

UK Cities Homework 4 Answers

1) Give two features of the town that could make it a model for sustainable living. (2)

E.g. there is lots of green space, including parks, wooded areas, rivers and lakes [1 mark]. / There is a big recycling centre [1 mark]

2) Explain how one of the features of the town shown in figure 1 helps make it more sustainable (4)

This question is level marked. How to grade your answer:

Level 0: There is no relevant information. [0 marks]

Level 1: There is a basic explanation of how the feature identified makes the town more sustainable. [1-2 marks]

Level 2: There is a clear explanation of how the feature identified makes the town more sustainable. [3-4 marks]

You could have chosen to write about either green space or recycling facilities. Here are some points your answer may include:

Green space

- Cities can be noisy, dirty, busy and hot — they are unsustainable because people can find them unpleasant and stressful.
- Creating green space within urban areas helps to make sure that they remain places where people want to live and work.
- Green space can have social benefits, e.g. it provides naturally cooler areas where people can relax in hot weather, so it improves their quality of life.
- Green space can have environmental benefits, e.g. it reduces the risk of flooding by reducing surface runoff from rainfall.

Recycling centre

- More recycling means fewer resources are used.
- Having a recycling centre means that less waste goes to landfill. Landfill is unsustainable as it wastes resources that could be recycled and eventually there'll be nowhere left to bury the waste.
- Decomposing landfill releases greenhouse gases, which contribute to climate change. Increasing recycling therefore reduces the environmental impact of cities.
- Recycling facilities may mean that larger items, e.g. fridges, that are not taken away by waste collection services can be recycled rather than going to landfill.

3) Explain how the houses built in the new town in figure 1 could be designed to use water more sustainably (4)

This question is level marked. How to grade your answer:

Level 0: There is no relevant information. *[0 marks]*

Level 1: There is a basic explanation of how water can be conserved in people's homes. *[1-2 marks]*

Level 2: There is a clear explanation of how water can be conserved in people's homes. *[3-4 marks]*

Here are some points your answer may include:

- Houses could be fitted with water butts to collect rainwater for use on gardens or for flushing toilets, which reduces the amount of piped water needed.
- Toilets could be installed that use less water to flush.
- Water meters could be installed so that people have to pay for the water that they use. This is likely to reduce their water usage.
- Efficient dishwashers and washing machines could be installed, that use less water for each load.

4) Explain how the sustainability of urban areas can be improved through energy conservation schemes (4)

This question is level marked. How to grade your answer:

Level 0: There is no relevant information. *[0 marks]*

Level 1: There is a basic explanation of at least one energy conservation scheme. *[1-2 marks]*

Level 2: There is a clear explanation of a range of energy conservation schemes. *[3-4 marks]*

Here are some points your answer may include:

- Energy conservation schemes reduce the use of fossil fuels — fossil fuels are not sustainable because they'll run out.
- Energy conservation schemes can promote renewable energy sources (wind, solar, tidal etc.) over traditional coal- or gas-fired power stations.
- Government incentives to make homes more energy-efficient can be introduced, e.g. allowing homeowners who generate electricity from renewable sources (such as solar panels) to sell any excess energy to the national grid.
- New homes can be built to meet minimum energy efficiency requirements, so they use less power.
- Energy conservation schemes can encourage people to use less energy at home, e.g. by turning off lights.