Cities on the Rise

Read the evidence, then graph a global population trend.

WG.4.15 "Describe and explain the worldwide trend toward urbanization and be able to graph the trend."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the definition of urbanization, circle the three ways the passage says urban shares can rise, and put a star beside the sentence that explains how to show a projection on a graph.

How the Urban Share Grows

1 At a train station outside a growing city, arriving workers are only part of the story. Urbanization means an increasing share of people living in urban areas, not just more city residents. The table gives rounded global shares from the United Nations' 2018 report. Its 2050 value is a projection, not an observation.

WORLDWIDE URBAN POPULATION SHARE, ROUNDED FROM UN WORLD URBANIZATION PROSPECTS 2018

Year	Global urban share (%)	Status
1950	30	Estimate
2000	47	Estimate
2018	55	Estimate
2050	68	Projection

2 People move toward cities for jobs, schools, and health care. Cities may also grow when births outnumber deaths among current residents. In some places, expanding settlements or new official boundaries turn formerly rural communities into urban ones. These different paths can all raise the worldwide urban share, although the pace varies among countries and regions.

3 A larger urban share does not mean rural areas are emptying everywhere. If the total population grows, the rural population can rise even while its share falls, as long as the urban population grows faster. To graph the trend, put years in order on the horizontal axis and percent urban on the vertical axis. Distinguish the projected segment from past estimates.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How many percentage points did the global urban share rise from 1950 to 2000? How does that compare with the rise from 2000 to 2018?

2. How could access to jobs and services help explain the worldwide trend shown in the table?

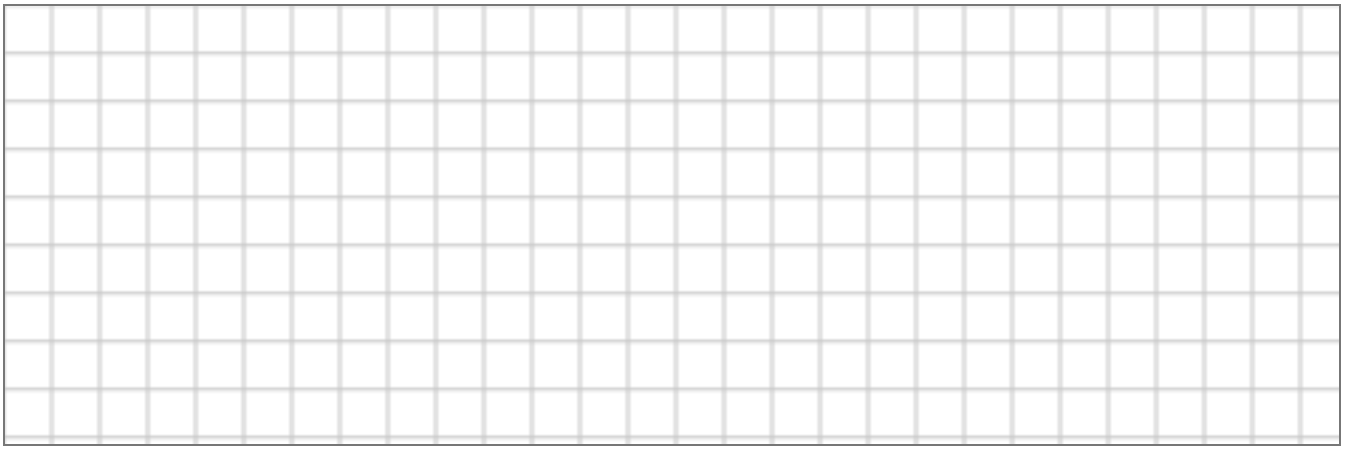
3. What are two ways the urban share could rise without people moving to a city?

4. Why could the number of rural residents rise even as the rural share of the population falls?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

On the grid, graph all four table values, spacing the years by elapsed time and putting percent urban on the vertical axis. Use a solid line for past estimates and a dashed line to the projection, then write two sentences describing the overall trend and explaining what the dashed segment means.



ANSWER KEY

Cities on the Rise

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the definition of urbanization, circle the three ways the passage says urban shares can rise, and put a star beside the sentence that explains how to show a projection on a graph. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How many percentage points did the global urban share rise from 1950 to 2000? How does that compare with the rise from 2000 to 2018?	**It rose 17 percentage points from 1950 to 2000 and 8 percentage points from 2000 to 2018. The first increase was larger.**
2	How could access to jobs and services help explain the worldwide trend shown in the table?	**Jobs, schools, and health care draw people to cities, increasing the share of people living in urban areas.**
3	What are two ways the urban share could rise without people moving to a city?	**Births can outnumber deaths among urban residents, and settlements or boundaries can change so that formerly rural communities are classified as urban.**
4	Why could the number of rural residents rise even as the rural share of the population falls?	**The total population could grow while the urban population grows faster than the rural population.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Horizontal axis: year, 1950 to 2050, with decades spaced equally. Vertical axis: global urban share (%), 0 to 80, in steps of 10. Plot (1950, 30), (2000, 47), (2018, 55), and (2050, 68); connect the first three points with solid segments and the last two with a dashed segment. The global urban share rises throughout the period shown. The dashed segment shows a projected rise, not a measured value for 2050.

Accept graphs with a consistent scale and correctly placed points, including 2018 between 2010 and 2020. The final segment must be distinguished as a projection.