A City Grows

Trace how growth creates challenges for residents.

7.C.3.3 "Describe the challenges of urbanization and urban sprawl (e.g., access to public services, affordability of housing, gentrification, pollution, transportation)."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three changes in Brookhaven, then circle a challenge linked to each change. Write matching numbers beside each change and its challenge to show the connections.

Growing Pains in Brookhaven

1. In the growing city of Brookhaven, new residents move in for jobs at a hospital and nearby shops. Apartment buildings rise on former parking lots. More neighbors can mean more customers for local businesses, but the city must serve them all. At the crowded middle school, some classes meet in rooms built for smaller groups. The public library has a waiting list for its computers, and buses fill before reaching the last stop. City leaders must decide whether to add classrooms, library hours, and bus trips.

2. Meanwhile, builders put houses on cheap land beyond Brookhaven's edge. This outward spread, called urban sprawl, places many homes far from jobs and stores. A family may find a lower home price there, but daily car trips cost money. Few buses reach the new streets, so residents without cars have trouble getting to work. Longer drives add exhaust to the air, and paving over open ground leaves less soil to absorb rain. A low price on a house does not tell the whole story of its costs.

3. Back near downtown, a former warehouse becomes shops and apartments. New sidewalks and repaired buildings make the area more appealing. As demand rises, some landlords raise rents. A longtime renter may have to leave even though the neighborhood now has more services nearby. This change is one way gentrification can affect residents. Brookhaven considers building more homes near existing bus routes and setting aside some apartments with rents below market rates. Those steps could shorten trips and help some families stay, but the city still needs money for schools and buses.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does Brookhaven's growing population strain two public services?

2. How could changes near downtown make housing less affordable for a longtime renter?

3. How does building houses beyond the city's edge create both a transportation challenge and a pollution challenge?

4. What two challenges could Brookhaven address by building homes near bus routes and offering some apartments below market rent?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a town plans a shopping center and 300 new homes at its edge. In 4 to 5 sentences, describe two challenges this growth could create, propose one response, and explain whom it would help and what it might cost.

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PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline three changes in Brookhaven, then circle a challenge linked to each change. Write matching numbers beside each change and its challenge to show the connections. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does Brookhaven's growing population strain two public services?	**The middle school has crowded classes, and the library has a waiting list for computers. Buses also fill before the last stop.**
2	How could changes near downtown make housing less affordable for a longtime renter?	**The improved area attracts more demand, some landlords raise rents, and a longtime renter may have to leave.**
3	How does building houses beyond the city's edge create both a transportation challenge and a pollution challenge?	**Few buses serve the new streets, making travel difficult without a car. Longer car trips add exhaust to the air.**
4	What two challenges could Brookhaven address by building homes near bus routes and offering some apartments below market rent?	**Homes near bus routes could shorten trips, while below-market rents could help families afford to stay.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The shopping center and new homes could bring more traffic, making trips slower and adding exhaust to the air. Families without cars might struggle to reach the shops or jobs if no bus serves the town's edge. The town could extend a bus route to the new area, helping workers and shoppers travel without driving. Extra buses and drivers would cost money, so the town might have to spend less on other services.

Accept other accurate links between a change in Brookhaven and a challenge described in the passage. For Your Turn, accept plausible challenges and a response with a clear benefit and cost.