

Additional Resources – Guided Reading

City Life, Countryside Living

Read the text on the next page and answer the questions.

1. What does the writer mean by the phrase, 'your forever home'?

2. Find a synonym for 'move' in the first paragraph.

3. Give 3 reasons why Dover is an important settlement.

4. Find the word which tells you that tourists would enjoy looking around Crail.

5. Why is Dudley described as a 'market town'?

6. Why was the West Midlands called 'the black country' in the industrial revolution?

7. Give 3 features you are likely to find in town settlements.

8. Look at the 'City' paragraph. Find 3 negative aspects of living in a city.

9. What is the key difference between a city and a mega city?

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Planning a move? Think about the type of settlement that would be the perfect location for your 'forever home'.

We all know that when buying a home it's all about location, location, location, but which is the perfect location to suit you? Our article covers the main types of settlement in the UK, that you could choose to relocate to. Settlements can vary in shape and size, from as small as a family living in a single house in an isolated area, or as large as a city with over a million people. You may be someone who longs for the peace and quiet of a countryside hamlet, or the bustling excitement of a busy city.

There are many reasons why a settlement is first developed and this can be thought of as the 'function'. For example, the town of Dover in Kent is a major port, as it is located on the south coast of Britain. It acts as a gateway to Europe with the Channel Tunnel link.

Hamlet

If the countryside lifestyle is just your 'cup of tea', try relocating to a hamlet. This type of settlement is extremely small and generally has fewer residents than a village and is usually without a church. One example is Coombe, near Bude in Cornwall. Lots of the buildings in Coombe are very old and are protected by The Landmark Trust. The hamlet lies within an 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' and features a disused mill which is now home to many rare species of bat.

Village

If a hamlet is just too quiet for you, why not think about a village settlement? A village is larger than a hamlet and contains more features. It will have a church, a few shops, a post office, a village hall and possibly a primary school and a doctor's surgery. Villages can vary in size from a few hundred people to several thousand. One example, is the picturesque fishing village of Crail, near Fife in Scotland. This has been described by tourism companies as "a traditional coastal village, with cobbled streets and a small harbour". The village features old cottages, art galleries and tearooms and is a popular place for tourists in summer.

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Town

If you can't live without your local cinema or shopping centre, then a town settlement is more suited to you. Towns are much larger than villages and may contain tens of thousands of people. Towns have a wide range of functions which can include shopping centres, schools, railway stations and hospitals. An example of a large town is Dudley in the West Midlands. This was originally a market town and was a major part of the 'Industrial Revolution' in the centre of an area known as the 'Black Country'. It has tourist attractions including Dudley Zoo, Dudley Castle, and the Black Country Museum. The current population is nearly 80,000 people and is now considered to be one of the largest towns in Britain.

City

Having a wide range of services on your doorstep is so convenient and transport links to other places make city living more suitable for some (that's if you can put up with the noise, traffic and pollution). Cities provide a wide range of functions including more specific ones such as universities, large hospitals, and even sports stadiums and entertainment arenas. In the past, cities were identified as places with cathedrals, but today the Queen decides which places are cities, based on several different aspects, including the size of the population. Cardiff is the capital and largest city in Wales. It features lots of cultural and sporting venues, such as the Millennium Stadium, and therefore needs good transport links to the rest of the UK. It now has a population of nearly 350,000 people.

Mega Cities

Some of us just love the excitement and noise of a major global city. A mega city may not appeal to you at first; however, the excitement and buzz that surrounds these cities is hard to ignore. A mega city is an area with a total population of over ten million people. The largest mega cities in the world include Tokyo and New York, which both have over 30 million people. It is predicted that the number of mega cities around the world will grow in the future.

A mega city within the UK is London, which has over 13 million inhabitants. London is the capital city of England and has been a major settlement for two thousand years. It is a global centre for entertainment, tourism, finance, and transport.

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City Life, Countryside Living Answers

Read the text on the next page and answer the questions.

1. What does the writer mean by the phrase, 'your forever home'?

Various answers, for example: It is somewhere you will want to live for the rest of your life.

2. Find a synonym for 'move' in the first paragraph.

relocate

3. Give 3 reasons why Dover is an important settlement.

It has a large harbour; it links England to France and Europe; it has the channel tunnel.

4. Find the word which tells you that tourists would enjoy looking around Crail.

picturesque

5. Why is Dudley described as a 'market town'?

Various answers, for example: It has a popular market; Its original function was a centre for a market.

6. Why was the West Midlands called 'the black country' in the industrial revolution?

Various answers, for example: The air in the area was very dark with smoke and pollution due to the factories in operation at the time.

7. Give 3 features you are likely to find in town settlements.

Railway stations; cinemas; hospitals

8. Look at the 'City' paragraph. Find 3 negative aspects of living in a city.

Noise; traffic; pollution

9. What is the key difference between a city and a mega city?

Over 10 million people live in a mega city, whereas a city is smaller.