Where People Settle

Geography, migration, and growth around Nairobi

7.C.3 "Identify the distribution and demographic patterns of human populations of the Eastern Hemisphere. Identify on a political map the major countries and population centers of each region, describing urban, rural, suburban..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two geographic conditions that shape where people live, circle two push factors and two pull factors, and number two challenges of city growth and one response. Use your marks to trace how places and people change.

A Changing Population in Kenya

1. In Kenya, people are not spread evenly across the land. Many live near reliable water, good farmland, and roads in the wetter highlands. Drier areas in the north and east have fewer farms and smaller settlements because water is harder to find. Some families raise livestock there, moving herds to reach grass and water. Nairobi, Kenya's capital, is a major population center with jobs, schools, and hospitals. A dense city has many people in a small area, unlike a rural village where homes and farms are farther apart.

2. Some young adults leave rural Kenya mainly to choose paid work in Nairobi, a voluntary move within one country. Drought can destroy crops and push farming families toward towns even when they would rather stay. Across the border, people fleeing armed conflict in Somalia may enter Kenya for safety. Escaping violence is often involuntary. A person moving from Somalia to Kenya is an immigrant in Kenya and an emigrant from Somalia. Jobs and safety pull people toward destinations, while lost harvests and violence push people away.

3. As Nairobi grows, newcomers may settle in the city or in suburban areas beyond its center. The city and nearby suburbs together form a metropolitan area. Growth can strain buses, schools, water systems, and affordable housing. Longer trips from spreading suburbs can add traffic and pollution. Some residents face rising rents when neighborhoods attract wealthier buyers, a process called gentrification. Kenya's government and local leaders can respond by improving public transit, expanding water service, and building schools. These choices affect where families can afford to live and how easily they reach work.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do water and farmland help explain the difference between settlement in Kenya's highlands and its drier north and east?

2. Compare the moves linked to paid work and armed conflict. Which is voluntary, which is often involuntary, and what motivates each?

3. How can the spread of Nairobi's suburbs affect transportation and pollution in its metropolitan area?

4. Choose one public service that growth may strain. What action could leaders take to address it?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine a family moving from a crowded Nairobi neighborhood to a nearby suburb. Write four sentences explaining a reason for their move that is not given in the passage, how their settlement pattern changes, one possible challenge of suburban growth, and one action leaders could take.

ANSWER KEY

Where People Settle

GRADE 7 · 7.C.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two geographic conditions that shape where people live, circle two push factors and two pull factors, and number two challenges of city growth and one response. Use your marks to trace how places and people change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do water and farmland help explain the difference between settlement in Kenya's highlands and its drier north and east?	**Reliable water and good farmland support more people in the wetter highlands. Water is harder to find in the drier north and east, where settlements are smaller.**
2	Compare the moves linked to paid work and armed conflict. Which is voluntary, which is often involuntary, and what motivates each?	**Moving from rural Kenya to Nairobi for paid work is voluntary and pulled by jobs. Fleeing armed conflict in Somalia for safety in Kenya is often involuntary and pushed by violence.**
3	How can the spread of Nairobi's suburbs affect transportation and pollution in its metropolitan area?	**Spreading suburbs can mean longer trips, which can add traffic and pollution.**
4	Choose one public service that growth may strain. What action could leaders take to address it?	**Growth may strain water systems, so leaders could expand water service. Also accept strained buses paired with improved public transit, or strained schools paired with building schools.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A family chooses to move from central Nairobi to a nearby suburb because they want a quieter street. They leave a dense urban neighborhood for a less crowded suburban one, but remain in the Nairobi metropolitan area. If many families make this move, longer trips could increase traffic and pollution. Local leaders could add reliable buses between the suburb and the city center.

Accept other passage-supported geographic conditions, migration factors, and matched public-service problems and responses. For Your Turn, the reason for moving must differ from those given in the passage.