

Chapter 9 Vocabulary

Essential Question: Why does spatial inequality exist in urban areas?

1. spatial inequality: an unequal distribution of wealth or resources over a geographic area
2. basin: a bowl shaped depression, or hollow, in the earth's surface
3. plaza: an open square or marketplace
4. standard of living: the overall level of comfort and well being of a group of people or a country. People in developed countries generally have a higher standard of living than people in developing countries.
5. aqueduct: a pipe or channel built to transport water from one place to another
6. urbanization: the movement of people from rural to urban areas, resulting in the growth of urban areas.
7. metropolitan areas: a major population center made up of a large city and the smaller suburbs and towns that surround it
8. suburbs: a developed area at the edge of city that is mainly homes. Many suburbs also have stores and businesses.
9. rural: areas that are not close to the cities
10. rural decline: worsening economic conditions in the countryside, including rising unemployment and growing poverty.

11. communal lands (ejidos): land that is held in common by a group of people. (The group does not own the land, because they can not sell it.)

12. unemployment: joblessness

13. smog: a haze in the air caused by pollution, especially the exhaust from cars and other vehicles.

14. air quality: the condition of the air, based on the amount of pollution in it.

15. slums: an overcrowded, dirty area of a city where the housing is usually in very poor condition

16. tenements: a rundown apartment building

17. estates: a sizeable area of privately owned property with large house

18. life expectancy: the average age that a person in a given population can expect to live to. Life expectancy varies from one country to another.

19. per capita: by or for each person. A per capita figure is calculated by dividing the total amount of something by the number of people living in a place.