Urban environmental issues and management *3.2.3.7* **ANSWERS**

| Q1 | True or False? | |
|----|---|-------|
| Α | Smog is produced by cars and factories in urban areas. | True |
| В | Waste is disposed of in landfill sites which are found in the CBD of a city. | False |
| С | Contaminants such as chemicals and heavy metals are often found in solid waste in squatter settlements in poor countries. | True |
| D | Sewage in poorer cities often flows untreated into nearby water bodies. | True |
| Е | Acid rain is produced by the release of sulphur dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels. | True |

| Q2 | Match the correct term to the correct definition | |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Α | Fog or haze intensified by the addition of pollutants. | Smog |
| В | A mixture of solid and liquid droplets suspended in the air. | Particulate matter |
| С | The discharge of gases into the atmosphere. | Emissions |
| D | The destruction of objects by burning. | Incineration |
| E | A substance capable of causing cancer in living tissue. | Carcinogen |
| Select from: Particulate matter Smog Incineration Carcinogen Emissions | | |

| Q3 | One sentence is incorrect in each of the explanations below. Identify the wrong one. | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| Α | Factories and transport produce large amounts of emissions into the atmosphere. Whilst it can | | | |
| | lead to smog, there is limited effect on people due to the updraft of air moving the gases up above | | | |
| | the city. The action of sunlight causes reactions leading to photochemical smog. | | | |
| | The emissions can lead to smog, but it can affect people and increased pollution will lead to | | | |
| | breathing difficulties for those who have conditions already, e.g. asthma. | | | |
| В | Waste is an issue to the environment. Much of the waste in richer cities is left on the street and | | | |
| | can lead to contaminated soil. This can travel into water supplies which can be detrimental to | | | |
| | health. | | | |
| | In richer cities, most waste is not left on the street. It can still act as a contaminant but is more | | | |
| | likely to be dealt with. | | | |
| С | Particulate matter is produced by traffic in the urban area and it rises up into the air and forms | | | |
| | smog. These liquid particles can hang over the city blocking out sunlight. They can be particularly | | | |
| | damaging to health for the young and elderly. | | | |
| | Particulate matter is liquid and solid particles in the air so small they let sunlight pass through | | | |
| D | Waste can be dealt with by placing it landfill sites, exporting or by incineration. Landfill is being | | | |
| | taxed in EU countries as an incentive to reduce landfill waste. Exporting waste to developing | | | |
| | countries is a cheaper method and the preferred strategy by many city authorities. | | | |
| | Certain recycled materials are exported – paper, tins, E-waste, but it is neither cheap nor the | | | |
| | preferred method. | | | |

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| E | Factory and residential waste is often put straight into the water courses in developed world cities | |
|---|--|--|
| | due to a lack of legislation. As a result of illegal effluent, river water quality can suffer. Sometimes | |
| | the release of effluent is accidental, other times intentional. | |
| | Factories and residential waste will be diverted into sewage systems automatically. Whilst some | |
| | factories could attempt to deposit other waste directly into water courses, tough legislation | |
| | would ensure that they were prosecuted. | |

| Q4 | Decide which heading the various factors would match with, in regards to urban environmental issues. | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Urban environmental issue causes | | Urban environmental issue impacts | Urban environmental issue management |
| Coal po | ower stations | Water borne diseases | Improved technology (recycling, renewable energy |
| Rural-urban migration | | Contaminated water supplies | etc.) |
| Overcrowding | | Breathing difficulties | |
| Squatter settlements | | | |
| Increased traffic volume | | | |
| Improv | ved technology | | |
| (overu | se of energy leading to | | |
| emissi | ons, car usage etc.) | | |
| Coal po | ower stations | Rural-urban migration | Overcrowding |
| Squatt | er settlements | Water borne diseases | Increased traffic volume |
| Contar | ninated water supplies | Improved technology | Breathing difficulties |

| Q5 | Think about the implications of managing urban environmental issues | |
|----|--|--|
| Α | What are some of the future negative implications? | |
| | Population growth will increase the pressure on the city and an increase in waste and air and land pollution. | |
| | In developing countries, urban growth is rapid and squatter settlements are | |
| | increasing. Lack of waste disposal will result in further impacts upon water quality. | |
| В | What are some of the future positive implications? | |
| | The planning and implementation of sustainable cities, such as Masdar or Curitiba. Cities will be pushed beyond their ability to cope with current problems so this will happen. | |
| | Squatter settlements will start to evolve and deal with their own environmental issues. By working alongside NGOs they will recognise that they have to tackle the environmental issues to ease the impacts upon health and quality of life. | |

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