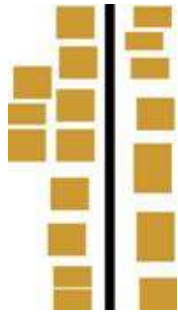


# What will we be covering today?

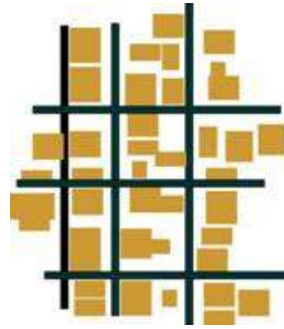
- Explain the patterns of settlement
- Describe and explain the factors which may influence the sites, growth and functions of settlements
- Give reasons for the hierarchy of settlements and service
- Dispersed, linear, and nucleated settlement patterns
- Influence of physical factors (including relief, soil, water supply) and other factors (including accessibility, resources)
- High-, middle- and low-order settlements and services. Sphere of influence and threshold population

## How is the shape of a settlement classified?

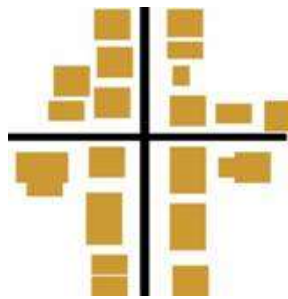
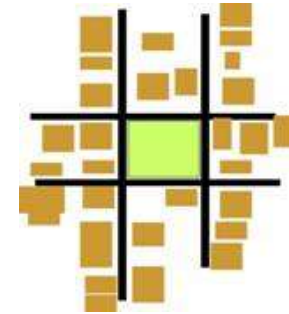
Linear



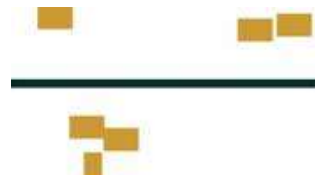
Planned



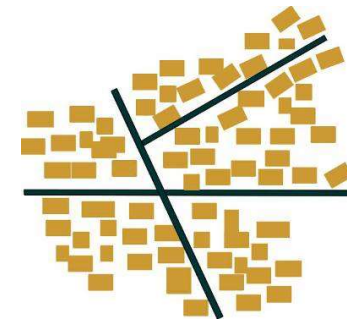
Ring



Cross



Dispersed



Nucleated

# Settlement patterns

Dispersed



Nucleated



Isolated



Linear



where the houses are grouped closely together, often around a central feature like a church, pub or village green. New settlements that are planned often have this type of settlement.



*Champlain,  
Quebec,  
Canada*

## **Dispersed settlements**

ones where the houses are spread out over a wide area. They are often the homes of farmers and can be found in rural areas.



*Little  
Thetford in  
England*

## **Linear settlements**

settlements where the buildings are constructed in lines, often next to a geographical feature like a lake shore, a river or following a road. Where linear settlements follow a road, the road often predates the settlement.



*Brülisau in  
Switzerland*

## **nuclear settlements**

where the houses are grouped closely together, often around a central feature like a church, pub or village green. New settlements that are planned often have this type of settlement.



Little  
Thetford in  
England

## **nuclear settlements**

settlements where the buildings are constructed in lines, often next to a geographical feature like a lake shore, a river or following a road. Where linear settlements follow a road, the road often predates the settlement.



*Champlain,  
Quebec,  
Canada*

## **Linear settlements**

ones where the houses are spread out over a wide area. They are often the homes of farmers and can be found in rural areas.



*Brülisau in  
Switzerland*

## **Dispersed settlements**

# Where do they occur?

**Dispersed settlements** usually occur in:

- remote or mountainous regions
- areas where the land is predominantly used for agriculture
- areas with limited job opportunities
- locations with few, if any, job opportunities

**A linear settlement** pattern occurs in a line or arc shape. They typically follow a road, valley or water body. This allows the settlement to utilise transport routes. They can also occur along valley floors where the sides are very steep.

**A nucleated settlement** occurs in a circular shape with buildings mainly concentrated around a common centre such as a road junction, park or service area. Most large cities are nucleated indicating they are well planned. Nucleation occurs due to:

- flat relief which is easy to build on
- the site has a bridging point
- the site is a good defensive position
- a good water supply
- no restrictions to development in any direction
- good job opportunities
- effective public services
- good transport links

# Site Factors

Imagine it's 1000s of years ago. You're roaming the countryside trying to decide where to live.

What do you look for?

# Site factors

Settlements were often built by rivers, because the river could provide various advantages.

Advantages of a particular site are called **site factors**.

**What advantages can being next to a river bring?**



Site Factor	Definition
1) Wet point	a) Where routes met- roads, rivers or valleys- settlements were developed because of the easy access.
2) Dry point	b) The direction that an area faces can affect whether settlements develop there- those which are south facing get lots of sunlight and are best for farming. Some settlements also develop at the bottom of hills or mountains where they are sheltered from poor weather conditions.
3) Nodal point	c) Settlements were located here because there was a good supply of water, often on the flat floodplains beside rivers; eg towns and villages in the Welsh Valleys
4) Bridging point	d) In medieval times, important settlements were built on top of large hills or within bends of a river to protect them from enemies, eg Edinburgh Castle.
5) Aspect and shelter	e) These settlements were located on slightly higher ground than the surrounding area because it was less likely to flood, eg Ely, Norfolk.
6) Defence	f) Rivers could cause a barrier to travel, so many settlements developed where rivers were narrow, shallow or had islands so that it was easy to cross them.

1) Wet point	c) Settlements were located here because there was a good supply of water, often on the flat floodplains beside rivers; eg towns and villages in the Welsh Valleys
2) Dry point	e) These settlements were located on slightly higher ground than the surrounding area because it was less likely to flood, eg Ely, Norfolk.
3) Nodal point	a) Where routes met- roads, rivers or valleys- settlements were developed because of the easy access.
4) Bridging point	f) Rivers could cause a barrier to travel, so many settlements developed where rivers were narrow, shallow or had islands so that it was easy to cross them.
5) Aspect and shelter	b) The direction that an area faces can affect whether settlements develop there- those which are south facing get lots of sunlight and are best for farming. Some settlements also develop at the bottom of hills or mountains where they are sheltered from poor weather conditions.
6) Defence	d) In medieval times, important settlements were built on top of large hills or within bends of a river to protect them from enemies, eg Edinburgh Castle

# Diamond Ranking Grid: The importance of site factors.

I have chosen this as the most important because

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have chosen this as the least important because

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This diagram shows \_\_\_\_\_

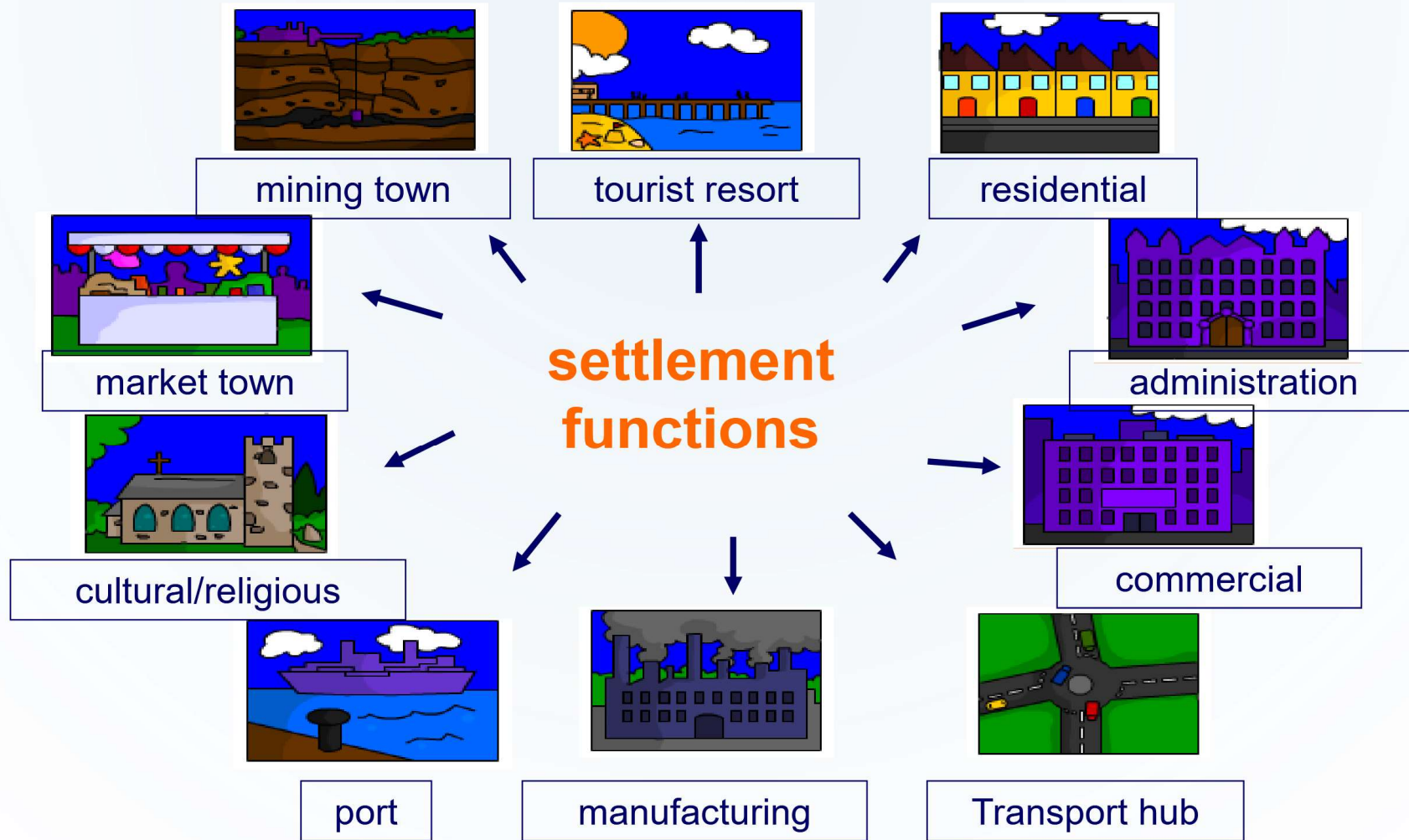
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

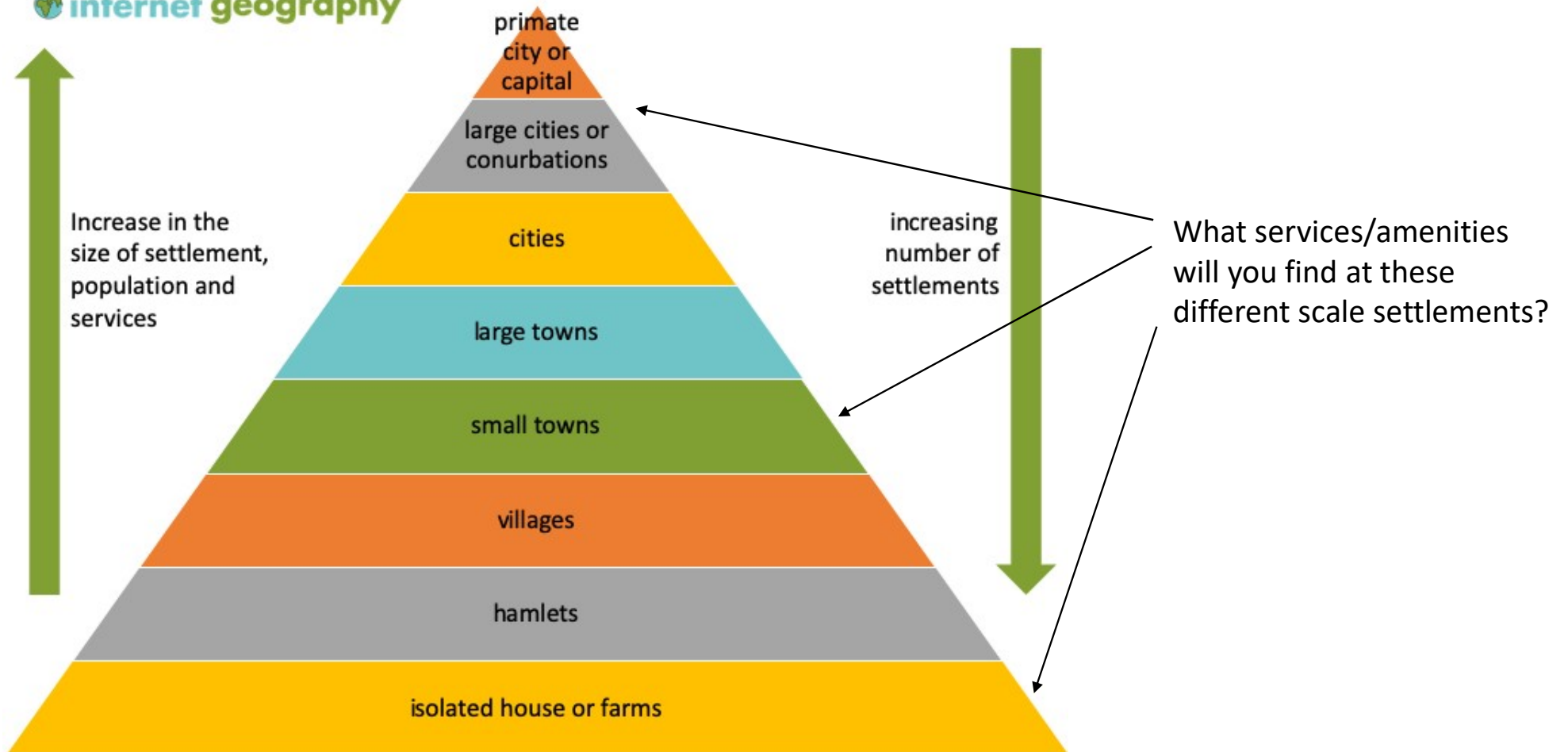
# What is the function(s) of settlements?

The **function** of a settlement relates to its economic and social development and refers to its main activities.



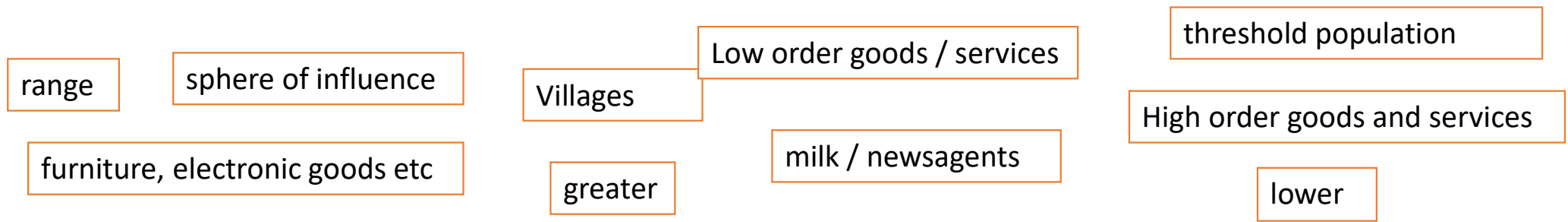
# Settlement Hierarchy

 internet geography



Settlements in the hierarchy are interdependent as people will use a variety of services found in different settlements. The area served by a particular settlement is known as its..... The size of this will be dependent not only on the type and number of services offered by a town but also the size of the town and the ease of access related to the available transport networks serving the area. .... usually provide few services, and those that exist are mainly low order services or sell low order goods. ....are those that are low in value / cost and are used / required daily, for example ..... Larger towns and services will have a greater range of services, including both low order and high order goods and services. ....are more expensive in nature and not required so frequently. They are often comparison goods, such as ..... and people are usually prepared to travel further in order to get them. The distance that people are prepared to travel to use a service or obtain a good is known as its ..... Services such as hypermarkets and goods such as furniture have a much greater range than for example a newsagents and milk.

In order to be profitable, a shop or service will require a minimum number of potential customers, this is known as its ..... Shops/services providing low order goods or services usually need a much ..... threshold population (as the goods / services are required / used daily), whilst high order shops / services will require a much ..... number of potential customers and thus have a higher threshold population. Marks and Spencers for example may require a threshold population of 70,000 before the store can be profitable.



2 (a) Study Fig. 3, which shows information about settlement sizes in part of Mexico.



**Key**

- population over 200 000
- urban areas (population 20 001–200 000)
- urban areas (population 10 001–20 000)
- population 2 501–10 000
- dispersed rural settlement
- road
- - - railway

(ii) What is meant by:

A an area of dispersed rural settlement;

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

B an urban settlement?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

[2]

## How did you do?

(ii) A. An area of countryside with scattered buildings/houses/separated by distance/large area where houses/services are separated/outside city; NB: need both dispersed idea and rural location for mark.

B. A built up area/town/city/area with high population/high density buildings/lots of people live there/industrialised area; (2 × 1 mark) [2]



2 (a) Study Fig. 3, which shows information about settlement sizes in part of Mexico.



**Key**

- population over 200 000
- urban areas (population 20 001–200 000)
- urban areas (population 10 001–20 000)
- population 2 501–10 000
- dispersed rural settlement
- road
- - - railway

(iii) Suggest three possible reasons for the growth of large settlements such as Uruapan.

1

.....

.....

.....

2

.....

.....

.....

3

.....

.....

.....

.....

[3]

## How did you do?

Ideas such as:

- flat land/room for expansion;
- industry/factories/businesses;
- markets for surrounding area/trade from surrounding area;
- migration (from surrounding rural area);
- commercial/retail development;
- mining/raw materials/extraction of resources;
- meeting of roads/route centre/transport links meet together;
- central location; etc. (3 × 1 mark) [3]



## How did you do?

Ideas such as:

It is typical of a hierarchy – reserve 1 mark;

- there are more small settlements/low order than large ones/high order;

- larger settlements are further away from each other than small ones/smaller ones are closer together;

- there is only one settlement over 200 000 but there are 9–11 settlements of 10 001

to 20 000 people or 38–40 settlements between 2501 and 10 000 people;

- alternatively could provide comparative examples of distances;

- NB: Statistics must be comparative or could use terms such as most/least/many/few; (4 × 1 mark) [4]

(b) Study Fig. 4, which shows information about the distances a family travel to different types of shops and leisure facilities.

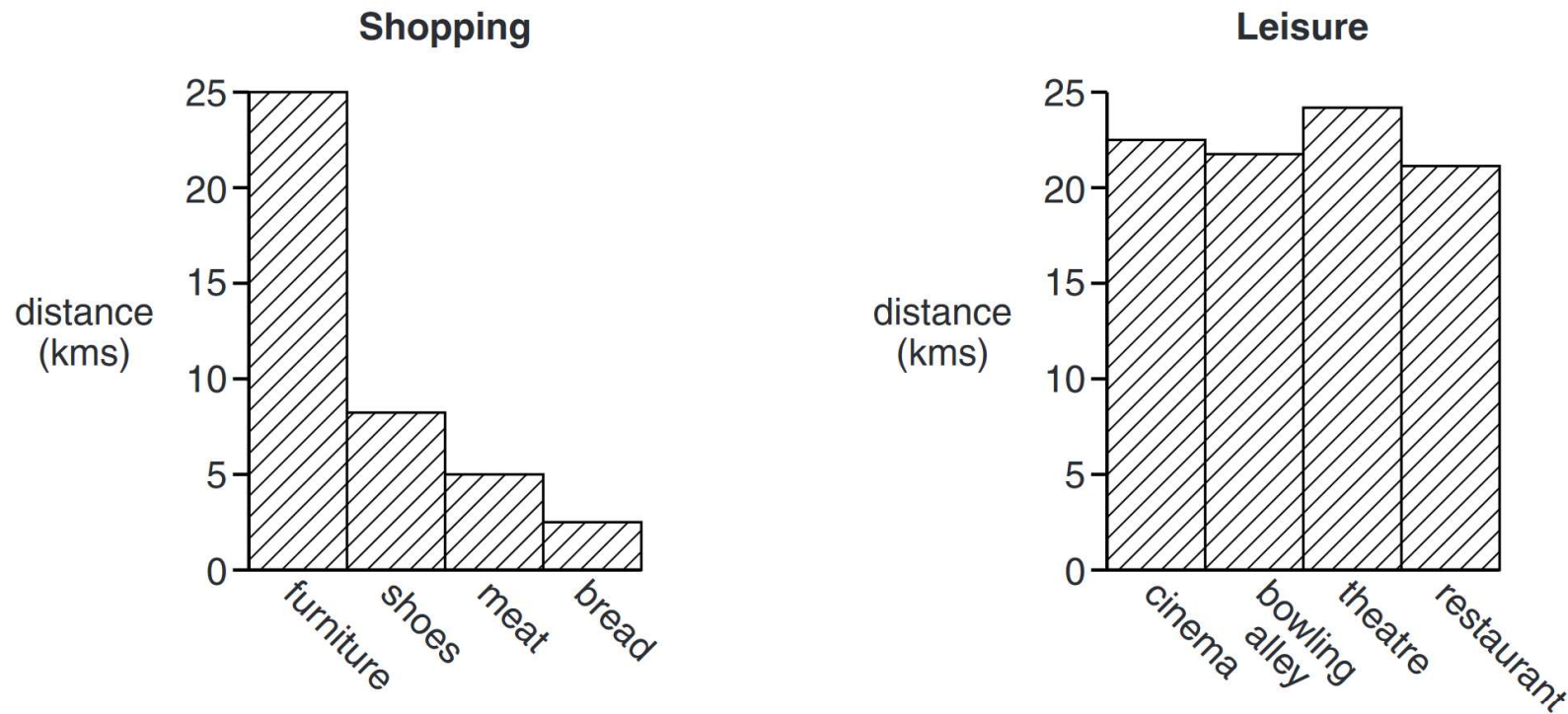


Fig. 4

(i) Compare the distances travelled by the family for shopping with distances travelled for leisure.  
You should refer to data from Fig. 4.