

Urban Patterns: Key Issue 4

Why Do Suburbs Have Distinctive Problems?

Rubenstein, pp. 451-460

%_____ of Americans suburban 1950 → %_____ of Americans suburban 2000

● **THE PERIPHERAL MODEL**

1. List the elements of an urban area according to the **peripheral model**.

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-
-
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2. Complete the table below.

PERIPHERAL AREAS	
Problems that they LACK	Problems that they HAVE

3. Describe the formation of an **EDGE CITY** in the flowchart below.



4. Describe the **density gradient** of an urban area.

5. How has the **density gradient** changed in recent years? (2 ways.)

(a)

(b)

6. Define **sprawl**:

7. What is meant by the statement that: *the “periphery of US cities looks like Swiss cheese”*?

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8. What has prevented the peripheries of European cities from looking like “Swiss cheese”?

9. In what two ways are suburban areas “**segregated**”?

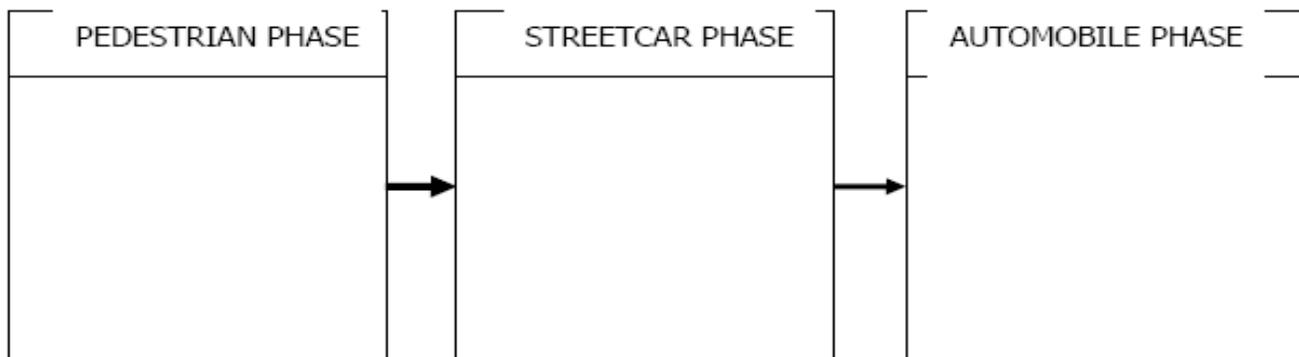
a.

b.

10. What is a *zoning ordinance*?

● **CONTRIBUTION OF TRANSPORTATION TO SUBURBANIZATION**

11. Read “Contribution of Transportation to Suburbanization” and “Motor Vehicles” to fill in the flowchart describing how developments in transportation affected the residential pattern of American cities.



12. Identify 2 ways in which the US Government has encouraged the use of motor vehicles by its citizens?

(a)

(b)

13a. What percentage of a city is devoted to motor vehicles?

13b. Identify 2 ways in which motor vehicles use land in urban areas.

(i)

(ii)

14. What is *rush hour* and how much of a city’s traffic does it account for?

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15. List four ways in which **public transportation** is *better* than the automobile.

a.

b.

c.

d.

16. Briefly describe what has happened (or is currently happening) to each of the following modes of public transportation in US cities.

- Trolleys

- Buses

- Rapid transit (subway and fixed light rail)

17. How does the North American situation compare to that in Europe and Japan?

• **LOCAL GOVERNMENT FRAGMENTATION**

17. What is the basic problem caused by the multiplicity of governments in US urban areas?

18. Briefly not how each of the following forms of local government attempts to solve this problem?

A. **council of government**

B. **federations**

C. **consolidations**

11. What is *smart growth*?

12. Describe how “smart growth” laws have been designed in Maryland, Oregon, and Tennessee.