**Contemporary Urban Environment Review Notes**

**Booklet 10 Urban Climate**

**What is the urban climate dome?**

**What is albedo and which surfaces have the lowest and highest albedos?**

**Other than albedo, what factors influence the urban heat island effect?**

**When is the urban heat island effect most noticeable?**

**What are microclimates?**

**What are the factors affecting microclimates?**

**How are urban and rural climates different?**

**Pollution reduction policies**

* **The Clean Air Acts (UK)**
* **Vehicle control and public transport**
* **Zoning of industry**
* **Technical innovations**

**Case study – London air quality:**

**What are the issues with air quality in London – quote facts and figures? How London is cleaning up its air?**

**What are the causes of poor air quality in urban areas?**

**What is particulate air pollution?**

**What is smog and what happened in the Great Smog of 1952?**

**What were the Clean Air Acts and how successful were they?**

**What is photochemical pollution and what causes it?**

**Why is this a threat to human health?**

**Under what conditions is photochemical pollution more of a hazard?**

**What impact do urban areas have on the following? :- (include statistics where possible)**

* **Temperature**
* **Wind speed (average and venturi effect)**
* **Precipitation**
* **Thunderstorms**
* **Fog and mist**
* **Frost and snow**

**How does the urban heat island effect impact on people’s lived experience in urban areas?**

**What are the strategies for managing the urban heat island? (For each you need to assess how effective they might be)**