

Gr 12 Geography

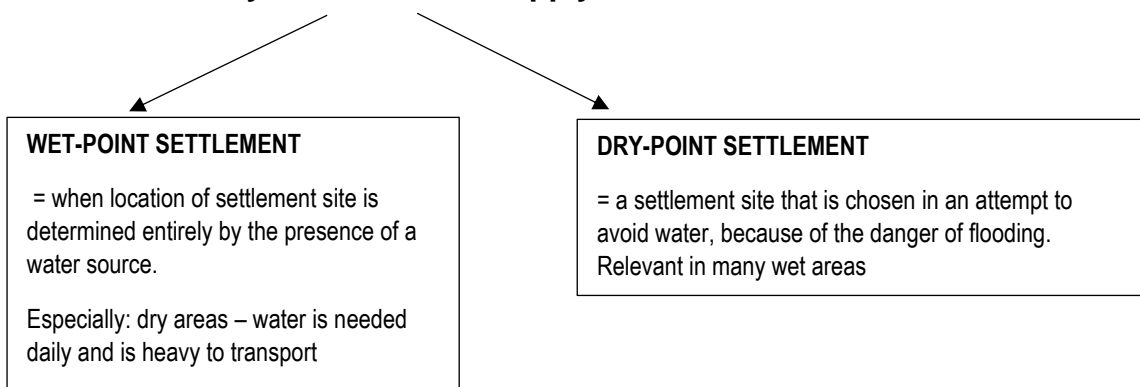
SETTLEMENT GEOGRAPHY

2.1 How site and situation affect the location of rural settlements

PHYSICAL FACTORS:

- ✓ Early settlements develop around a subsistence farming
- ✓ Choice of site is linked to physical aspects of site

1. Availability of fresh water supply



2. Farming factors

Fertile and arable land or land that provides good grazing for livestock

Land that are flat or gentle are also preferred.

3. Availability of building material and energy resources

Stone, clay, mud, grass and wood were used to build houses. Burning of wood was used as a source for heating and cooking.

4. Positive effects of microclimate

Southern hemisphere – settle on north-facing slopes: direct sunshine, heat and light.

Hilly areas – settlements on warmer inversion layer

Not settlements in hill tops or valley floors: low temperature specially at night.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

- ✓ Fertile, well-drained soil and grazing land attracts commercial farming settlements.
- ✓ Natural harbour, close to productive fishing grounds leads to the development of settlements.

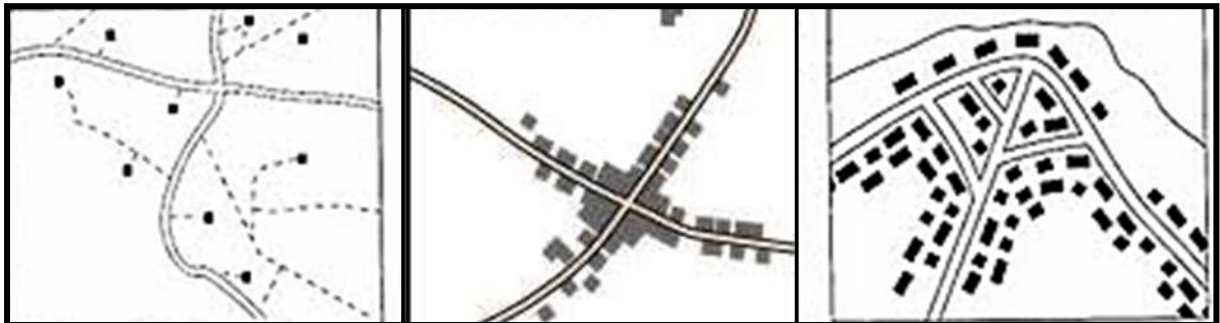
- ✓ Tourist attractions can lead to the development of settlements.

2.2 Classification of rural settlements according to pattern and function.

PATTERN:

Refer to the distribution of buildings in the settlement

Dispersed / Isolated settlements	Nucleated / Clustered settlements
Farmsteads where one family occupies the settlement	All other types of settlements (rural and urban) where more people live in close proximity



Dispersed farmsteads

Nucleated villages

DISPERSED

Advantages:

- ✓ Farmer works for him/himself and keeps own profits
- ✓ More efficient farming
- ✓ Farmer can use his/her own initiative
- ✓ Farmer lives on his/her own single tract of land
- ✓ Farmer can maximise the use of machinery as it does not have to be shared with other farmers.

Disadvantages:

- ✓ No social contact, far from neighbours
- ✓ No protection: lack of security as people living on their own are more vulnerable
- ✓ No help if farmer is sick or disabled
- ✓ Essential services are far away, which can be dangerous if there is an emergency

NUCLEATED

Advantages:

- ✓ Daily social contact – community involvement
- ✓ People do not live in isolation from one another in time of need
- ✓ Protection is easier when people are together
- ✓ There are enough people to share the workload
- ✓ Possibility of co-operative farming system. Farmers can agree each to plant a different crop and share the cost of ploughing and fertilising land.

Disadvantages:

- ✓ No independent decision-making
- ✓ Individuals cannot show initiatives
- ✓ Fields are scattered, which wastes time
- ✓ Machinery is shared
- ✓ Difficult to be economically successful
- ✓ Travelling from the village to the farm is time-consuming and uneconomic.
- ✓ Plots may be too small to be economically viable
- ✓ Modern farming methods cannot be applied effectively.

FUNCTION:

All rural settlements only focus on one function e.g. farming – Mono-functional settlements. Most inhabitants are involved in this activity.

Urban settlements are multifunctional as there are a number of economic activities in different economic sectors where inhabitants are involved.

2.3 Reasons for different shapes of settlements: round linear, T-shaped and cross-road

Refers to the plan outline of the built-up area of a settlement. Can be linear (ribbon-like), rectangular, circular or star-shaped.

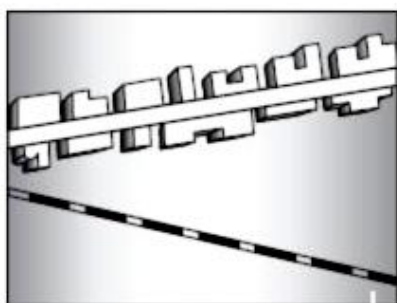
Shape is influence by:

Positive factors: e.g transport routes and flat land, which encourage growth

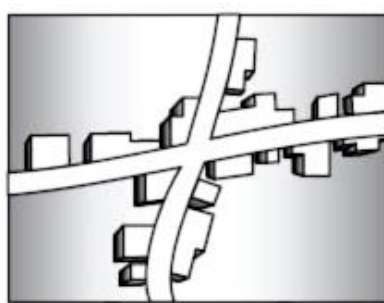
Negative factors: e.g planning controls and flood-prone valleys, which limit growth.

SHAPES:

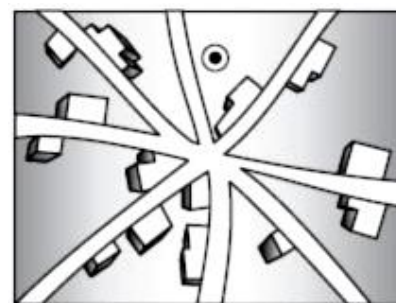
- a) *Round* – develop around a market place or some shared / communal land
- b) *Linear* – develops along rivers, roads, coastlines, railways or in thermal belts in valleys.
- c) *Cross road* – settlement develop in the form a cross to allow every one access to the road.
- d) *T-shape* - settlement develop in the form a T along a road junction to allow every one access to the road.
- e) *Star-shaped* – many roads connect and the settlement spread out along these roads.



Linear Pattern



Cross-shape Pattern



Star-like Pattern



Circular Pattern



T-shape Pattern

2.4 Land use in rural settlements

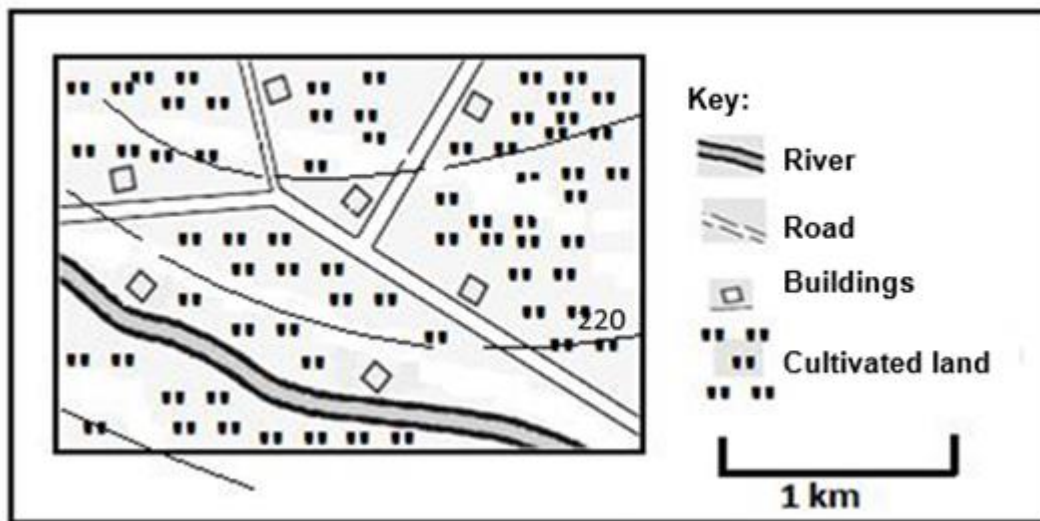
- ✓ Agricultural areas where crops and stock farming occur
- ✓ Conservation areas where the natural vegetation and habitat is conserved with the animals of the areas
- ✓ Recreation areas – ecotourism, flying / landing strips
- ✓ Plantations / forestry
- ✓ Farm workers housing
- ✓ Rural – Urban fringe activities: airports, waterworks, waste dumps, sewage works, informal settlements and market gardens
- ✓ Reservoirs, irrigation, fishing, hydro-electric power plants
- ✓ Hazardous activities (far from large groups of people) Toxic industries, nuclear power stations, military camps and security areas, rubbish dumps.

WORKSHEET 2 – Settlement Geography

QUESTION 1:

Refer to FIGURE 2 showing a rural settlement pattern.

FIGURE 1 RURAL SETTLEMENT PATTERN



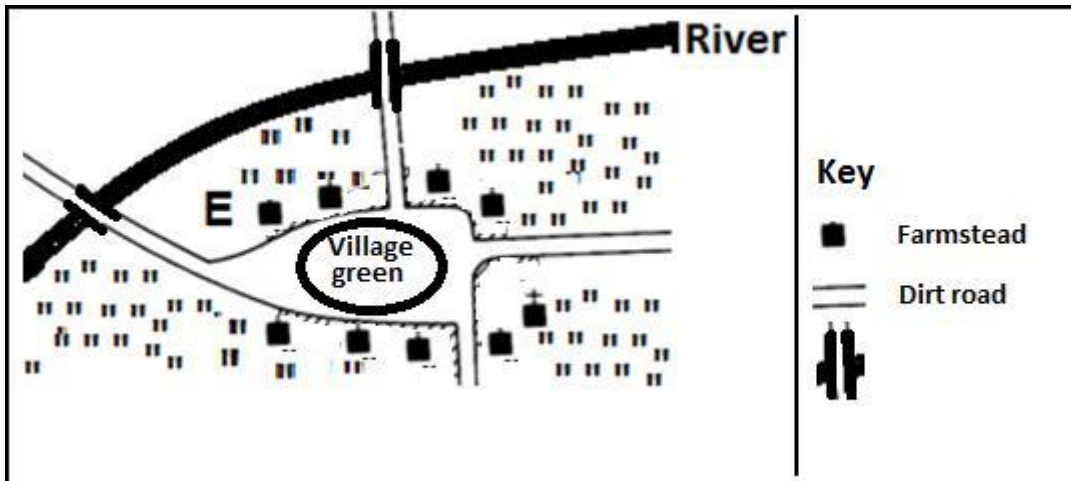
[Source: Examiner's own sketch]

- 1.1 Identify the rural settlement pattern in FIGURE 1 (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.2 Give ONE reason for your answer to QUESTION 1 (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.3 Identify the primary economic activity that most people living in this settlement would be involved in. (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.4 State TWO possible site factors that influenced people to live in this settlement. (2 x 2) (4)
- 1.5 Poor farming practices resulted in lower yields in the illustrated landscape. Write a paragraph of approximately EIGHT lines in which you analyse the impact of poor farming practices on the economy and rural depopulation. (4 x 2) (8)

QUESTION 2:

Refer to FIGURE 2 showing a nucleated village

FIGURE 2: SETTLEMENT TYPE



- 2.1 Describe the shape of the village. (1 x 1) (1)
- 2.2 Discuss TWO disadvantages for farmers living in this village. (2 x 2) (4)
- 2.3 Discuss ONE advantage for farmers living in this village. (1 x 2) (2)
- 2.4 Write a paragraph of approximately EIGHT lines in which you suggest sustainable measures to prevent people from leaving this village to live in cities. (4 x 2) (8)

ANSWERS:

- 1. Rural Settlement Pattern
- 1.1. Dispersed/Isolated/Scattered (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.2. Buildings are scattered/far apart (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.3. Farming/Agriculture/Cultivation(1)
[NOT cultivated land] (1 x 1) (1)
- 1.4. The availability of water from the river (2)
Flat land (2)
Fertile soil (2)
Access to transport (2)
Enough arable land for farming (2)
[ANY TWO - ACCEPT OTHER REASONABLE ANSWERS] (2 x 2) (4)

1.5 IMPACT OF THE ECONOMY

- Negative impact on the economy (2)
- Fewer investors/investments (2)
- Low production yields results in poor economic outlook (poverty) decreasing the economy (2)
- Land becomes less fertile (2) and less productive (2) resulting in poverty (2) Most farms become deserted due to increasing unemployment, lowering economic activity in rural areas (2)
- Infrastructure development to remote rural areas is reduced due to the decline in the rural economic activities (2)
- The number of central places for the buying and selling of goods is less, reducing economic activity (2)

IMPACT ON RURAL DEPOPULATION

- Food security is threatened by poor farming practices (2)
- Possibility of malnourishment increases rural depopulation (2)
- Reduced employment opportunities on farms leads to rural depopulation (2)
- Migration of the younger population increases rural depopulation (2)
- [ANY FOUR. ACCEPT OTHER- MUST REFER TO BOTH THE ECONOMY AND RURAL DEPOPULATION] (4 x 2) (8)

2. SETTLEMENT TYPE

- 2.1. Circular/round (1) (1 x 1) (1)
- 2.2. Access to the village is restricted when the river floods (2)
Not all cultivated areas have access to the river (2)

- Quality of roads affects transport (2)
Farmer bound to communal decisions (2) (2 x 2) (4)
- 2.3. The village green provides a market for the cultivated crops (2)
Access to the transportation networks (roads) for some of the farmers (2)
Access to the river for some of the farmers will enable irrigation (2)
[ANY ONE] (1 x 2) (2)
- 2.4. Implementation of land reform policies (2)
Provision of farming subsidies by the government (2)
Improved rural infrastructure and service delivery (2)
Land tenure to be designed for eventual ownership (2)
Agricultural schools to sustain development and growth in farming capacity (2)
Skills development and training of farmers on scientific methods of farming (2)
Cooperative techniques can be used to improve crop yields and profits (2)
[ANY FOUR]