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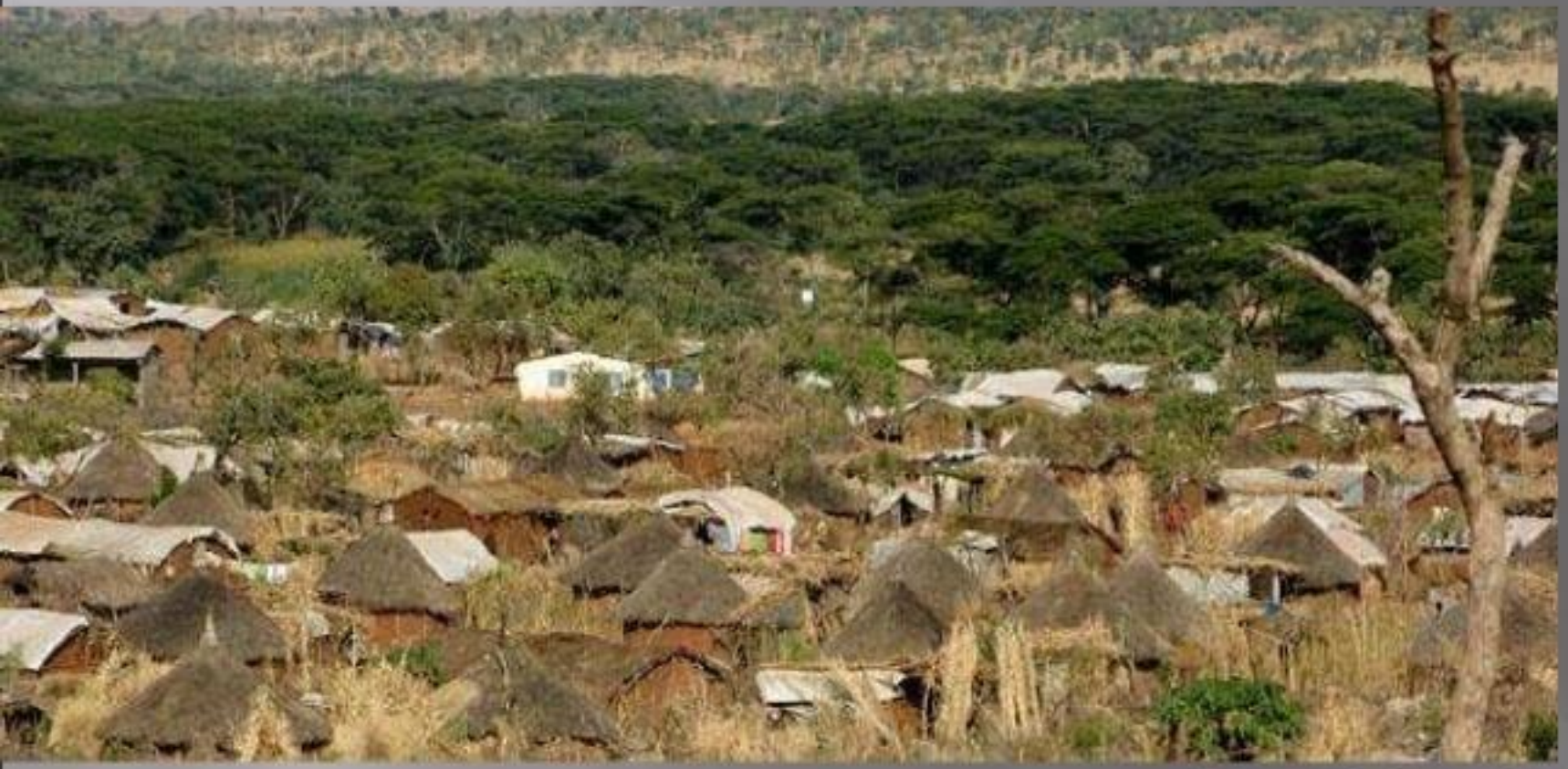
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

- A **settlement** is a place where people live.



- and large urban agglomerations.

- Human settlements may consist of only a few dwelling units *(hamlets)*,

big cluster of buildings accommodating millions of people.

Settlements types

- **Conurbation/metropolitan area** – a supercity consisting of multiple cities and towns. The population is usually several million.
- **Large City** – a city with a large population and many services. The population is >1 million people.
- **City** – a city would have abundant services, but not as many as a large city. The population of a city is over 100,000 people.
- **Large town** – a large town has a population of 20,000 to 100,000.
- **Town** – a town has a population of 1,000 to 20,000
- Village – a village generally does not have many services, possibly only a small corner shop or post office. A village has a population of 100 to 1,000.
- **Hamlet** – a hamlet has a tiny population (<100) and very few (if any) services, and few buildings.
- **Isolated dwelling** – an isolated dwelling would only have 1 or 2 buildings or families in it. It would have negligible services, if any.

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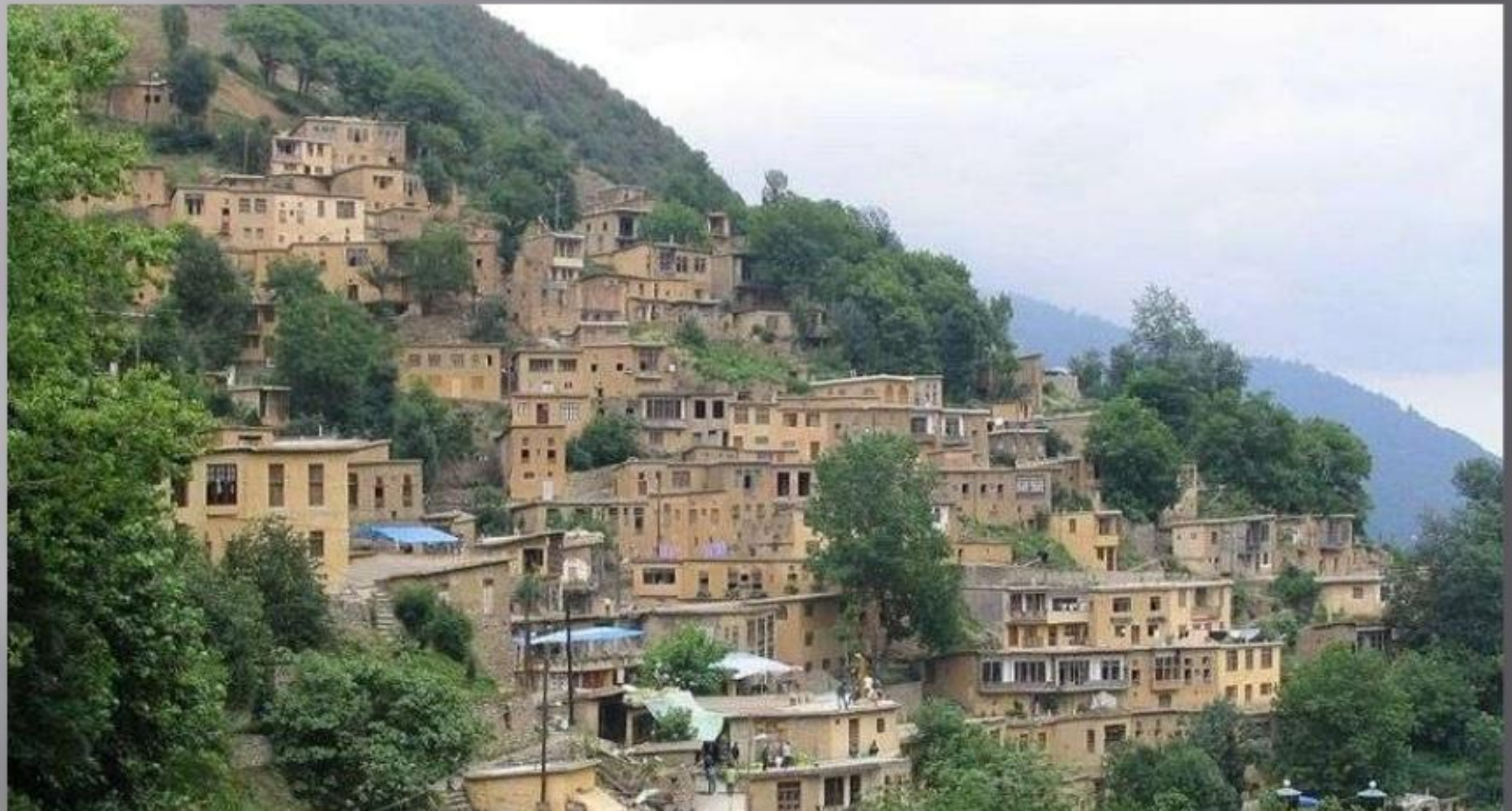
- A **hamlet** is (usually—see below) a rural community —a small settlement — which is too small to be considered a village. A hamlet has a tiny population (<100) and very few (if any) services, and few buildings.

- A **village** is a clustered human settlement or community, larger than a hamlet, but smaller than a town or city. Though generally located in rural areas.
- A village generally does not have many services, possibly only a small corner shop or post office. A village has a population of 100 to 1,000.



Town

- A town has a population of 1,000 to 20,000.
- A **town** is a type of settlement ranging from a few to several thousand (occasionally hundreds of thousands) inhabitants. Usually, a "town" is thought of as larger than a village but smaller than a "city",

City

- A city would have abundant services, but not as many as a large city. The population of a city is over 100,000 people.
- A **city** is an urban area with a large population and a particular administrative, legal, or historical status.

Metropolitan area

- A **metropolitan area** is a large population center consisting of a large metropolis and its adjacent zone of influence

- A **conurbation** is an urban area or agglomeration comprising a number of cities, large towns and larger urban areas that, through population growth and physical expansion, have merged to form one continuous urban and industrially developed area.
- A conurbation can be confused with a metropolitan area. As the term is used in North America, a metropolitan area consists of many neighborhoods, while a conurbation consists of many different metropolitan areas that are connected with one another and are usually interdependent economically and socially.

Rochester
Erie Canal
Syracuse
Mohawk River
NEW YORK
Albany
Concord
Portsmouth
Manchester
MASSACHUSETTS
Worcester
Boston
Springfield
Cape Cod
Hartford
Providence
CONNECTICUT
RHODE ISLAND
New Bedford
Groton
New Haven
Martha's Vineyard
Nantucket
Bridgeport
Stamford
New York
Long Island
Hudson River
Newburgh
Scranton
PENNSYLVANIA
Paterson
Newark
Allentown
Harrisburg
FALL LINE
NEW JERSEY
Philadelphia
Camden
Wilmington
Hagerstown
MARYLAND
Baltimore
Annapolis
Dover
Washington, D.C.
DELAWARE
Delaware Bay
ATLANTIC OCEAN
VIRGINIA
Richmond
Chesapeake Bay
Petersburg

- Match up the settlement type with its description by dragging the words into the spaces provided.

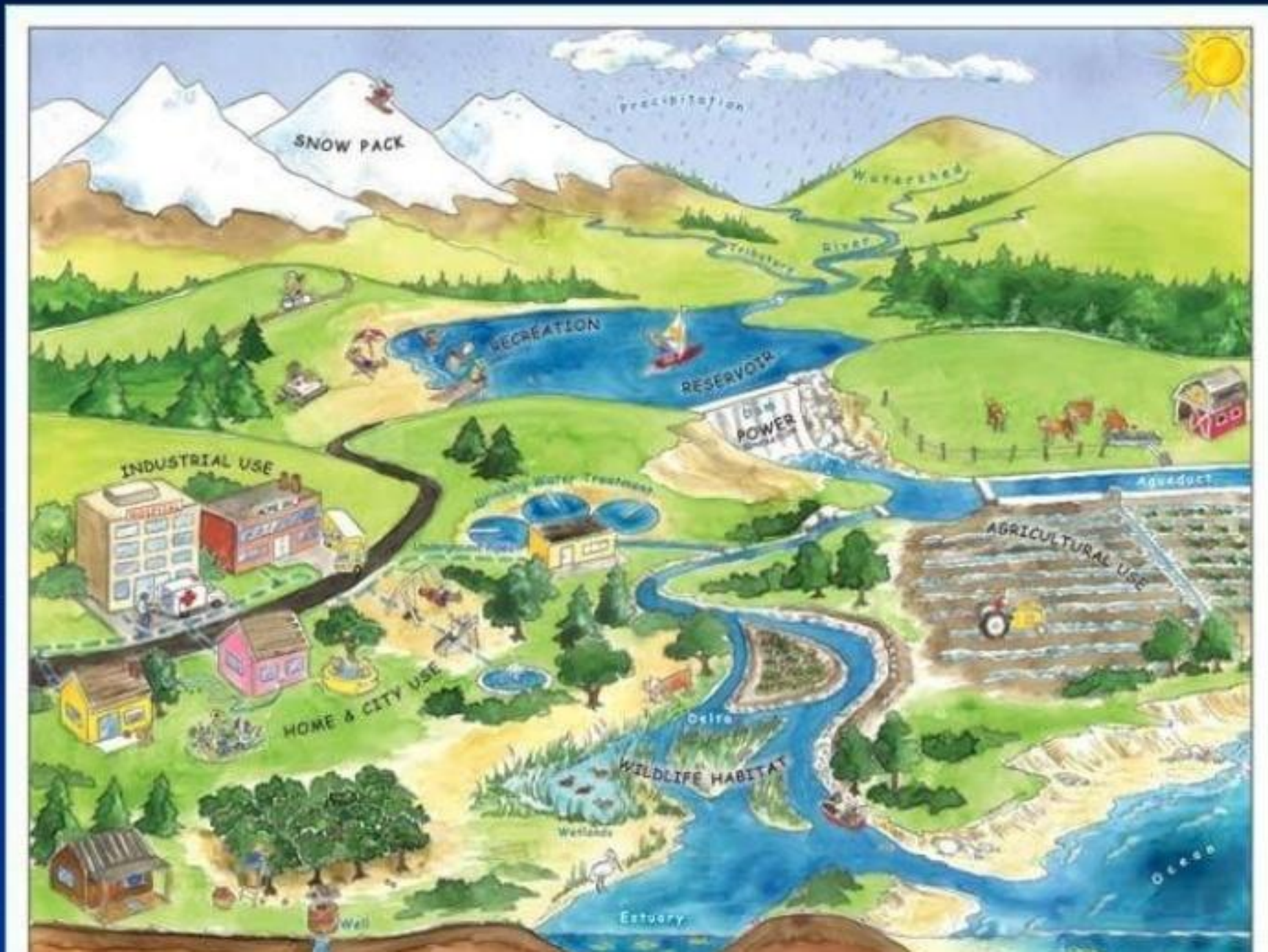
activity1settlementtype.swf

Site

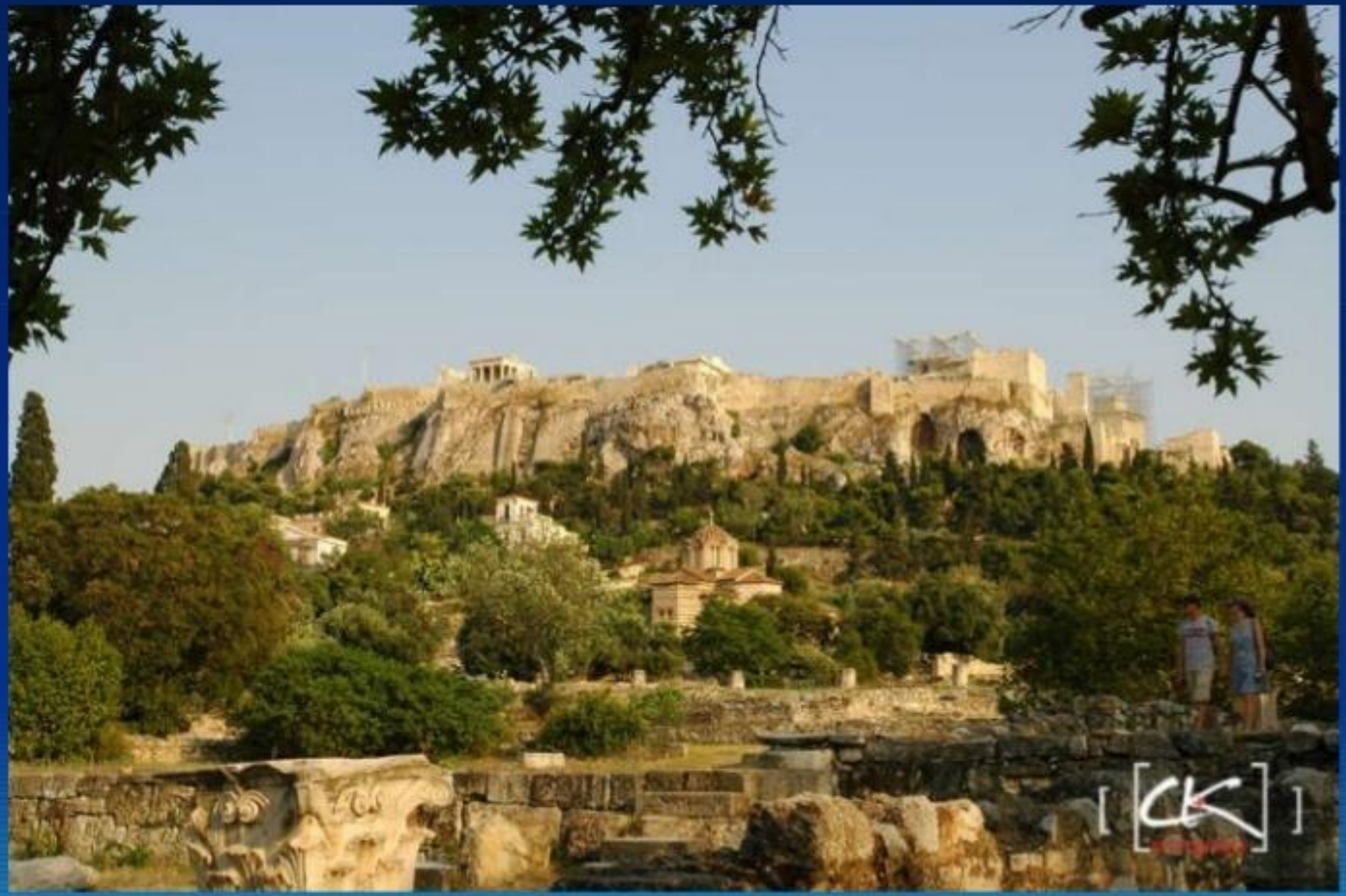
- *Site* refers to the actual piece of ground on which the settlement is built.
- The site of a settlement is its exact location.

- The physical geography of an area was very important to early people when they were deciding on the site for a new settlement.

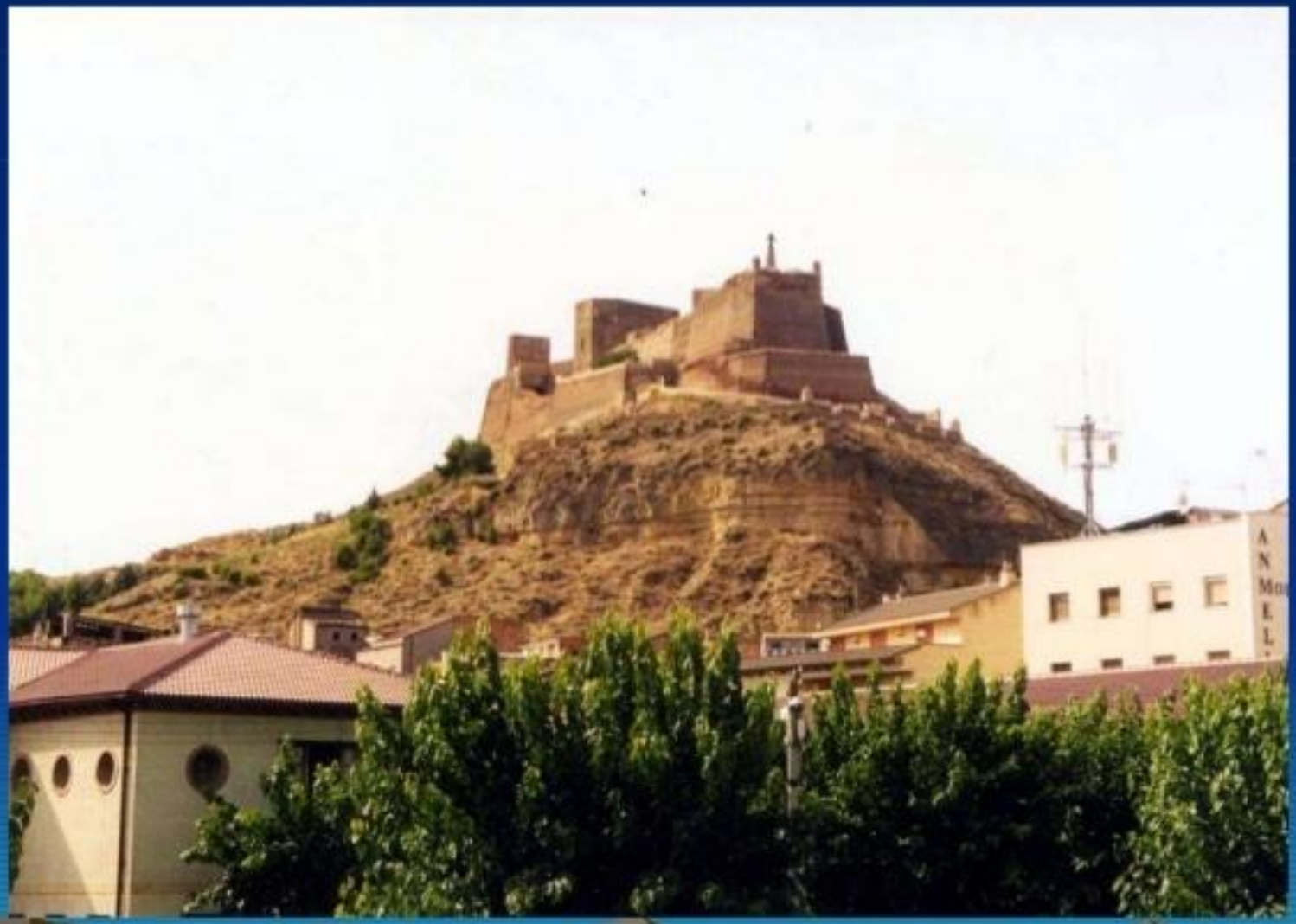
- Site Factors:
  - **Water supply**: a clean supply of water was needed for drinking, cooking and cleaning. Water could be taken from a river or a well.


SNOW PACK
precipitation
Watershed
Tributary
River
RECREATION
RESERVOIR
POWER
INDUSTRIAL USE
Drinking Water Treatment
Aqueduct
AGRICULTURAL USE
HOME & CITY USE
Delta
WILDLIFE HABITAT
Wetlands
Ocean
Well
Estuary

sheltered from strong winds.



attackers.



Durham and the River Wear

It is at this point that the River Wear takes a remarkable curve which

– **Transport** - a site at a crossroads, on a river or at the coast gave easier access to other settlements.

- **Soil** - deep fertile soil made it easier to farm crops and rear animals.
- **Resources** - a source of timber or rock was needed for building. Wood was needed as a fuel for heat and cooking.

Situation

- *Situation or Position* refers to the location of the village or town in relation to surrounding areas.

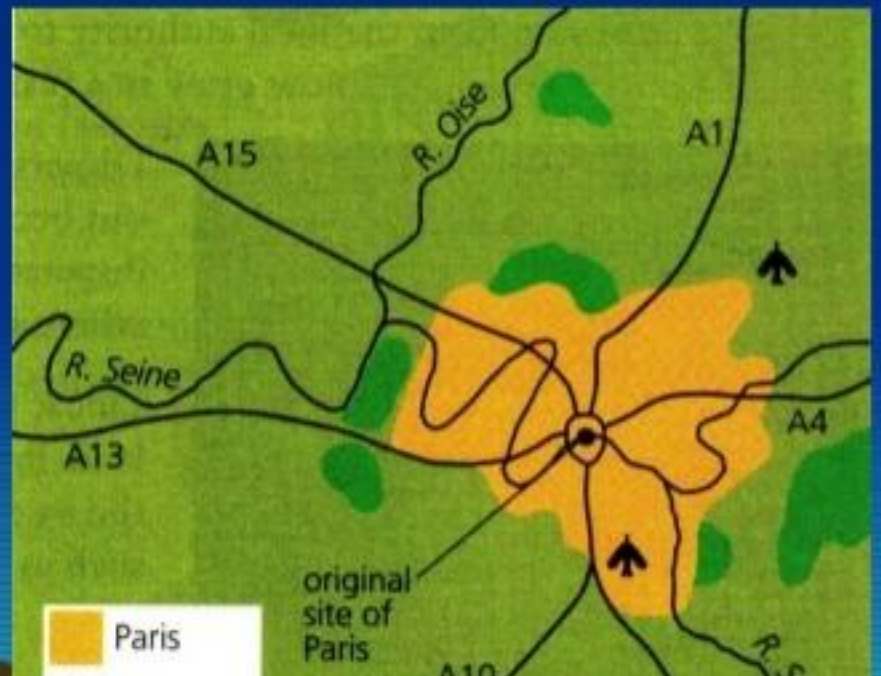
  – If a settlement had good access to natural resources, and to other settlements, it would grow in size. Many settlements with a good

Paris

- Paris is the capital city of France. It is the largest city in Europe and has a population of 10 million people. Paris began in the third century BC. It was sited on a small island in the River Seine. The site was good for defence, but was also a crossing point across the river. The fertile soil of the River Seine's floodplain was also excellent for farming. Under Roman rule, Paris grew and became the centre of a network of roads stretching across Europe.

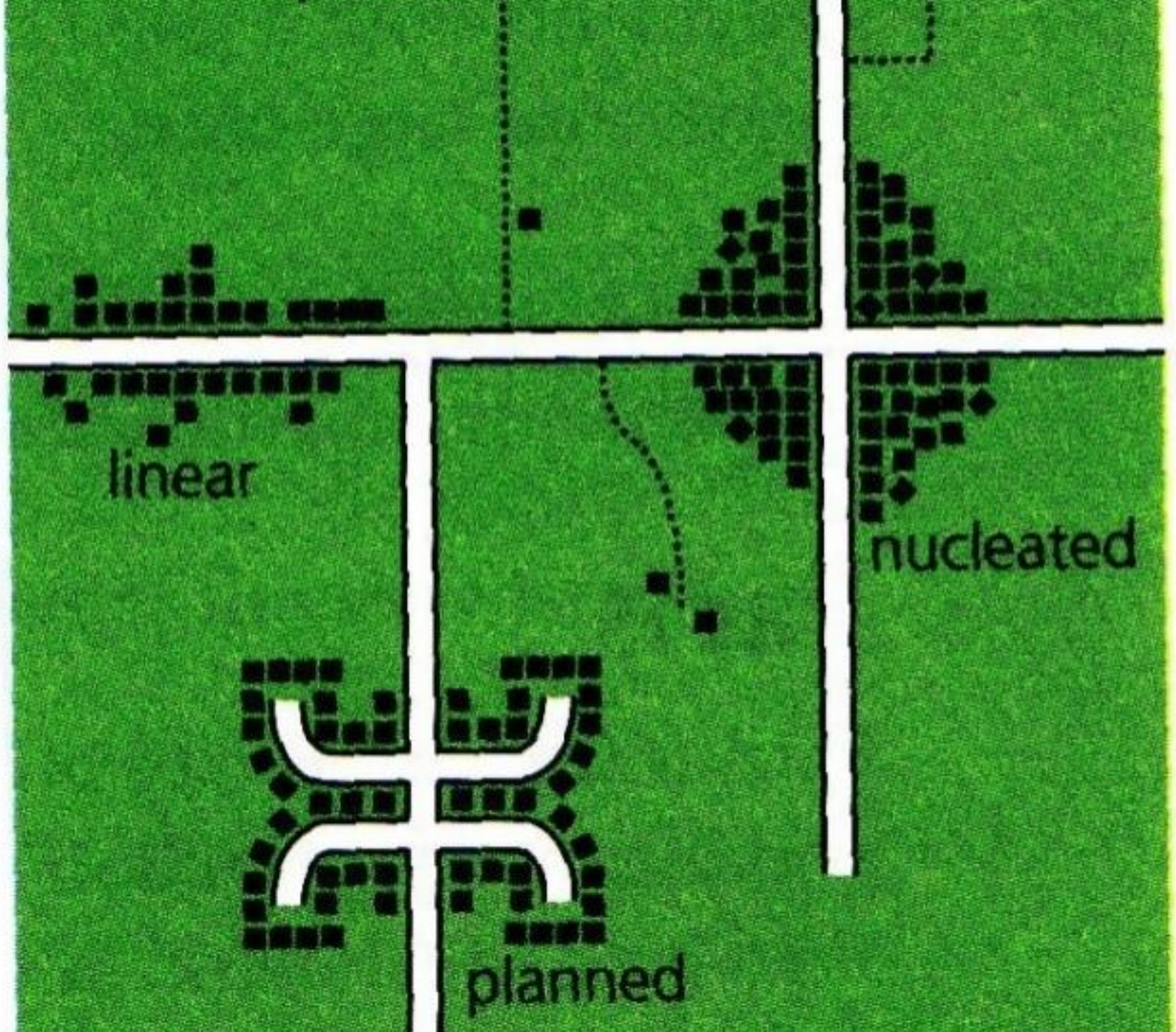
- The situation of Paris has made it one of the most

Conciergerie
Cité
Sainte-Chapelle
QUAI DES GRANDS AUGUSTINS
QUAI DE L'HÔTEL DE VILLE
Saint-Paul
ÎLE DE LA CITÉ
Saint-Michel
Saint-Michele Notre Dame
RUE DE CLOÎTRE NOTRE DAME
Pont Marie
Seine
SAINT GERMAIN DES PRÉS
Notre Dame
QUAI DE MONTEBELLO
QUAI DE BOURBON
QUAI D'ANJOU
Odéon
BOULEVARD SAINT-GERMAIN
ÎLE SAINT-LOUIS
Cluny La Sorbonne
Maubert Mutualité
QUAI DE LA TOURNELLE
PONT DE SULLY
BOULEVARD SAINT-GERMAIN
TRAVELER


A15
R. Oise
A1
R. Seine
A4
A13
original site of Paris
Paris

Settlement patterns

- When early settlements began to grow there were no planning regulations. People built houses where they wanted to. Some houses were built far apart from each other **(dispersed).** Other houses were built close together, making villages. Villages began to grow outwards and the shape of the settlements changed. Some settlements became long and narrow **(linear),** others stayed clustered together **(nucleated).** Today, people must have


linear
nucleated
planned

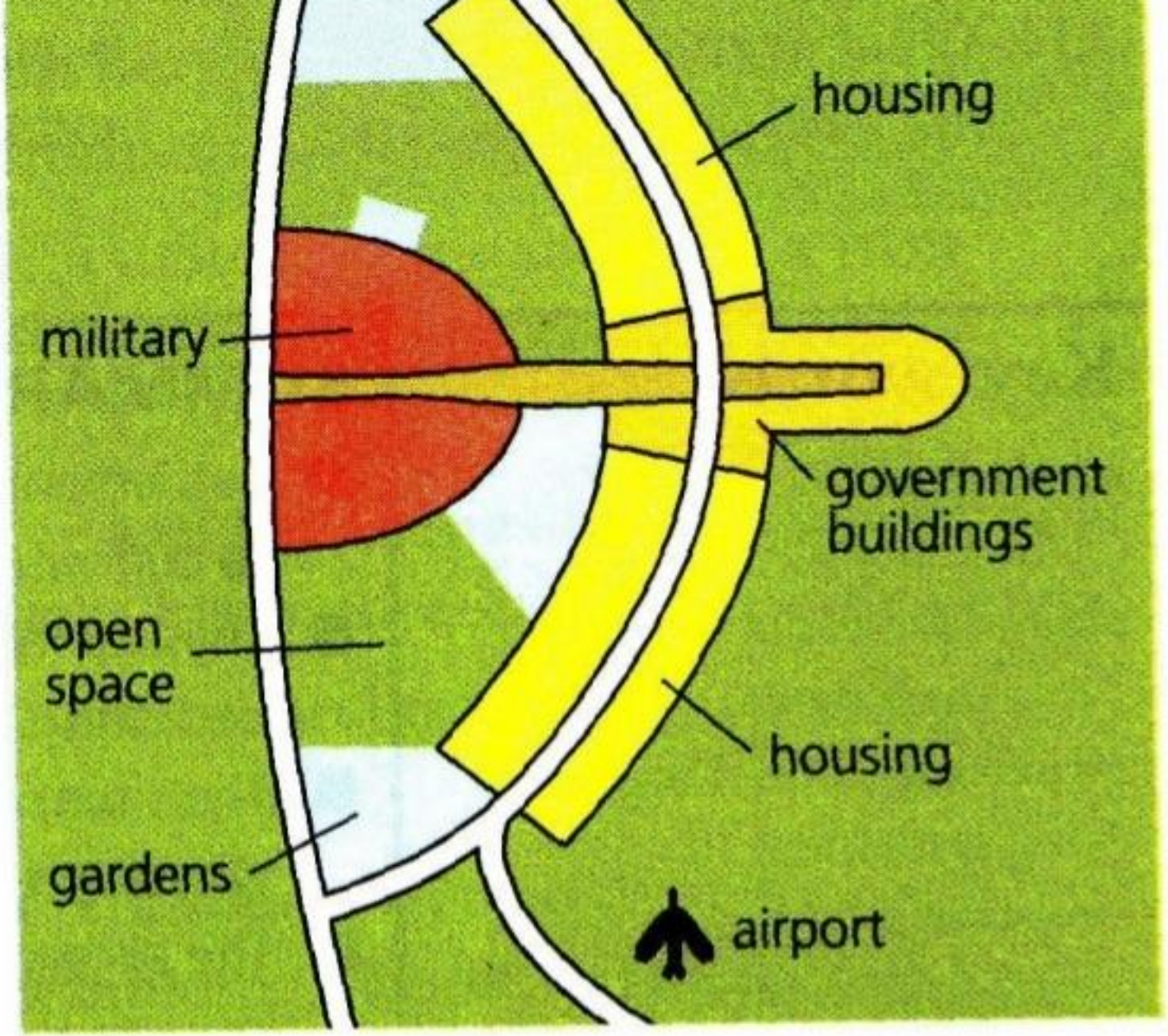
- Dispersed settlements are usually farms. They are spread out because of the space taken up by fields. Other dispersed settlements are found in mountainous areas where it is difficult to live.

Dispersed

- Linear settlements sometimes follow the shape of the land. It is easier to build on the floor of a valley than on the steep sides. Linear settlements also follow features such as roads, railway lines or rivers.

Nucleated settlements are where buildings are clustered round a central point. The centre of the settlement may be a crossroads, a church, a water supply, or a market place. Nucleated settlements also occur on hill tops.

- Planned settlements often have a regular pattern. They may have a square shape, or a crescent shape for example. Brasilia, the capital of Brazil, is a planned settlement in the shape of an aeroplane



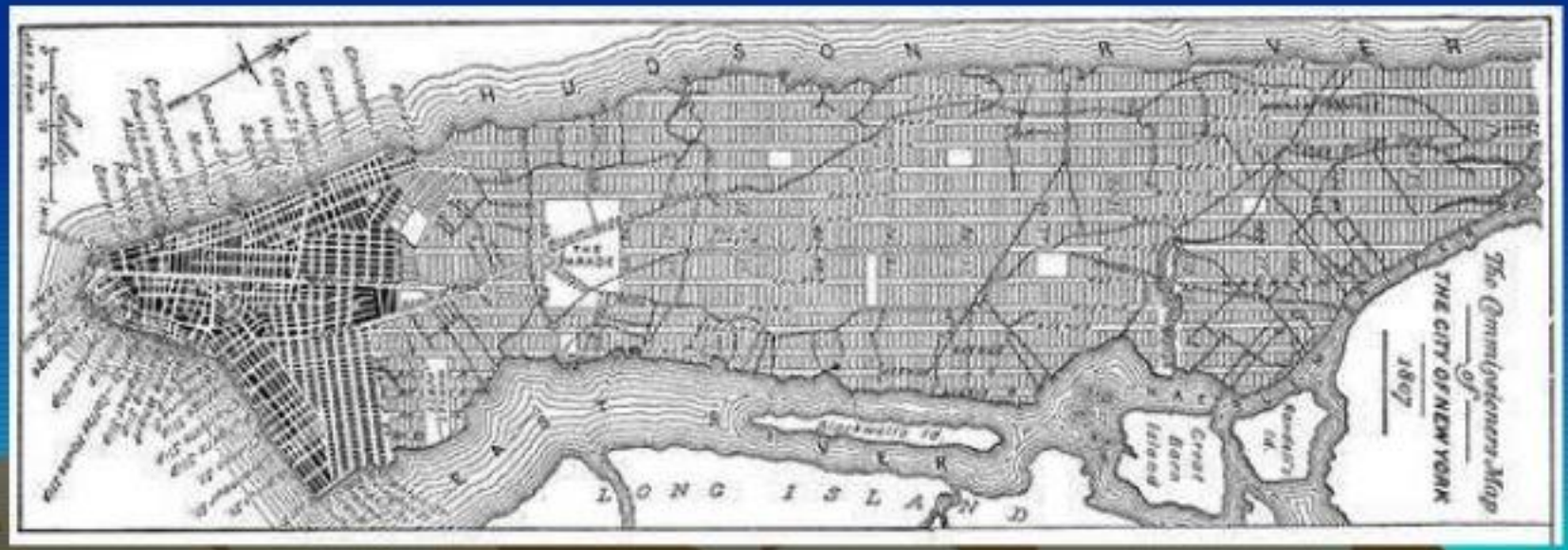
▲ **Fig 3** *Brasilia – a planned settlement.*

City layout

- The layout of a city is the way its estreets and buildings are distributed.
- There are different types of layout:

- It has no particular order. The streets may be narrow and winding. There are few open spaces. There are typical of Muslim and medieval towns.

- The **grid plan** or **gridiron plan** is a type of city plan in which streets run at right angles to each other, forming a grid. It is typical of North American cities, and of newer districts in European cities.

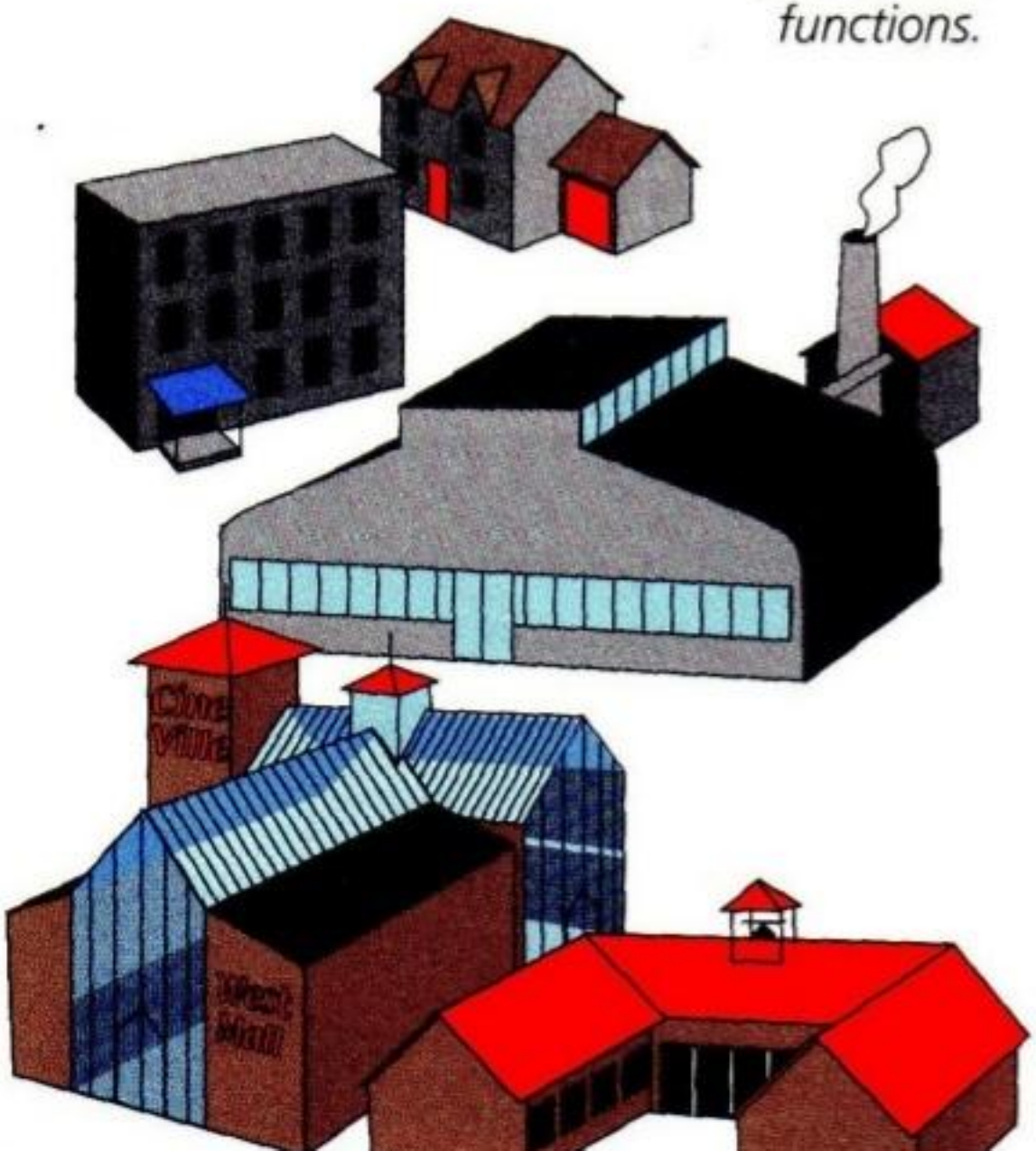


- The streets radiate out from a central point.

Settlement functions

- The **functions** of a settlement are the things that happen there.
- The function of most early settlements was farming. As settlements grew, the functions increased to include things such as markets and inns. Today settlements have many functions, which continue to

▼ **Fig 4**
Settlement functions.



Residential

- - the main function of many settlements today is to give people places to live. People may live in one settlement and work in another.

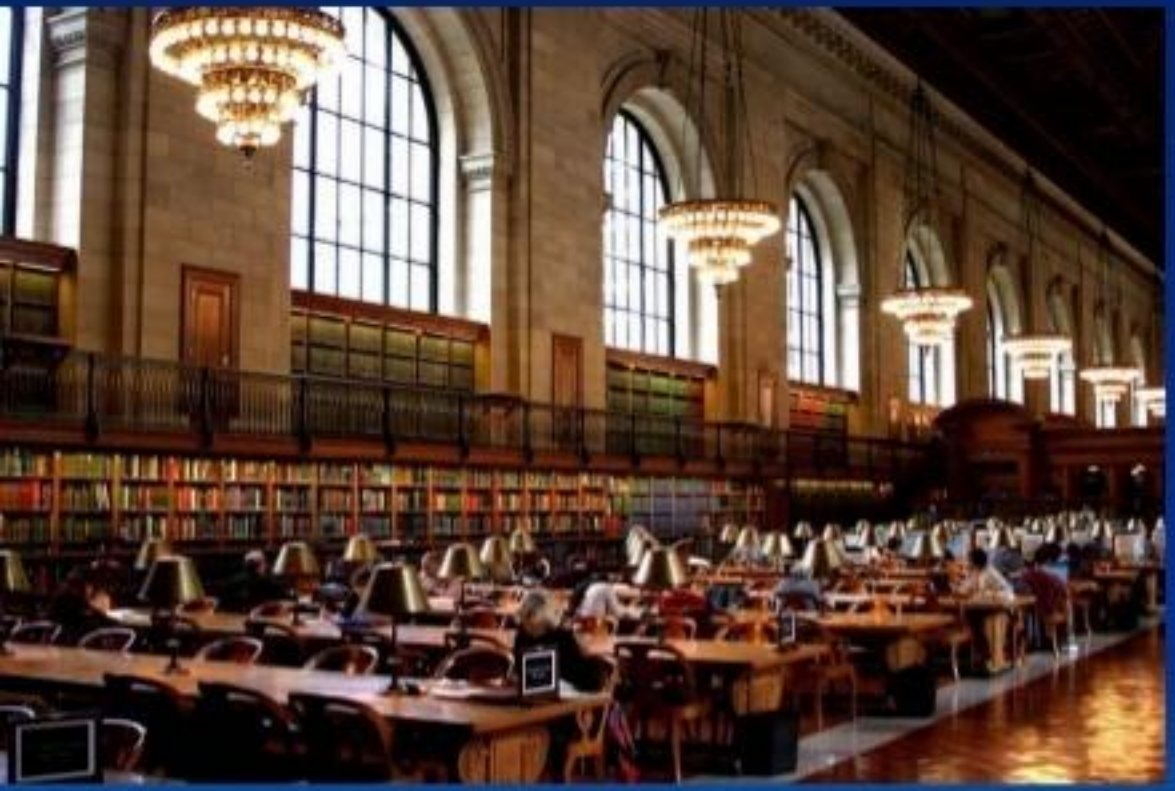
- — local authority offices run the local services, such as road maintenance and waste disposal.

- — goods are manufactured in factories. Today many factories are located in business parks on the outskirts of settlements.

Commercial

- - shopping centres and recreation facilities, such as sports centres and cinemas, provide services for people.

- — settlements contain public services, such as schools, hospitals and libraries.



- some settlements are attractive to tourists. Many coastal settlements in Spain have changed from fishing villages into large tourist resorts.