, talking to family & friends etc
4. To show your Geography teacher's that you are highly motivated & up for the challenge of A Level Geography

To get you going: -

- Take a look below at the list of useful links (youtube)
- Read through the documents 'features of sustainable urban living' & 'what is sustainability?'
- Carry out your own additional research

TASKS

1. Choose two cities to research

Make detailed notes on how they are attempting to become more sustainable.

Name & locate each city then assess the challenges, progress and success or otherwise of the schemes.

Possibilities include (although you may choose others): -

Bedzed in London (a very small scale sustainable community) / Curitiba (Brazil) / Malmö (Sweden) / Freiburg (Germany) / Vancouver or Toronto (Canada) / Chicago (USA) / Masdar City (Abu Dhabi)

An interesting one would be Dongtan -eco city in China (slow progress, all but abandoned at present).

2. Extended writing task (worth 20 marks). Answer the following essay:

'There are more challenges than opportunities associated with improving environmental quality in urban areas.' To what extent do you agree with this view?

TIPS: You should compare and contrast the situation in cities in developed *and* developing countries. Include at least two major case studies and make reference to other cities as required.

Below is a useful list of links to view before starting to tackle this challenge:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFjD3NMv6Kw> Ted Talk (14 mins) 7 principles for building better cities

top 10 futuristic cities being built right now

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGeCcl4d2t0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6yZYXsWnsg> Europe's first carbon-neutral neighbourhood (Malmo)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyghLnbp20U> Welcome to Masdar City (Abu Dhabi UAE)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFrqRJbCmlQ> BedZed-Beddington Zero energy development UK's 1st eco-village

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRD3l3rIMpo&t=38s> how a Brazilian city has revolutionised urban planning 15 mins Curitiba

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJ6WW0f_xR8 Dongtan eco-city-history60c project a failure?