



INT 12 – LESSON 9

Lesson Aims

- Develop fluency in speaking by talking about the topic of towns and cities
- Practise the IELTS speaking test on the topic of towns and cities
- Learn and practise vocabulary to talk about towns and cities
- Learn about part 1 writing tasks to describe a map
- Learn and practise using some language to describe changes to a map
- Develop fluency in speaking by talking about the topic of neighbourhoods
- Learn and practise using language to show different opinions in speaking
- Practise the IELTS speaking test on the topic of neighbourhoods

Taiwanese Towns and Cities

Look at the pictures and guess which Taiwanese city is shown.
What do you know about each city? What do you like/dislike about each city?



Taiwanese Towns and Cities

Which city in Taiwan:

- is the best place for young people (why?)
- is the best place for elderly people (why?)
- is the best place to visit as a tourist (why?)
- is the safest place to live (why?)
- has the best food? (why?)
- has the friendliest people? (why?)
- has the best quality of life? (why?)

IELTS Speaking (Part 1) – Towns and Cities

At the start of part 1 of the speaking exam, you will be asked either about your work/studies or your hometown:

- Describe your hometown.
- What do you like most about your hometown?
- Is there anything you don't like about it?
- What kind of places do you like to visit in your hometown?
- When is the best time for a tourist to visit your hometown?
- Would you like to live in a different place in the future?

Reading – Towns and Cities

Read the descriptions below and try to guess the name of each city.

1. Surrounded by mountains, _____ hosts a dynamic blend of modern infrastructure and **traditional** culture. This **compact** city has a mix of both **run-down** buildings and towering skyscrapers, which can be visited using its efficient metro system. Visitors can also explore **bustling** night markets, where delicious street food can be enjoyed.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Taipei | 6. Kyoto |
| 2. Bangkok | 7. Sydney |
| 3. Los Angeles | 8. Tainan |
| 4. Kaohsiung | 9. Hong Kong |
| 5. Paris | 10. Singapore |

Vocabulary – Towns and Cities

Look at the adjectives below that were used in the descriptions and decide whether each word is positive, negative or neutral. Try to think of synonyms for each word.

bustling

charming

run-down

compact

lively

sprawling

traditional

contemporary

touristy

vibrant

picturesque

cosmopolitan

Vocabulary – Towns and Cities

Look at the adjectives below that were used in the descriptions and decide whether each word is positive, negative or neutral. Try to think of synonyms for each word.

bustling	charming	run-down	compact
lively	sprawling	traditional	contemporary
touristy	vibrant	picturesque	cosmopolitan

Now write a short description (three or four sentences) of a city that you know well.

Don't write the name of the city and do not make it too easy or too difficult to guess the name of the city.

IELTS Speaking (Part 2) – Towns and Cities

Describe a big city you would like to visit.

You should say:

which big city you would like to visit

how you would travel there

what you would do there

and explain why you would like to visit this big city.

IELTS Speaking (Part 3) – Towns and Cities

The growth of cities

Example questions:

Why have cities increased in size in recent years?

What are the challenges created by ever-growing cities?

In what ways do you think cities of the future will be different to cities today?

Facilities in cities

Example questions:

Which facilities are most important to people living in cities?

How does shopping in small local shops differ from shopping in large city centre shops?

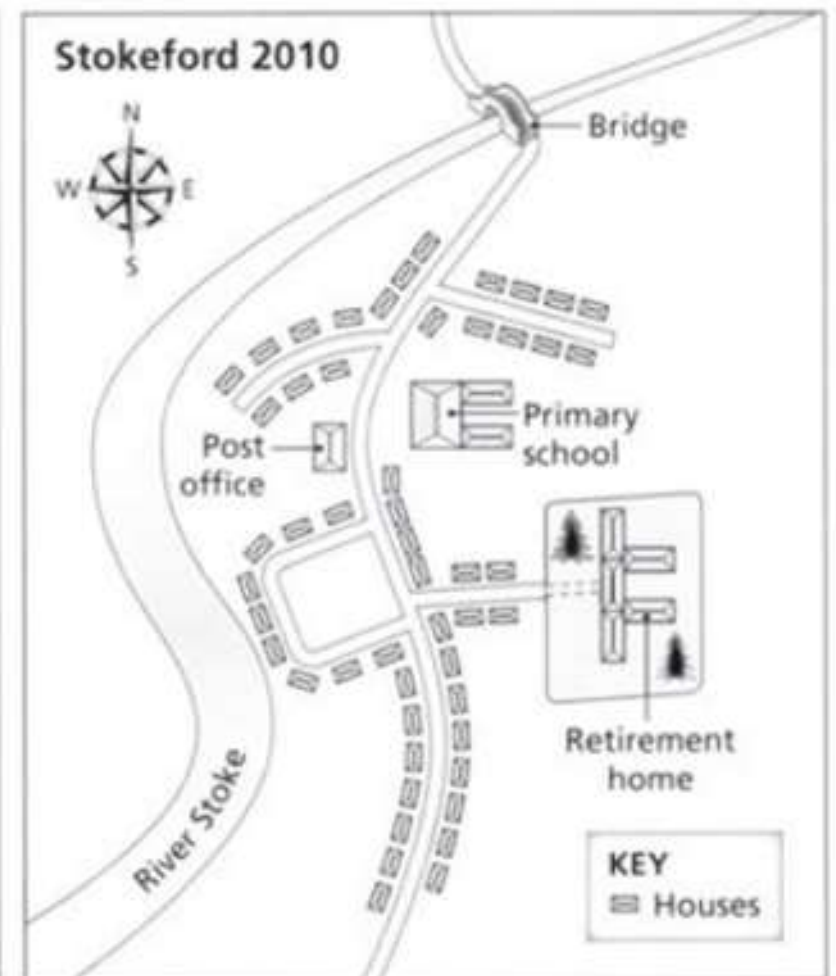
Do you think that children should always go to the school nearest to where they live?

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

Look at the following part 1 writing task.

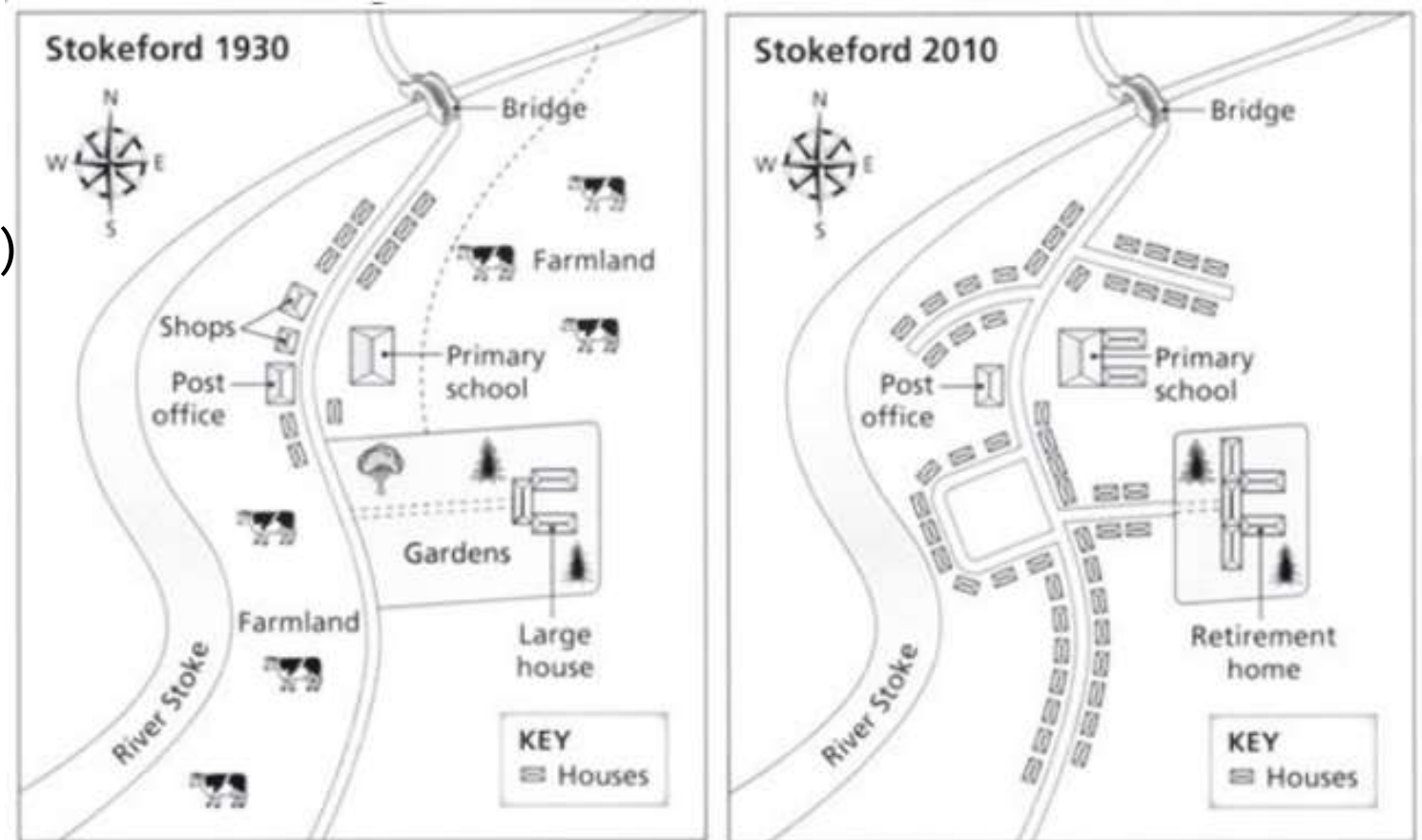
- What information do you need to include in your answer for this task?
- How will you organise your answer into paragraphs?



Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

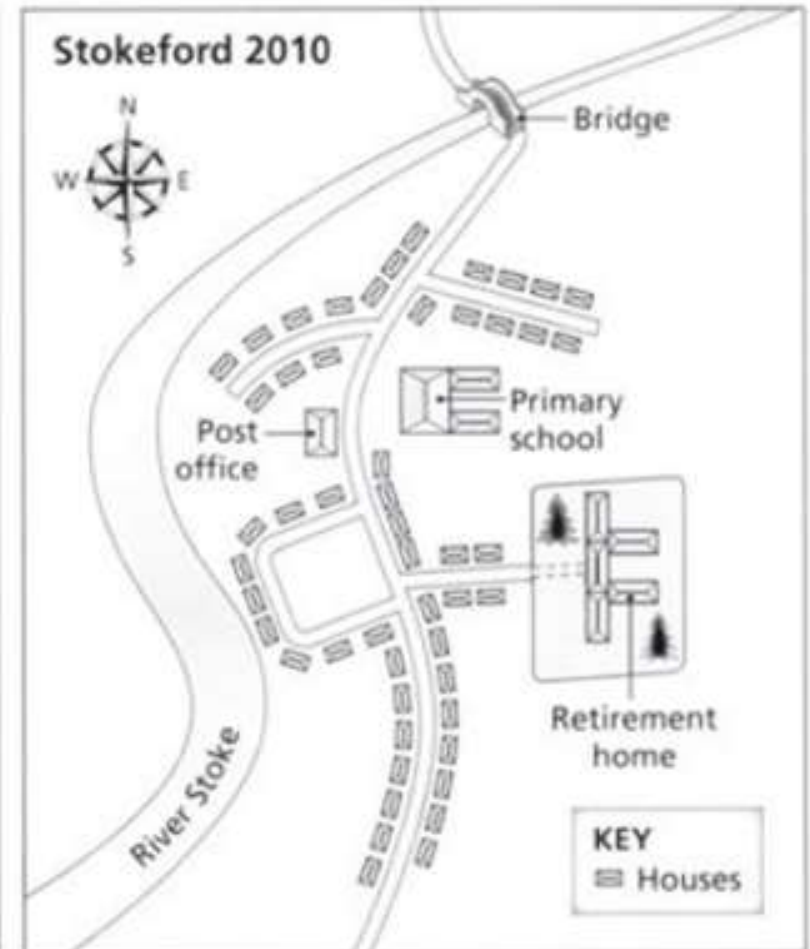
- Introduce the map
(paraphrase/rewrite the question)
- Give an overview (summary of main differences between maps)
- Describe the detailed changes between the two maps



Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

How could you summarise the changes between the two maps?

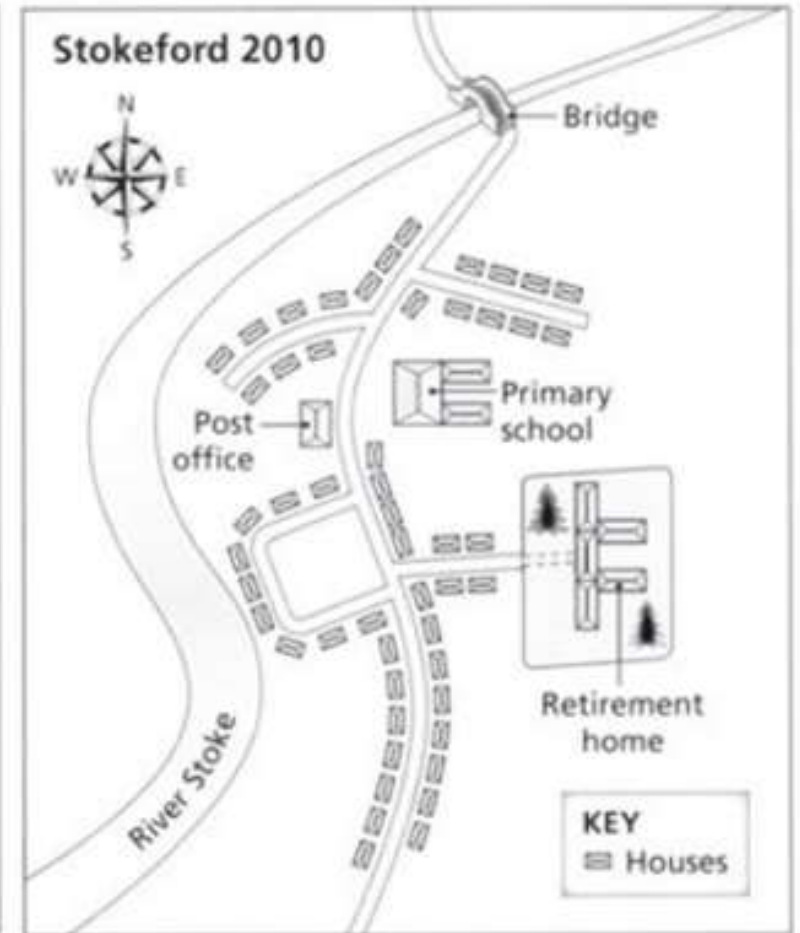


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

Write some opening sentences for this part 1 task:

- introduce the map (*rewrite the question/don't copy from the question*)
- give an overview (*summarise the main changes between the two maps*)

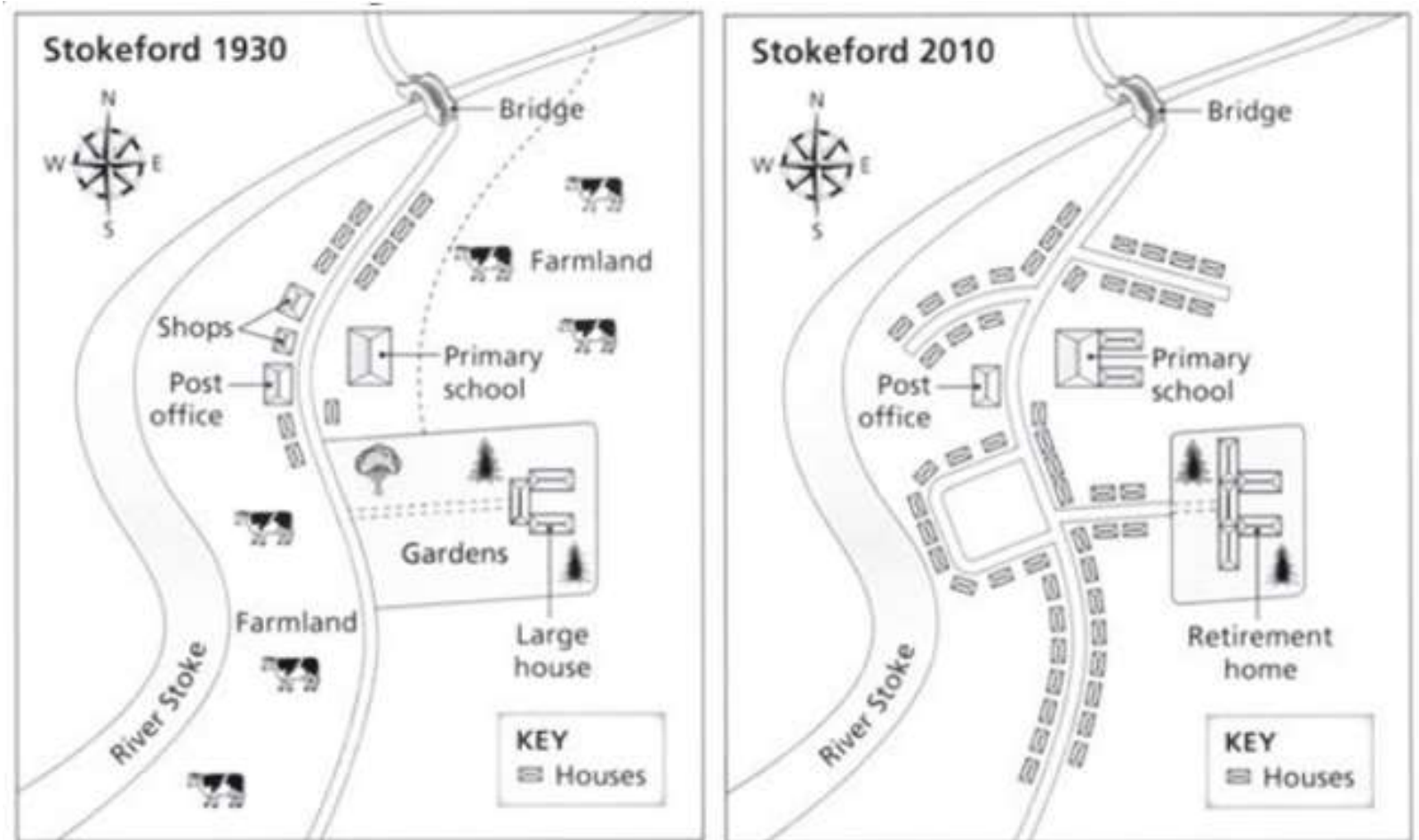


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

What kind of language do you think you will need to complete this task successfully?

- vocabulary to show changes
- vocabulary to show locations
- passive verb forms

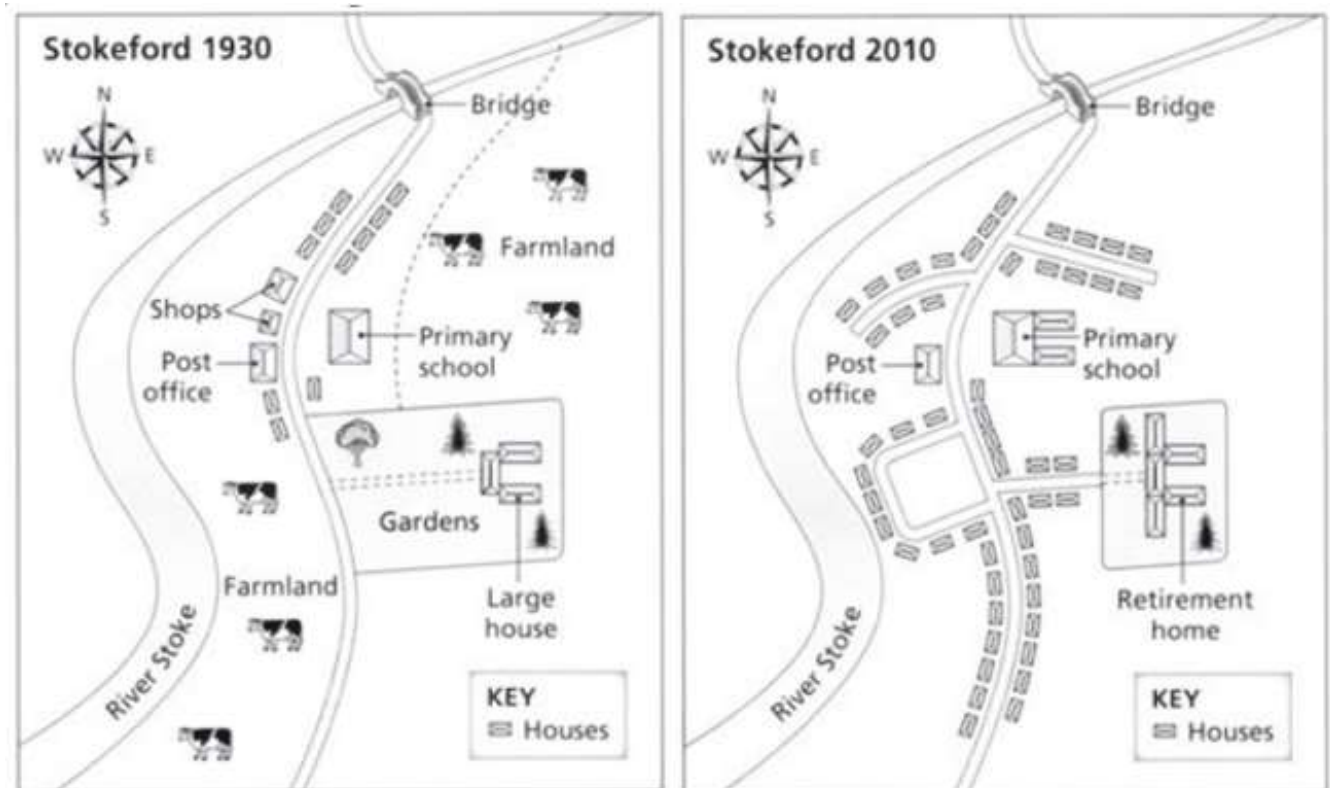


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

- Look at the two sentences below. Which one do you prefer? Why?

Some people knocked the shops down.

The shops were knocked down



Writing (Part 1) – Maps

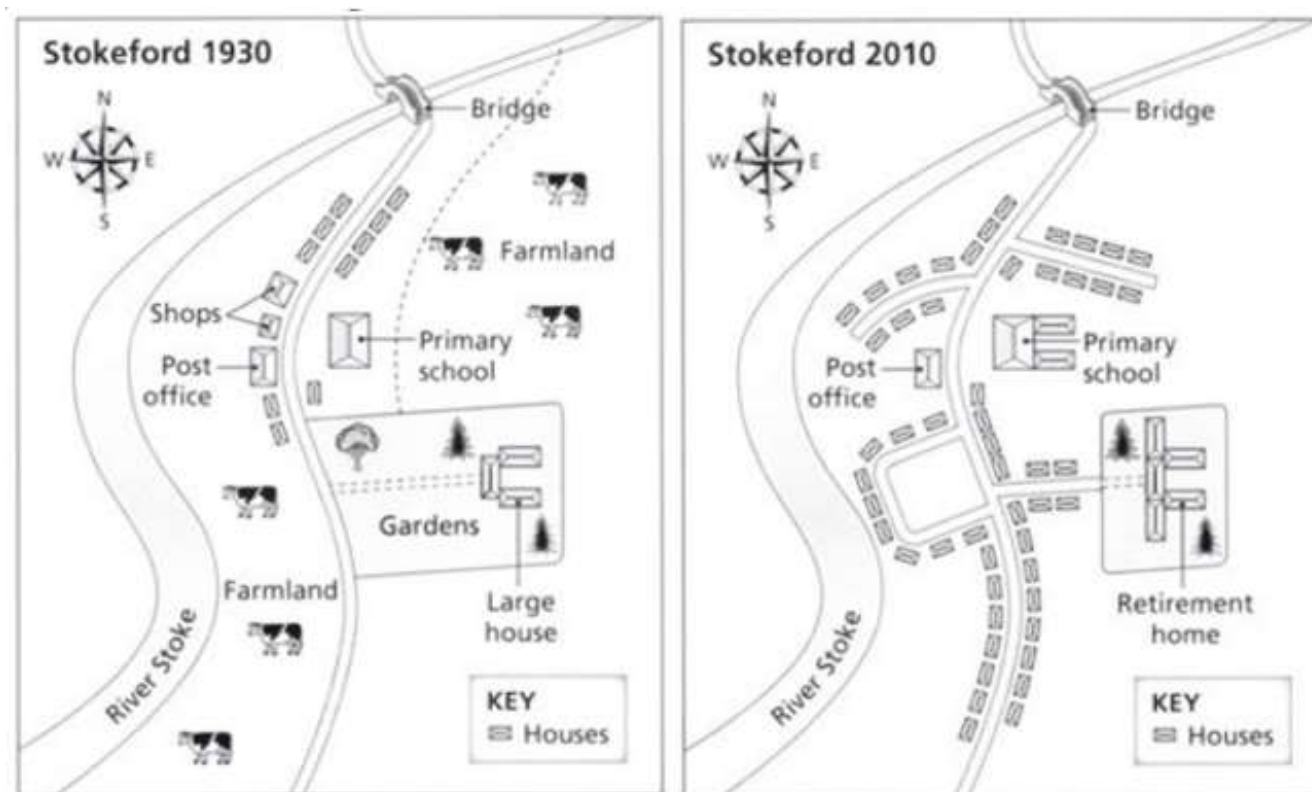
- Look at the two sentences below. Which one do you prefer? Why?

Some people **knocked** the shops down. **ACTIVE**

The shops **were knocked** down
PASSIVE

Passive verbs are used when we want to change the focus of the sentence, so the agent (doer) is no longer the subject of the sentence.

to be (verb tense) + **pp**

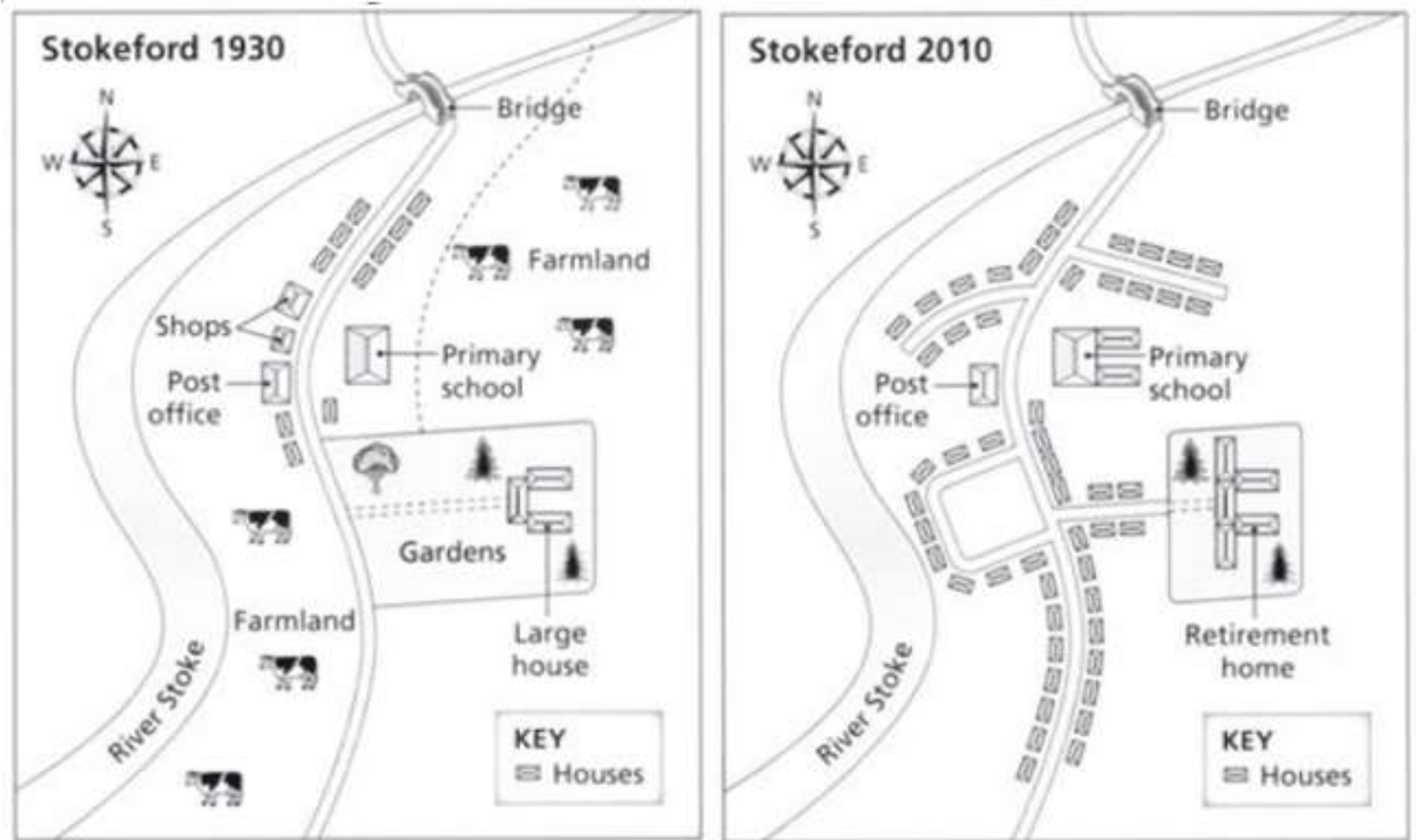


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

The maps below shows the village of Stokeford in 1930 and 2010. Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant. Write at least 150 words.

Read the sample answer and answer the following questions:

- What information is given in the overview?
- Which part of the map is described in each paragraph?
- How many changes are described in each paragraph?

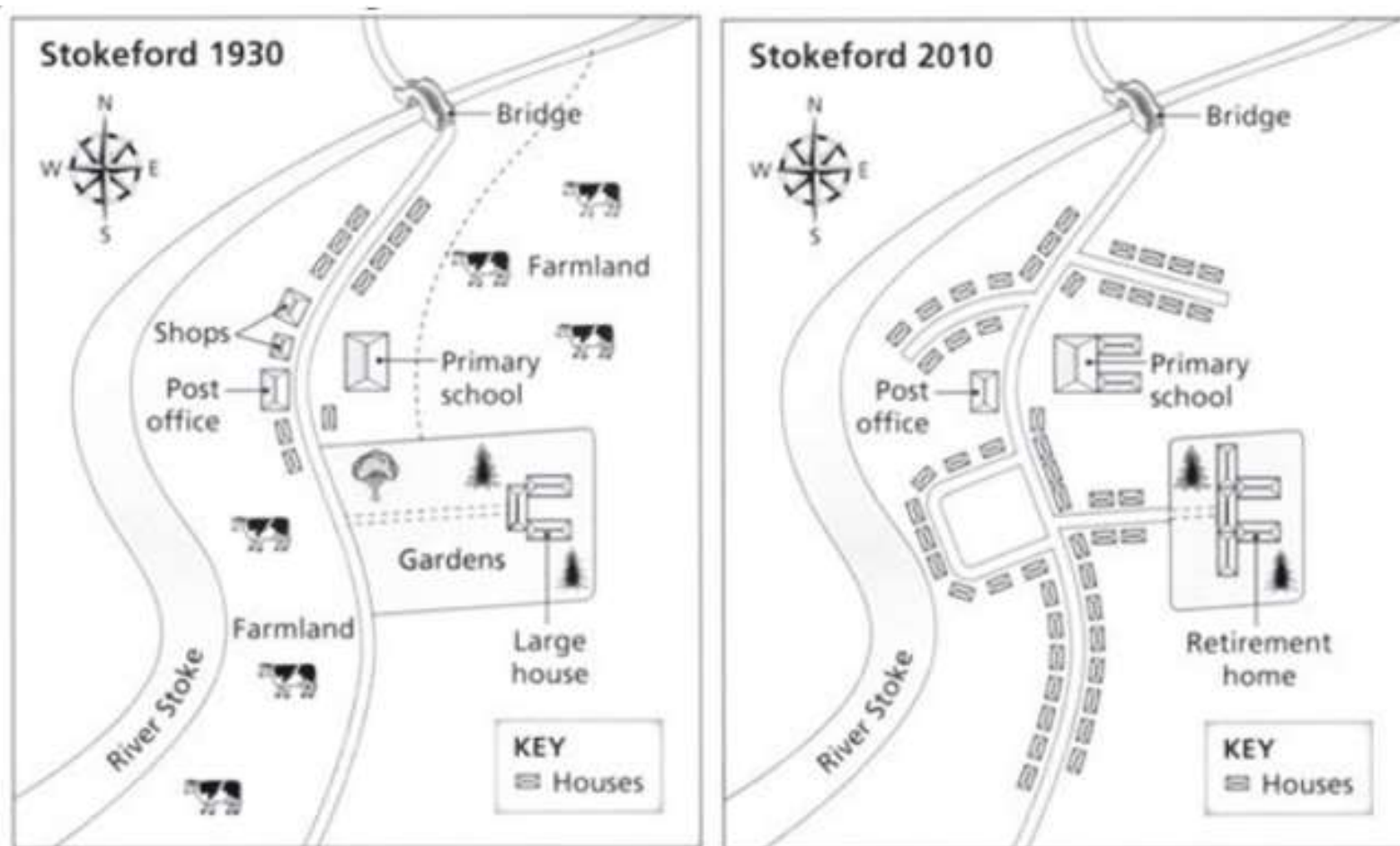


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Look at the following sample answer and identify any of the language below.

- vocabulary to show change
- vocabulary to show locations
- passive verb forms

What verb tense has been used?



Writing (Part 1) – Maps

- vocabulary to show change
- vocabulary to show locations
- passive verb forms

The maps show the changes in the village of Stokeford between 1930 and 2010. The village developed with the addition of more houses and roads but with less farmland.

In the north of the map, additional roads were built both to the east and west of the main road on an area that was once used as farmland. Along these roads, extra housing was constructed on each side. To the south of the westerly road, two shops were demolished but the post office remained unaltered. However, on the opposite side of the main road, the primary school building was extended.

Farmland also disappeared in the south of the map, where more houses were built along the main road. In the centre of the map, a new road, which loops back around to the main road, was added to the west of the main road. More houses were built along this new road. To the east of the main road, the existing path was turned into a road and the gardens surrounding the road disappeared. At the end of the road, the large house expanded and was converted into a retirement home.

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

What verb tense has been used?

- use **past simple** when describing two maps in the past
 - the primary school building **was** extended
- use **present perfect** when describing one map in the past and one today
 - the primary school building **has been** extended
- use **future forms** when describing one map today and one future plan of a map
 - the primary school building **will be** extended

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Add the words you found to show changes in the sample answer to the table below:

[illegible]

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Add the words you found to show changes in the sample answer to the table below:

Make sth Bigger/Smaller	Move/Remove sth	Addition	Change into sth	No Change
to extend	to disappear	addition	to develop	unaltered
to expand	to demolish	additional	to turn into	
		to build	to convert into	
		extra		
		to construct		
		to add		

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Now add the following words to show change to the table on the previous slide.

to enlarge	to plant (trees)	unchanged	unaltered	to clear (land)
to pull down	to cut down (trees)	undisturbed	to relocate	to make into
untouched	to knock down	to widen	to replace	undeveloped
to transform	to reduce (in size)	to renovate	to remove	to redevelop

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Now add the following words to show change to the table below:

[illegible]

Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Now add the following words to show change to the table below:

Make sth Bigger/Smaller	Move/Remove sth	Addition	Change into sth	No Change
to enlarge	to cut down (trees)	to plant (trees)	to make into	unchanged
to widen	to clear (land)		to replace	unaltered
to reduce (in size)	to pull down		to renovate	undisturbed
	to cut down (trees)		to redevelop	untouched
	to knock down			undeveloped
	to relocate			
	to remove			

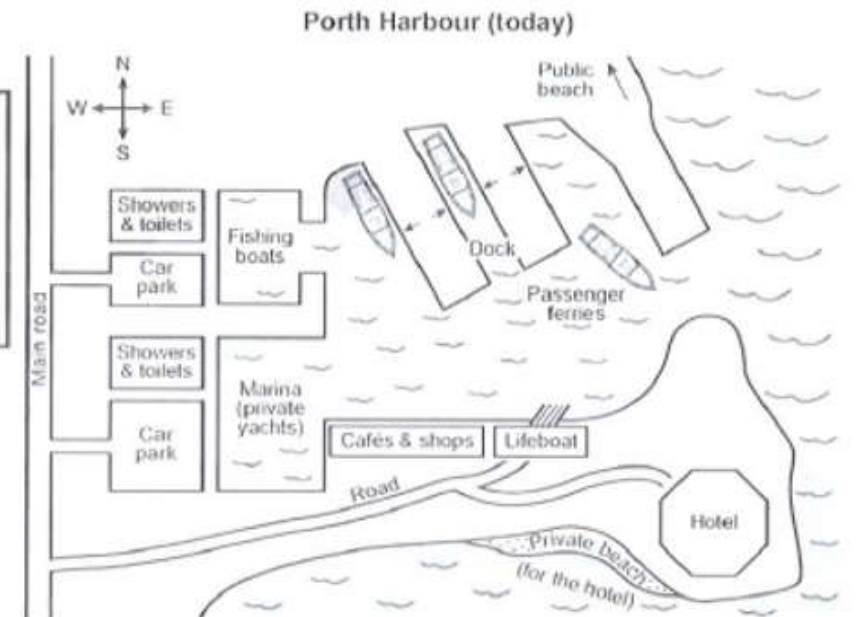
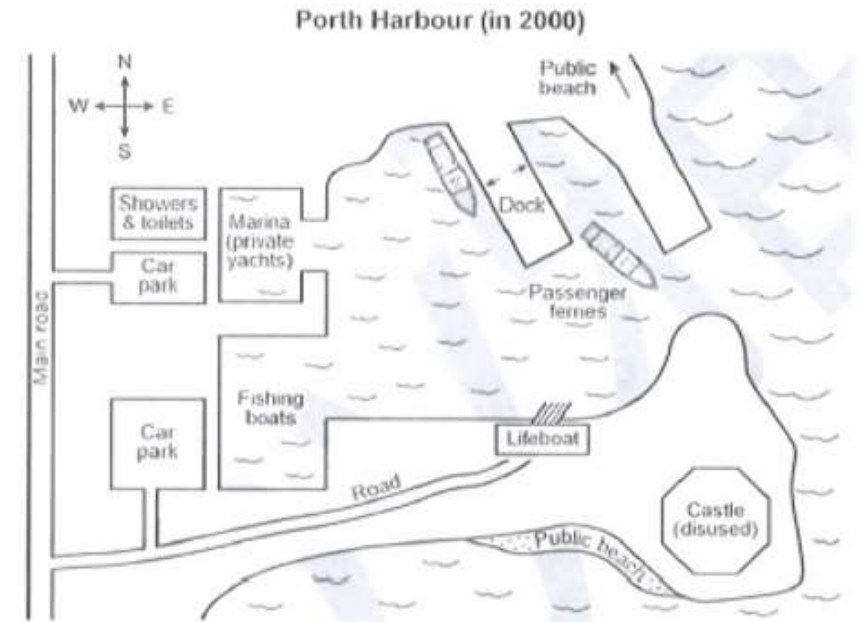
Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Look at the part 1 map task below.

- What changes occurred? What stayed the same?
- What information would you include in an overview?
- How would you organise your answer into paragraphs?
- What verb tense would you use?

The plans below show a harbour in 2000 and how it looks today.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.

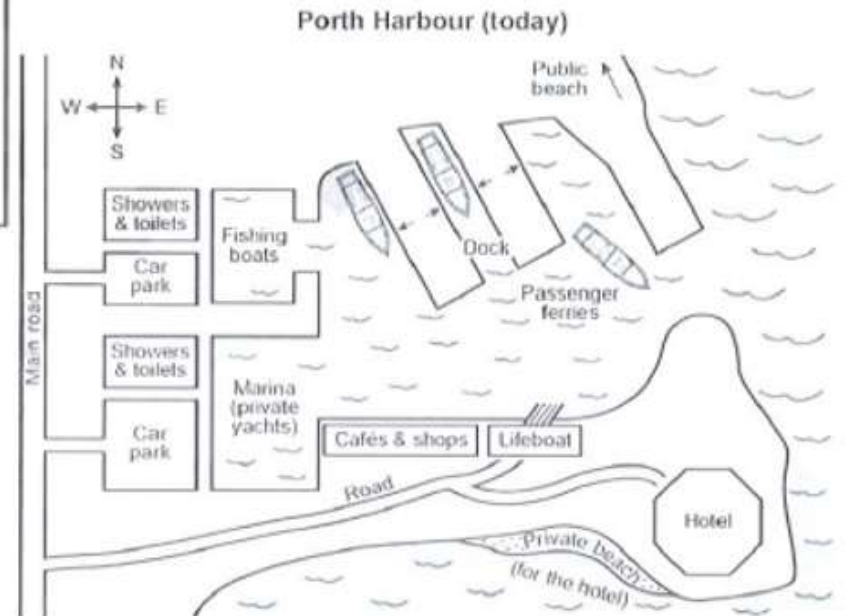
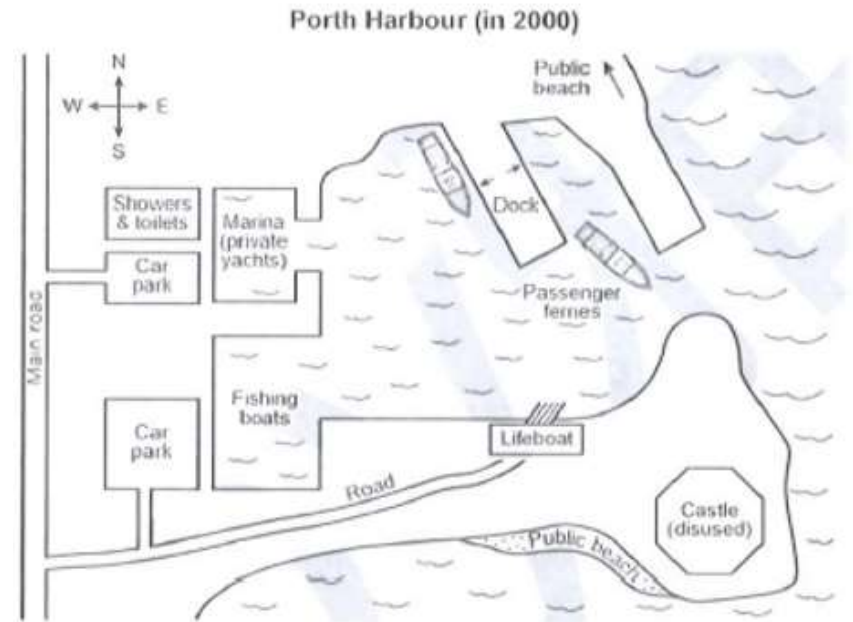


Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Write a body paragraph to describe some of the changes between the two maps.

The plans below show a harbour in 2000 and how it looks today.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant.



Writing (Part 1) – Maps

Look at your map and describe it to the teacher. Listen to him describe his map and circle any changes on your map that you can identify.

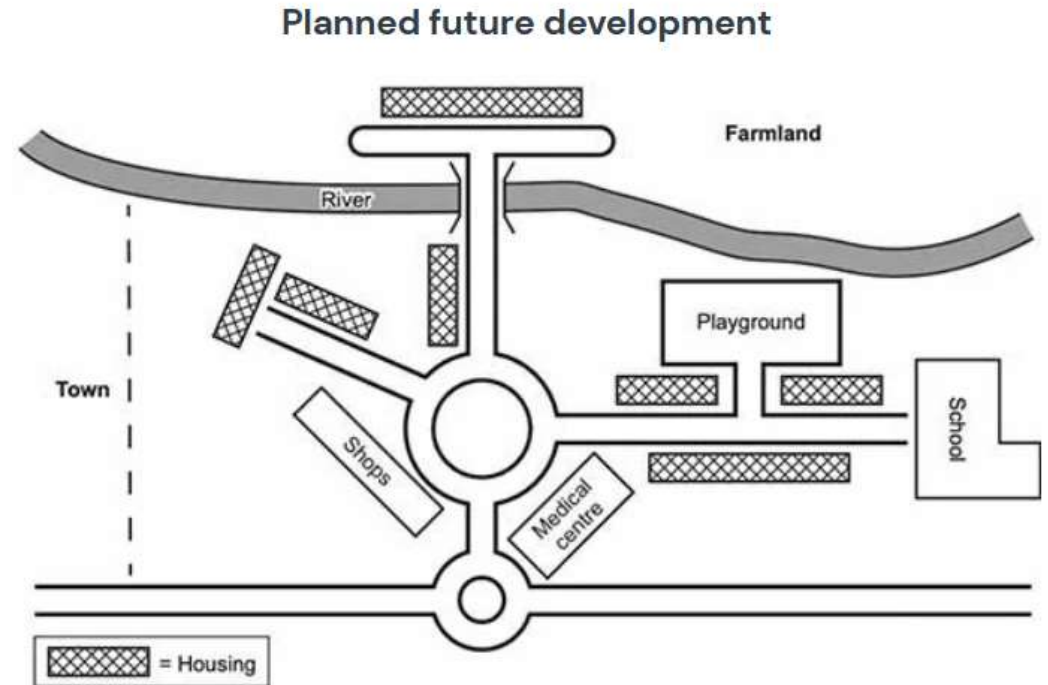
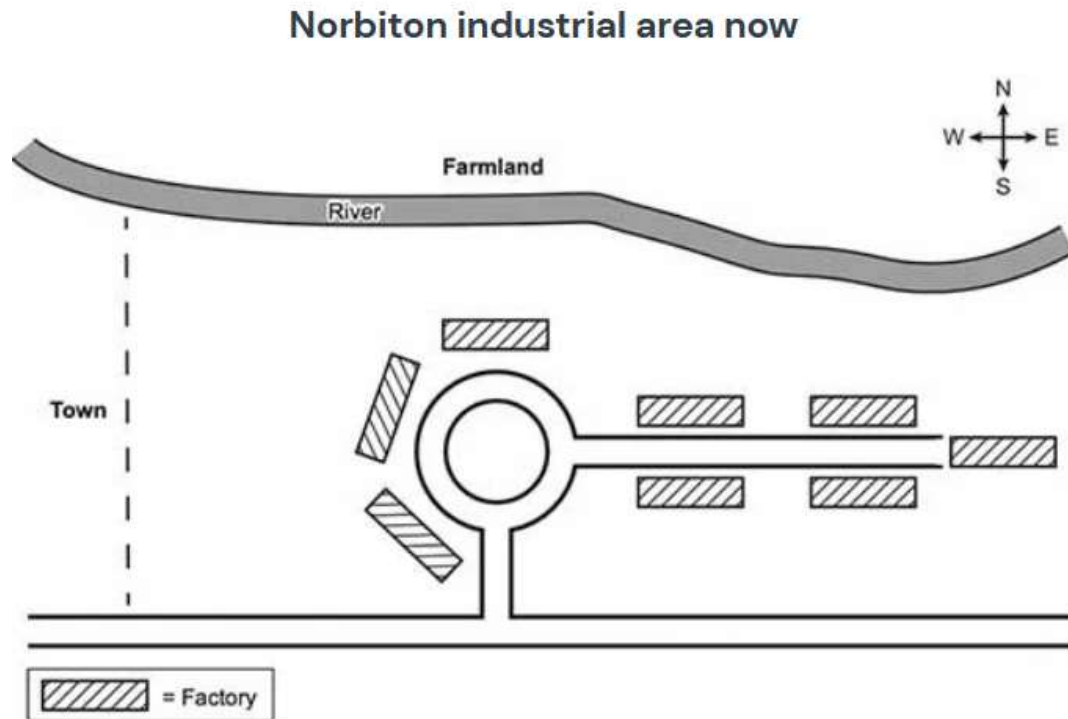
Now write two sentences to describe the changes.

Read the sample answer and see if your sentences were written accurately.

Writing Part 1 (Maps) – Homework

Look at the homework task below and decide:

- what information you could include in the overview
- what language you will use to describe the changes
- what verb tense you will use when describing the changes



Speaking – Neighbourhoods

You are going to show me a map to talk about your neighbourhood.

Tell me about:

- what facilities are in your local area
- which places you regularly visit
- what you like most about your area
- what you like least about your area



IELTS Speaking (Part 1) – Neighbourhoods

Neighbours

- How well do you know the people who live next door to you?
- How often do you see them? [Why/Why not?]
- What kinds of problem do people sometimes have with their neighbours?
- How do you think neighbours can help each other?

Neighbours

- How often do you see your neighbours? [Why/Why not?]
- Do you invite your neighbours to your home? [Why/Why not?]
- Do you think you are a good neighbour? [Why/Why not?]
- Has a neighbour ever helped you? [Why/Why not?]

IELTS Speaking (Part 2) – Neighbourhoods

Describe the neighbourhood you lived in when you were a child.

You should say:

**where in your town/city the neighbourhood was
what kind of people lived there
what it was like to live in this neighbourhood**

and explain whether you would like to live in this neighbourhood in the future.

IELTS Speaking (Part 3) – Showing Opinions

In part 3 of the exam, you will be asked to give your opinion on a variety of questions. One way to extend your answers is by giving a general opinion followed by your own opinion:

General statement	Your opinion
For the most part, ...	but in fact ...
In general, ...	but I (don't) think ...
It's widely acknowledged that ...	but in my experience ...
Most people recognise that ...	but in my country ...
That depends.	and I agree that ...
That can vary according to the situation.	and because of that ...
In some circumstances, ...	For instance, I have noticed that ...
For some people ...	However, I believe ...

IELTS Speaking (Part 3) – Neighbourhoods

Neighbours

Example questions:

What sort of things can neighbours do to help each other?

How well do people generally know their neighbours in your country?

How important do you think it is to have good neighbours?

Social interaction with neighbours

How much time do people spend interacting socially with their neighbours in your country? Do you think this is the same worldwide?

How important do you think social interaction in local neighbourhoods is for building happy communities? Why?

Has the development of blocks of flats had a positive or negative social effect in local communities? Why do you think that is?