

**Unit 2: Human Geography**

**Section A: Changing Rural Environments**

Key Ideas	Specification Content	😊	😐	😞
The rural-urban fringe is under intense pressure due to urban sprawl and the increasing mobility of the population.	<p>The impact of out-of-town retail outlets, leisure provision, suburbanised village and transport developments.</p> <p>The growth of commuting and commuter villages.</p> <p>The characteristics and factors significant to a village expanding in size.</p>			
Remote rural areas have undergone social and economic changes.	<p>A case study of a rural area in the UK to illustrate the following points:</p> <p>Reasons for and consequences of rural depopulation and the decline in rural services in remote areas.</p> <p>The characteristics and factors significant to a declining village.</p> <p>Growth in the ownership of second homes.</p>			
Attempts should be made to ensure that rural living is sustainable.	<p>Conserving resources.</p> <p>The protection of the environment.</p> <p>Supporting the needs of the rural population.</p> <p>Government initiatives aimed at supporting the rural economy and environment.</p>			
Commercial farming in favoured agricultural areas is subject to a number of human influences.	<p>A case study of a commercial farming area in the UK to illustrate the following points:</p> <p>The development of agri-businesses and the impact of modern farming practices on the environment.</p> <p>Demands from the market with reference to the demands of the supermarket chains and food processing firms.</p> <p>Competition from the global market.</p> <p>Development of organic farming.</p> <p>Government policies aimed at reducing the environmental effects of high impact farming.</p>			
Sub-tropical and tropical rural areas are increasingly subject to change and conflict.	<p>The demands of cash cultivation and the resultant impact on subsistence food production.</p> <p>The impact of forestry and mining on the traditional farming economy.</p> <p>The impact of soil erosion.</p> <p>Changes to agriculture caused by irrigation and appropriate technology developments.</p> <p>The impact of rural-urban migration and failing agricultural systems.</p>			