

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Semester 2 Assessment, 2002

EXAM

School of Anthropology, Geography and
Environmental Studies

Subject Number: 121 - 022

Subject Title: Development and Urban Environments

Exam Duration: 1.5 hours (90 minutes)

Reading Time: 15 minutes

This paper has two pages (including this page)

Authorized materials:

Students may bring only pens, pencils, and erasers into the exam room. No bags, pencil cases, or note paper are to be brought into the exam room.

Instructions to Students:

- There are 5 questions below. You must answer **four** of these questions – but one of them must be **Question 5**. Question 5 is worth 40%, and the other three questions are worth 20% each.
- *All answers should be written in script books.*
- You must put your student number, the date and signature, on the front of **each copy** of your answer booklets.

Subject Number: 121 – 022 EXAM Development and Urban Environments

Question 1. Two cities with the same population can have very different impacts on the environment. List five (5) factors that could be important in explaining the difference in the potential impacts (include a short statement justifying each). (20%)

Question 2. *“The best thing a city person can do for the environment is to use less water and eat less meat”*. Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer. (20%)

Question 3. Many developing cities are following the car-dependent transport model adopted by developed western cities. Briefly describe five (5) major environmental consequences of this model. Which of these consequences will be uniquely problematic for developing cities? (20%)

Question 4. *“The urban informal sector is the key to understanding third world cities and their environmental challenges.”* Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer. (20%)

Question 5. (Essay question):

“The principal scale of urban environmental burdens varies with affluence, and it is appropriate that environmental priorities should vary correspondingly. Low-income cities need to focus primarily on local environmental health problems, industrialising middle-income cities on city-wide and regional burdens and rich cities on global burdens.”

“Some of the most severe environmental degradation is occurring in cities of the developing world, with the poorest citizens being the most severely affected. This is where the most concerted action for urban environmental improvement is needed.”

The quotations above indicate that poor cities should mainly focus on Brown-Agenda related urban environmental problems while rich cities on Green-Agenda. Argue for and against this proposition and justify your answer. (40%)

END OF EXAM PAPER

A copy of this paper may be lodged with the Baillieu Library.