Challenges in Settlements: Identifying and Resolving

Lesson plan and teacher's notes · Form 1 Geography · 1 period of 40 minutes

School	(write school name)	**Teacher**	(write name)
Date	(date)	**Class**	Form 1
Subject	Geography	**Enrolment**	Boys ___ Girls ___ Total ___
Time	40 minutes	**Topic**	Challenges in Settlements: Identifying and Resolving

Learners identify the environmental, social, economic and health challenges faced in rural and urban settlements, explain their effects, and suggest ways of resolving them. The lesson uses challenge cards, short scenarios and a simple model of a solution made from local materials.

Specific outcomes

By the end of the lesson, learners should be able to:

1. Identify challenges faced in rural and urban settlements and group them as environmental, social, economic or health
2. State the effects of the challenges on residents
3. Suggest ways of resolving challenges experienced in settlements

Prior knowledge

Teaching and learning materials

- Chalk and board
- Learner notes: Challenges in Settlements
- Challenge cards written on pieces of paper
- Cardboard, bottles, glue and markers for simple models if available

References

Ministry of Education (CDC) Form 1 Geography syllabus and module; 25Schools learners' note: Challenges in Settlements: Identifying and Resolving.

Lesson development

Stage and time	Teacher activities	Learner activities
5 min	Ask learners to name one problem they see in the village or town where they live, such as rubbish, a poor road or a lack of clean water. Write four answers on the board.	Name problems seen in their own community.
10 min	Draw the hierarchy of environmental, social, economic and health challenges. Explain rural challenges (limited basic services, poor infrastructure, environmental degradation) and urban challenges (overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, limited green spaces, unemployment). Place the learners' four answers in the groups.	Copy the hierarchy and say which group each of their examples belongs to.
5 min	Explain that challenges can decrease quality of life, increase poverty and crime, and reduce economic opportunities. Show how inadequate sanitation and overcrowding can lead to disease outbreaks.	Give one effect for a challenge on the board.
15 min	Give each group a challenge card. Groups discuss solutions using the notes, such as managing waste, planting trees, community water kiosks, rainwater harvesting and road construction, and sketch or build a simple model if materials are available.	Brainstorm solutions in groups, sketch or model one solution and present it to the class.
5 min	Summarise that challenges are resolved through a multifaceted approach, including sustainable infrastructure, reducing poverty and inequality, and improving access to healthcare and education. Set the homework.	Copy the summary and the homework.

Teacher's content notes

Read these before the lesson. They are what you need to know, not what to copy onto the board.

Groups of challenges

Environmental: poor waste management, environmental degradation, pollution and climate related disasters. Social: inadequate housing and infrastructure, poverty and inequality, social exclusion. Economic: unemployment, underemployment and infrastructure costs. Health: limited access to healthcare and disease outbreaks from inadequate sanitation and overcrowding.

Rural and urban challenges

Rural settlements face limited access to basic services, poor infrastructure and environmental degradation. Urban settlements face overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, limited access to green spaces, unemployment and environmental degradation.

Resolving challenges

Sustainable agriculture, conservation, clean water and sanitation and health campaigns in rural areas. Waste management, urban greening, energy and water conservation, sustainable mobility and disaster preparedness in urban areas. Also tree planting, renewable energy, community water kiosks, rainwater harvesting, road construction and empowering residents.

Questions to ask during the lesson

Question	Expected answer
A large town has a growing population but few jobs. (a) Name the economic challenge. (b) Name one effect it can have on residents. (c) Suggest one thing that could help.	(a) Unemployment. (b) Increased poverty or reduced economic opportunities. (c) Empowerment opportunities and skills for residents.
A rural area has a river that is polluted by waste and a clinic that is far away. (a) Name the environmental challenge. (b) Name the health challenge. (c) Suggest one solution for each.	(a) Pollution of water. (b) Limited access to healthcare. (c) Waste management and clean water campaigns; health care campaigns.
A city has hot, bare streets with no shade or green space. (a) Name the challenge. (b) Name one solution from the notes. (c) Say one benefit of the solution.	(a) Limited access to green spaces. (b) Plant and maintain trees. (c) Shade, better air quality and biodiversity.

Worked examples for the board

Grouping a challenge

Unemployment means people have no work, so it is an economic challenge. Poor waste management harms the surroundings, so it is an environmental challenge. Limited access to healthcare is a health challenge.

Linking a challenge to a solution

Poor access to clean water can be resolved by a community water kiosk that provides safe water, or by rainwater harvesting that collects and stores rainwater.

Board plan

Left: hierarchy of the four groups of challenges with examples. Middle: effects on residents. Right: table of challenges and ways of resolving them.

Mistakes to expect

Learners often think	Put it right
Only towns have challenges.	Rural settlements also face challenges such as limited basic services, poor infrastructure and environmental degradation.
Each challenge stands alone.	Challenges are connected: for example inadequate sanitation and overcrowding can cause disease outbreaks.
Only the government can resolve settlement challenges.	Residents also take part, through sensitisation programmes, tree planting, water saving and decision making in the community.

Differentiation

Learners who struggle

Give learners who find the work hard a card with the four group names and four ready examples to place, and let pairs complete it with a stronger learner reading each example aloud.

Learners who finish early

Ask learners to pick one challenge in their community and write a plan with three steps that residents could follow to resolve it, using ideas from the notes.

Hearing or visual impairment

Read all challenge cards and scenarios aloud for learners with visual impairment. For learners with hearing impairment, face the class, write each key word on the board and let groups present their solutions in writing.

No projector, no printing

Everything can be done with chalk and board. Write the challenge cards on small pieces of paper torn from old exercise books, and draw solutions instead of building models.

If time is short

Teach the four groups and the challenge cards, and give the effects as homework.

Evaluation

Question or task	A correct answer shows
A town has heaps of rubbish near the market, and many people fall sick after the rains. (a) Ask the learner to name the environmental challenge. (b) Ask for the health challenge that can follow. (c) Ask for two ways of resolving the problem.	Poor waste management; disease outbreaks caused by inadequate sanitation; managing waste, sensitisation programmes or cleaning campaigns.

A village has no clean water source and a poor road to the clinic. (a) Ask the learner to name the two challenges. (b) Ask for one solution to each. (c) Ask which solution would use rainwater.	Lack of clean water and a poor road; community water kiosk or rainwater harvesting, and constructing or rehabilitating the road; rainwater harvesting.

Homework

A growing town has overcrowded housing, many unemployed young people and few trees. (a) Name two challenges and say whether each is social, economic or environmental. (b) Name two effects the challenges may have on residents. (c) Suggest two ways the community could improve the situation.

Extra practice with answers

Question	Answer
1. A village depends on rain and suffers from drought. (a) Name the type of challenge. (b) Name one way of storing water. (c) Name one way of farming that could help.	(a) Environmental, linked to climate. (b) Rainwater harvesting. (c) Sustainable agriculture.
2. A family lives in a crowded house with poor sanitation and several people fall ill. (a) Name the social challenge. (b) Name the health challenge. (c) Suggest one solution.	(a) Inadequate housing or overcrowding. (b) Disease outbreaks. (c) Improve sanitation through clean water and sanitation campaigns.
3. A road to a village is full of potholes and vehicles cannot reach it. (a) Name the challenge. (b) Say how it affects residents. (c) Name the solution.	(a) Poor infrastructure. (b) It limits access to services and economic opportunities. (c) Construct and rehabilitate the road.
4. A town has heavy traffic and congestion. (a) Name one solution from the notes. (b) Name another place a solution could be built. (c) Say what the solution gives residents.	(a) Sustainable transport options. (b) Pedestrian streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes. (c) Less congestion and a better quality of life.

Answers to the learners' check-yourself questions

1. Name the four groups into which challenges in settlements are placed.
   Environmental, social, economic and health challenges.
2. Give two challenges faced in urban settlements.
   Any two of: overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, limited access to green spaces, unemployment, environmental degradation.
3. Give two challenges faced in rural settlements.
   Any two of: limited access to basic services, poor infrastructure, environmental degradation.
4. State two consequences of challenges in settlements.
   Any two of: decreased quality of life, increased poverty and crime, reduced economic opportunities.

5. What is the purpose of a community water kiosk?
   It provides residents with access to safe and clean water.
6. A growing town has heaps of rubbish near the market, and people often fall sick after the rains. (a) Name the environmental challenge. (b) Name the health challenge that can follow. (c) Suggest two ways the community could resolve the problem.
   (a) Poor waste management. (b) Disease outbreaks caused by inadequate sanitation. (c) Managing waste and running sensitisation programmes, or planting trees and cleaning campaigns.
7. A village far from the main road has no clean water source and the road to the clinic is in poor condition. (a) Name two challenges the village faces. (b) Say which group each challenge belongs to. (c) Suggest one solution for each.
   (a) Lack of clean water and a poor road. (b) Health or social, and economic or infrastructure related. (c) A community water kiosk or rainwater harvesting for water, and constructing and rehabilitating the road.

Teacher's reflection

What went well:

What I will change next time:

Learners who need follow-up: