

Box by Box

Watch this fascinating Ted Talk by Hans Rosling about global population growth. While watching, pay special attention to the methods he uses to calculate and measure growth.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTznEIZRkLg>

What does significant population growth mean for the world?

Hans Rosling is discussing the difference and growth of Industrialized Nations and Developing Nations. He uses aspirations for more convenient transportation methods as a way to distinguish Industrialized Nations from Developing Nations. To Hans, a Volvo is an indicator of a small, healthy, and educated family. Inversely, walking or biking is an indicator of a larger family with lower financial stability and education level.

Contrary to Hans' ideas, in a city, using bikes, walking, or using mass transportation can be a sign of environmental awareness and an interest in sustainability. The shift in transportation needs is also evidence of the adaptability of city-dwellers to evaluate their necessities. As the population continues to grow, our world will need to adapt what we use and how we use it.



What things might you find in a city that you would rarely find in a suburb or a rural area? Why are these things more useful in densely populated areas rather than rural or suburban areas? Think creatively - these objects can be anything from benches on the pavement, to public transport, to newspaper stands, to food trucks.

Take one of these items and analyse its necessity in a city and outside of a city. Be creative and enjoy thinking about this assignment before you begin!

- Why is this item or service necessary for larger populations?
- Is there a similar item or method that can be transformed for suburban or rural areas?
- How does this item or service make life in a city easier?



You have two options for your assignment:



Option #1: Write an essay describing the item or service you identified that is necessary in a city, but perhaps not as necessary in a suburban or rural setting. Discuss your responses to the questions above. In three paragraphs, prove or disprove the value of your item or service.

-OR-



Option #2: Take an item or service that works well in a city and find a new and creative way to adapt it to meet a population's needs in a suburb or rural area. You may modify your item or invent a new item based upon an existing concept. Your final project should contain:

- A photo or drawing of the design of your new object or service.
- 1 paragraph discussing your design choices
- 1 paragraph discussing how your item or service will revolutionize your less-populated space.

If you used any outside sources for research or images, be sure to cite them at the end of your project.