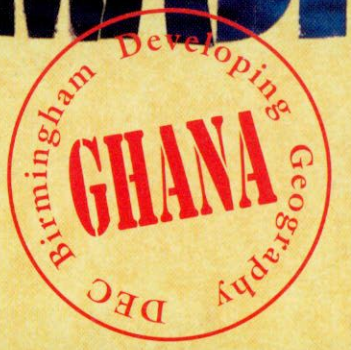


KUMASI AND BEYOND



Urban development and enterprise

Contents

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Credits

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Bill: 4b; 5e; 6a; 8a; 9c; 17a; 19
Lucy: 7; 17b; 21a; 23; 25; 29
Amanda: 5d
Roger: 11; 15; 22; 31
Jeff: 3 c, d & e; 6b; 26 a, b, c, d, & e; 27
Tim: 3b; 4d; 8b; 10a; 12; 13
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The authors:

Richard Beattie	Sir Wilfred Martineau School, Birmingham
William Elgar	John Willmott School, Birmingham
Lucy Kirkham	Bridgnorth Endowed School, Shropshire
Amanda Nicoll	Wey Valley School, Weymouth [formerly Archbishop Grimshaw School, Birmingham]
Roger Robinson	DEC and University of Birmingham, School of Education
Jeff Serf	University of Wolverhampton
Tim Thomas	Archbishop Ilsley School, Birmingham

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Scott Sinclair designed and managed the project, the project leader was Jeff Serf, the publication editor Roger Robinson, supported by members of the DEC staff.

This series, **Developing Geography: Ghana** contains three volumes:
1. Land and life **2. Kumasi and beyond** **3. Issues and enquiry.**

Developing Geography: Ghana

2. Kumasi and beyond

Urban development and enterprise

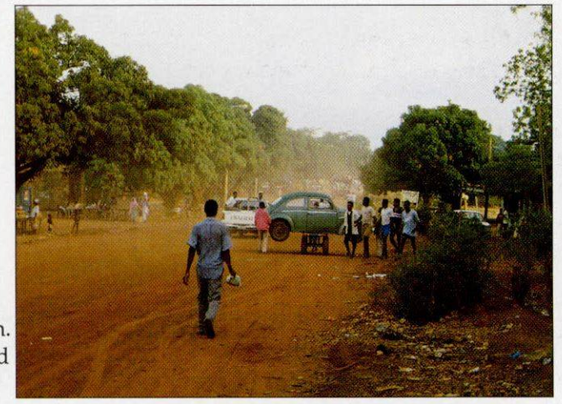
This book is about a town in Ghana called Kumasi, and about the people who live there. Like all of us, the people of Kumasi are linked to other people and places around the world.

Some of these links are 'things' - such as furniture and car engines. Some of the links are people - family and friends working away from home. Some of the links are ideas - like what should happen in the future and what is needed for a good life.

Kumasi is quite a long way from Britain [how far?], but you may be surprised at how much you have in common with the people who live there. The teachers who wrote this book after visiting Ghana for 3 weeks certainly were.

To Class 8KL 24 August - Tamale

I thought you'd enjoy this card - it reminded me of our last field trip. But the weather is much hotter, and although it keeps promising to rain, it never does. Tamale is north of Kumasi but we've met lots of people who have relatives in Kumasi, and many more who work for firms with offices there.



See you on Sept. 5th. from your very tired geography teacher.

Symbols
On some double pages important issues about different topics arise. These are indicated at the top of the pages by symbols:

1. International links -
2. Environment -
3. Economics - £
4. Women in development -
5. Youth -

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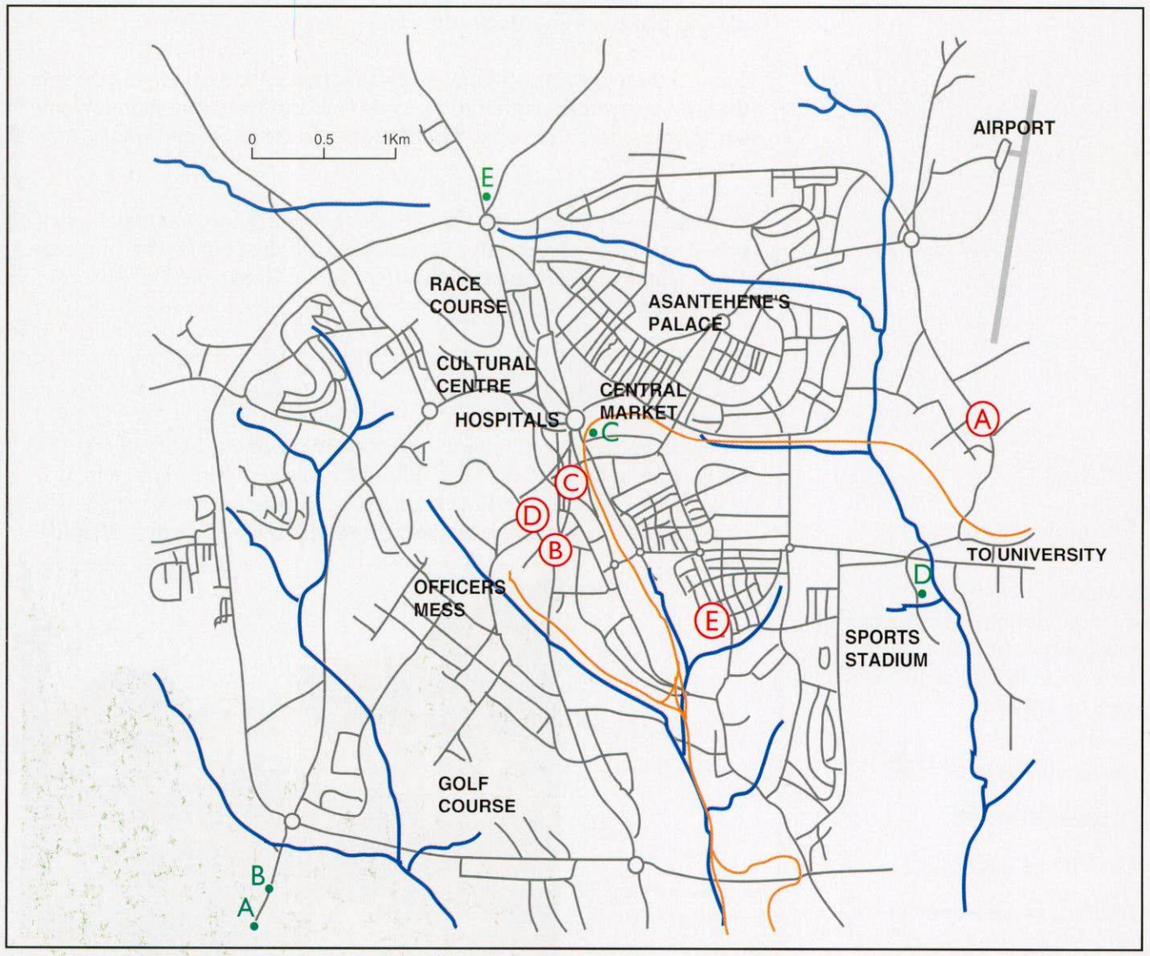
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Kumasi - a regional city

Meet the people and the places

Kumasi has grown from 480,000 people to over 600,000 in the last 10 years. It is the capital of the Ashanti Region. The first section of this book is about the town, its people and their activities.



Ⓐ LOCATION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

A PEOPLE FROM PAGES 4 / 5

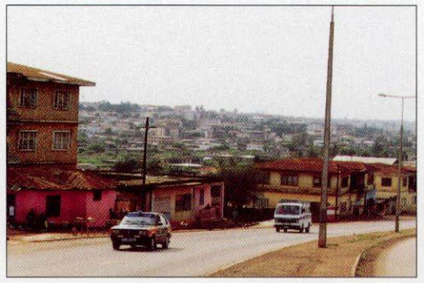
ROADS

RAILWAY

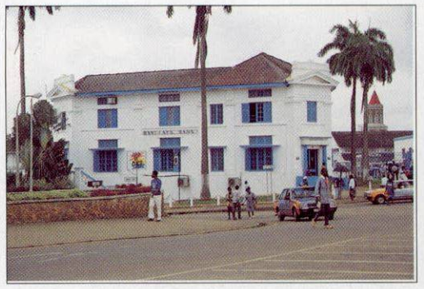
RIVER

Activities

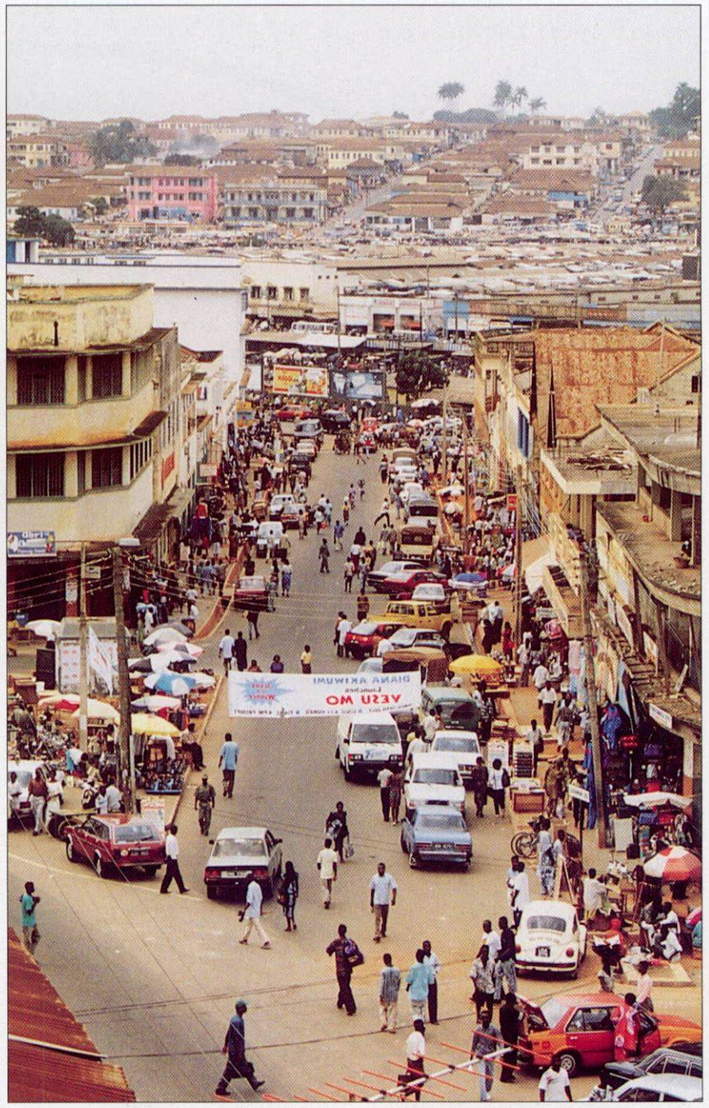
1. From Barclay's Bank what is:
   [a] the direction
   [b] the straight line distance
   [c] the distance by road to the other places in the photos on page 3?
2. What has surprised you about Kumasi town?
3. Choose a photo, make a simple sketch of it. Put labels around it to describe and explain what is going on. Choose a person in the photo and make a caption for your sketch from something they might say.



A. Adukrom, a recently developed suburb



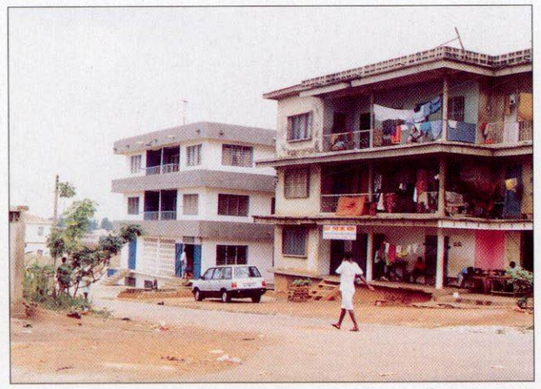
B. Barclays Bank in the office area



C. Central shopping area



D. The central office area



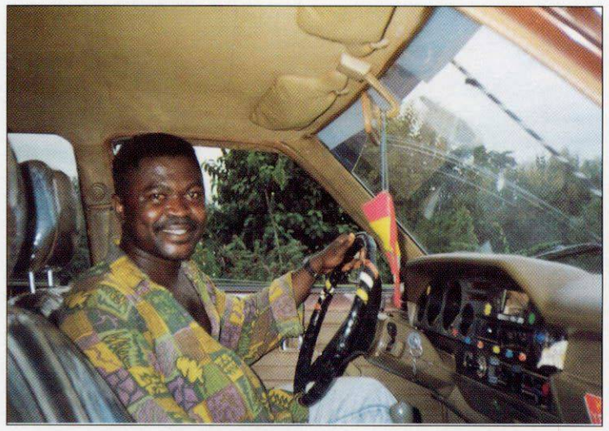
E. Asafo tenements

A taxi ride in Kumasi

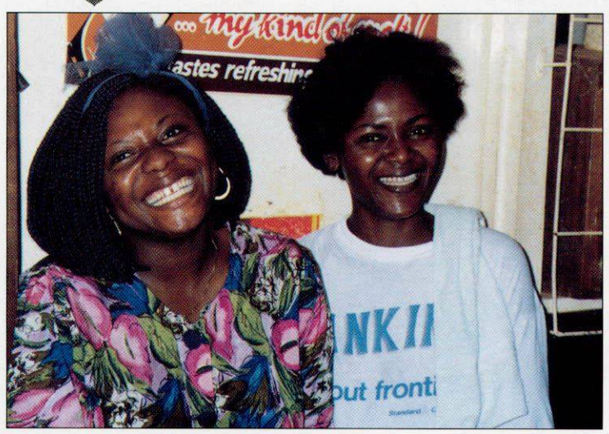
Taxis are much cheaper in Ghana than in England, and many more people use them.

"Hey! Do you want a taxi?"
"Yes! Great, jump in."
"Where would you like to go?"
"Suame Magazine!"
"No problem."
"Do you mind if I pick up a few people on the way?"
"By the way my name's Kwesi, what's yours?"
"Thomas."

"I've been driving taxis all over Kumasi for 6 years now. I rent this particular taxi but I hope to buy my own soon and maybe even go to Accra one day. It's common in Kumasi for taxis to stop for more than one fare at a time. I get to know quite a few people this way and I certainly know my way around Kumasi!"
"Look! There's another fare."



A. Kwesi in his taxi



B. Georgina and her sister Philomena

"Hallo, thanks for stopping. My name's Georgina and this is my bar on the Bekwai Road to the south of the city. I work here in the evening but by day I train as a seamstress near the centre of Kumasi. That's where I'm going now. I hope I'm not too late!"

C.
"Hey Georgina you're late!"
"This is where I train 28 seamstresses as apprentices. We don't sell clothes here. Instead people bring us cloth they have bought and we make the clothes especially for them. I cut the cloth and the younger girls sew the pieces together. I like my job but we all work long days."
"Anyway I can't stop to chat all day I've work to do. Bye!"

"Kwesi wait!"
"Are you going our way?"
"Thanks. I'm Patrick by the way and this is my brother Joseph. We're going back to Anloga to help out in our father's carpentry business. It's just off the 24th February Road in the east of Kumasi. Although we're young, I'm 7 and Joseph's 5, we're both hard workers."
"Can you drop us off here Kwesi?"
"Thanks, and bye."



D. Patrick and Joseph at Anloga

"Hello Kwesi, have you come for a new engine?"
"No! ... Maybe a new door then? I sold a small engine to a taxi driver just yesterday. Mind you he was having a complete overhaul, but that's all in a day's work in Suame. Well don't forget, anything you want fixing come to Suame."
"See you."

"OK that's 500 cedis, Thomas."
"I hope you enjoyed the journey and remember, if you want to go anywhere in Kumasi find a taxi driver."



E. Thomas, an engineer in Suame

Activities

1. Put a piece of tracing paper over the map on page 2. Mark the route Kwesi probably took.

2. What do all the people on this page do for work? Make a small list.

3. Select one job from this page and explain why you would like to do it.

4. Kumasi is a big city and has lots of people doing a great many different jobs. In groups decide upon 5 people that you would choose to help describe the city or town where you live. Describe these people. Are these people similar to or different from the people on this page?

5. Imagine that you [and the people in your group] lived in Kumasi. How would you go about introducing Kumasi to a visitor? Design a small information leaflet or guide.

Young people at work

Many children in Ghana start work at a young age to help their families. Three-quarters of children go to primary school, but only 47% of boys and 31% of girls go to secondary school. Many children work at home or on the land. Here we meet some who have jobs in the town.

Elizabeth
Imagine walking around for up to nine hours in temperatures of over 30 degrees C with a 5.5 kilogram weight on your head.

That's what 13 year old Elizabeth does after helping her aunt with household chores for four hours, and the most she can hope to earn in a day is 30p.

Elizabeth is a water-girl. She carries bags of iced water around in a basket on her head and tries to sell them in Kumasi market.

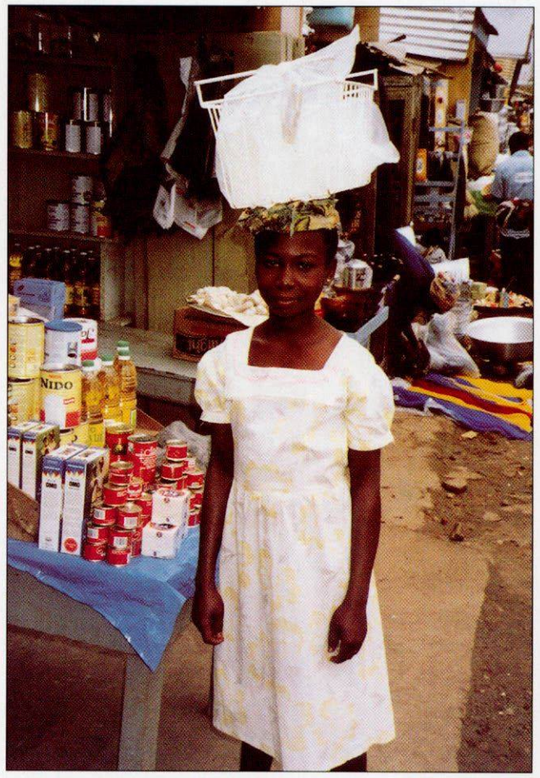
Elizabeth, who cannot afford to go to school, earns enough from the job for three meals a day and to pay her aunt a little.

She left Bekwai, 30 kilometres south, a month ago because she needed to make a living.

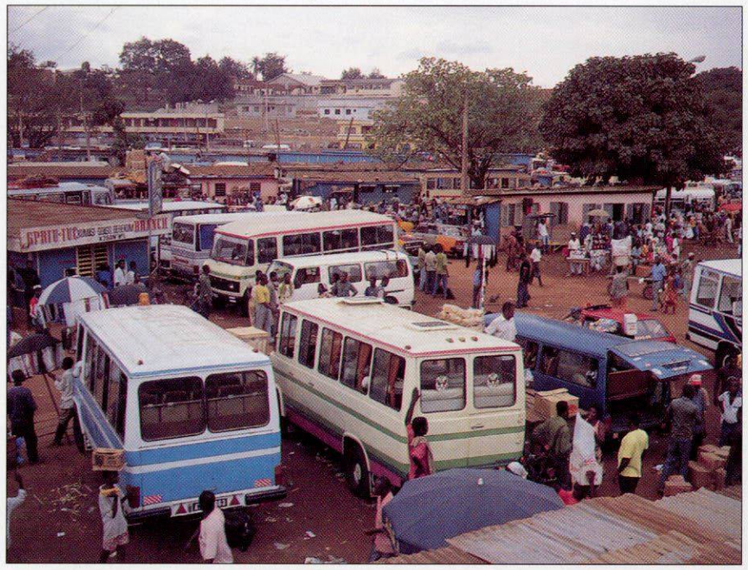
Her typical day starts at 5 a.m., when she helps her aunt, a seamstress, by sweeping the family compound, fetching water from the standpipe and bathing the children.

Work in the market begins at 9 a.m., when Elizabeth buys iced water. She sells all day; taking only a short break for lunch. She aims to sell 100 bags at 10 cedis - about 1p. each.

Dressed in a clean, light dress Elizabeth said she hoped to raise enough money to buy a sewing machine so she could train to be a seamstress like her aunt.



A. Elizabeth



B. Kumasi lorry park near the market

Emmanuel
Emmanuel, 14, is a successful student but only because he spends his spare time selling Tesco and Safeway carrier bags for 20 cedis - 2 pence.

Emmanuel sells the bags, which he buys from a wholesaler who gets them from visitors from England, to make money for school books, pencils and fees.

Next year he will have to leave school because senior school fees are way above what he can make.

Emmanuel also helps his mother by pounding the corn and fetching water - his father left to work in Europe seven years ago and has never returned.

At school he loves maths and English. Emmanuel wants to become a carpenter, but he does not know if he will be able to afford the apprenticeship fees.

Mohammed - Market Porter
I'm 16 years old and I've been in Kumasi for 2 months. I was born in Abidjan, and I came from the Ivory Coast with my uncle. When he left, I stayed. I work here in the market, carrying people's loads. They pay me according to how big the load is - mostly 10 pence. I've made friends. We hang around together. Some of us sleep in the market, and get up when it gets light. I want to earn enough money to pay my fare to the coast. There's more jobs there, and they pay better too.

Ameroh's woodworkers at Angloga
I have six apprentices working for me in my workshop. The apprentices are very young when they start their training, often as young as 10 years old. It takes them about 10 years to learn the trade. When an apprentice starts at the workshop they pay me something whilst they are learning. In return I give them their food and they live with me.

The government has recently introduced new educational reforms. This means that children will be able to start an apprenticeship at fifteen and so get the chance to complete their formal education.



C. A workshop in Anloga

Activities

1. Make a list of all the international links you can see on pages 4-7.

2. What are the main issues for the apprentices in Anloga?

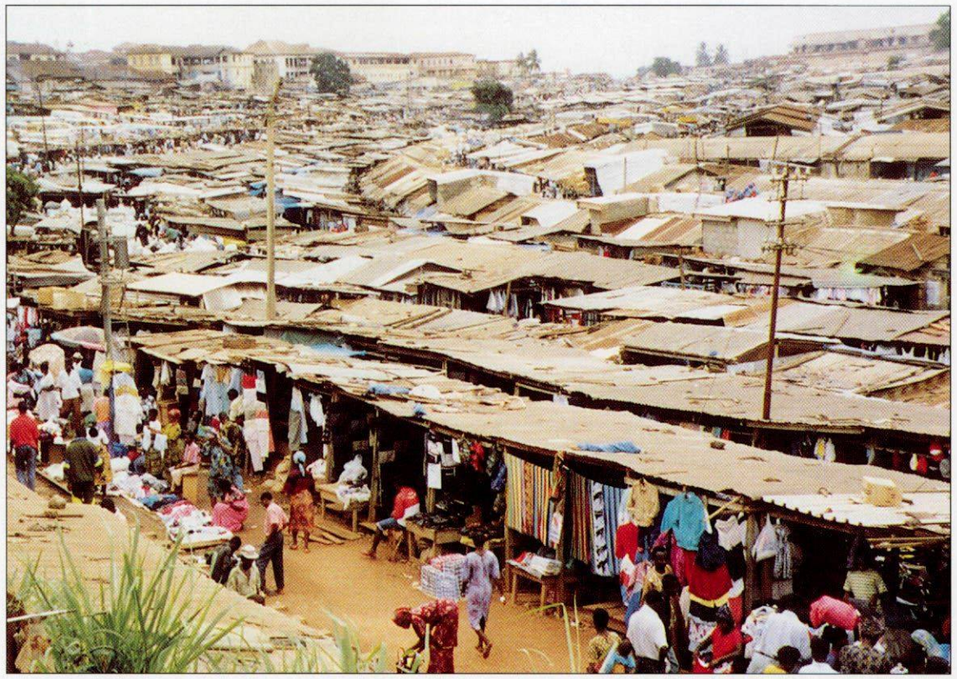
3. Suppose you are a reporter for Newsround. Plan a programme [questions, interviews, film, photos etc.] about Elizabeth and Emmanuel.

4. Make a survey of the jobs [paid and unpaid] done by pupils in your school. Compare these with the jobs for young people in Ghana.

The Markets

Kumasi Central Market is one of the biggest markets in Africa. You can buy everything there, including foods, local and foreign luxury goods, haircuts and fuel.

The market is divided into areas just like a supermarket.

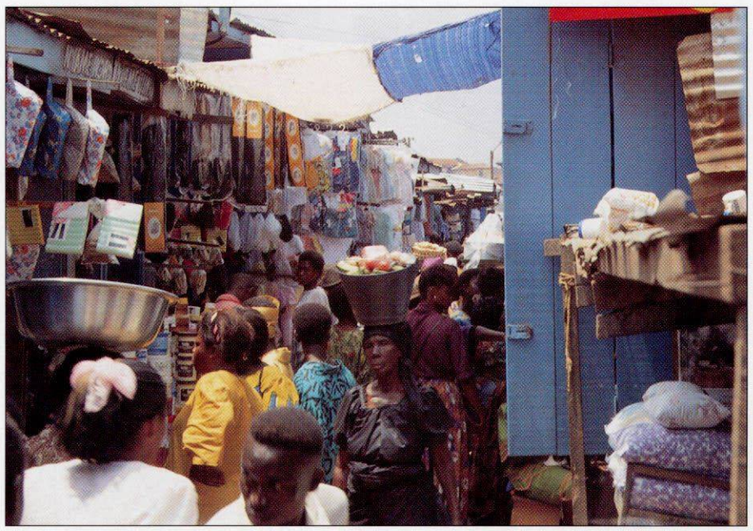


A. Kumasi central market

Afia - cloth seller
It's 8 a.m. and Afia is unlocking her stall in Kumasi's central market. It takes a long time. There are four padlocks and an iron bar to unlock. Afia's stall needs to be secure, inside there is lots of valuable cloth.

Afia travels on the bus to Accra about twice a month to buy cloth to sell. The best cloth is made in Tema using HEP from the Volta Dam. Sometimes she will buy cloth from the vendors walking around Kumasi market.

Afia's day at the market finishes at 6 p.m. She then travels to her modern house in the Kumasi suburbs. She lives with her husband, who is a chef, her children and other close relatives.



B. Inside the market

Hanna - chop seller
I am from Saltpond, Central Region. I am a widow with 4 children and I work with a group of other mothers selling food. We started our business by getting help from other market traders; one person gave us our pots, one person gives us cassava and so on. At the end of each day we give them some money towards repaying our loans.

My day starts at 5 a.m. I go to the lorry station and buy one bag of cassava [about £8] and a few plantain [40p]. I start by peeling the cassava. Next I carry water in my big cauldron and boil up the vegetables until they are soft. I pay two men to pound the vegetables with a wadro [mortar] and womma [pestle]. Abena, my young girl, adds water as they beat the mixture into a dough called fofoo.

Whilst we make fofoo, another of the women makes a soup of fish, tomatoes and spices. The other mothers serve the customers, putting the fofoo into the bottom of a dish and pouring the soup on top to make a delicious meal called chop. Most of our customers are market traders and travellers from the lorry station. We are in a good position to sell our chop. At the end of the day, at about 9 - 10 p.m., I pay the men £1.40 and Abena 60p. Once I have paid back some of my credit to the other traders I may have only 20p for myself.



C. Preparing fofoo for chop

Achiaa - hairdresser
Welcome to Sister Sledge Hairdressers'. My name is Achiaa. I am twenty years old and the senior apprentice. Please take a seat and have a look round whilst I finish this woman's hair. We have a television in the corner. Perhaps you would like to watch 'Music for your dancing feet' whilst you are waiting.

I have been training for three years. It can take up to five years to learn the trade and get your own tools together. My mother is sponsoring me, which means that she has had to buy the hair rollers and towels that I use on the job. Madam is not in today so I am in charge of the three other apprentices.

My day starts at 7.30 a.m. I live at home with my family. I put on my uniform and come to work. The first thing that I have to do is sweep the floor and clean the rollers. It is important for the shop to be neat if we are to get a lot of custom. My day finishes after I have washed all of the towels, usually at about 8 p.m.

The women who come to our salon want to look fashionable. The most fashionable styles are relaxer perms to straighten hair. The second most popular styles are those that include hair pieces.

Activities

1. How does the market in Kumasi compare to your home shopping area? Think about:
   [a] who works there
   [b] things to buy
   [c] layout.
   Use all the information on this page to help you.

2. Make a list of all the links between the Market and other parts of Kumasi, Ghana and the rest of the world [think about transport, people, equipment, raw materials].

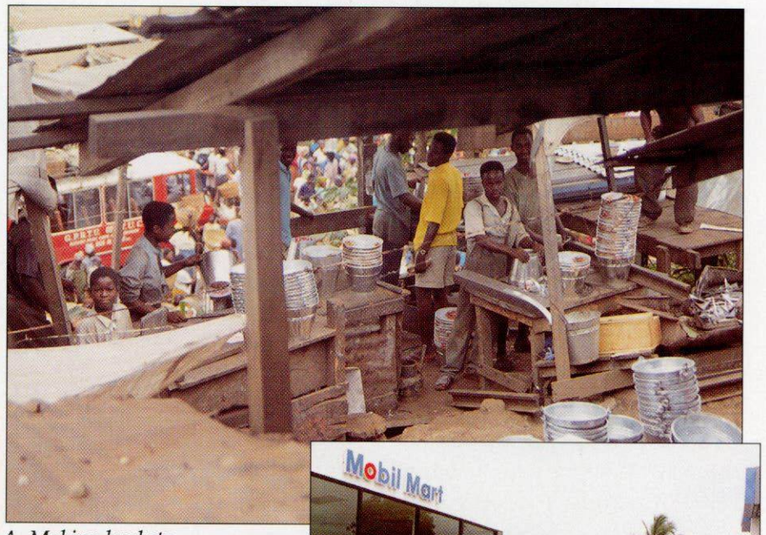
3. Group work - imagine that you are a group of women who want to set up a business in the market. Hold a meeting to discuss your plans. Remember to think about:
   - what business you are going to start
   - how to organise renting a market stall
   - where the best place would be for your business
   - how you are going to get the equipment that you need
   - how you are going to try to attract customers.

4. The council only has one free stall on the market at the moment. Each group must present details of their business scheme. When you have heard everyone's plans hold a class vote to decide who should have the stall.

The city at work

All the work going on in the city adds up to its **economy.**
This economic activity is of three kinds: work in the **formal economy,** work in the **informal economy** and **unpaid work.**

Diagram "C" describes these three sections of the economy, and divides the formal economy into **private** and **public**.



A. Making buckets



B. Transport

Activities

1. These five people all live in Kumasi:

   [i] a young man who has just migrated from the north
   [ii] a Lebanese business man who is a company manager
   [iii] a primary school-aged child
   [iv] a married mother with three children living with her extended family
   [v] a graduate in economics from U.S.T. University, Kumasi.

   In which sections of the economy would each be most likely to find employment?

2. Look at each of the photos :

   [i] give each photo a title that is interesting, and a sub-title that describes what is happening.
   [ii] list the activities in each and decide whether they are probably part of the formal, informal or unpaid economy.
   [iii] choose a photo to help to explain what the informal economy is - try to use it to explain to another member of your group.

INFORMAL ECONOMY
[Any work done unofficially, without tax etc., or illegally]

Often buying, selling, repairs, cleaning, crafts, clothing, carpentry, construction, gardening, small-scale engineering.

Carried on in:
WORKSHOPS
STREET
MARKETS
HOMES

UNPAID WORK

Often: cooking, cleaning, shopping, child-care, maintenance, learning, gardening, water collection.

Carried on in:
HOMES
GARDENS
STREETS
MARKETS

FORMAL ECONOMY
[Any work done officially for payment]

PRIVATE SECTOR
[Work organised and paid for by private firms and individuals]

Carried on in:
OFFICES
SHOPS
FACTORIES
HOTELS
CAFES
TRANSPORT

PUBLIC SECTOR
[Work organised and paid for by public money]

Carried on in:
SCHOOLS
HOSPITALS
OFFICES
POLICE STATIONS
MILITARY CAMPS
WATER WORKS
TRANSPORT
POWER STATIONS

C. The economy

How it fits together - Kumasi and the world

The informal economy provides 65% of the paid work, and mops up a lot of the unemployment caused by rapid population growth and low investment. The informal sector is very successful because of the local people's skills in crafts and practical work, and their enthusiasm and ability in business.

The public sector of the formal economy does not get a fair share of investment, mainly because foreign banks and multinationals who provide much of the investment are interested in profit-making business. Health, education, sanitation and public transport don't make much profit! So public services are starved of cash.



D. A street scene in Kumasi

Activities

3. Three people are marked in the photo D:

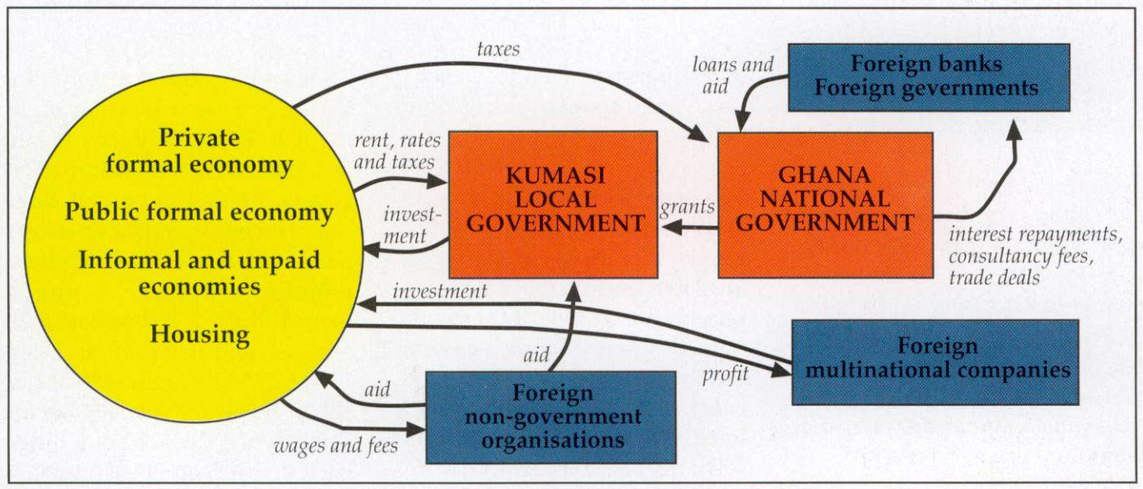
   [i] Kwaku is a local government officer out in his break to do some shopping.
   [ii] Tania sells small items of clothing as a street trader, and has a family of four children. Her husband is unemployed.
   [iii] James drives a taxi which he rents from a wealthy businessman.

   Taking one of these as a role, think about the possible effects on you of:

   a] investment in a new factory by a multinational car company.
   b] a loan from a foreign government to the Kumasi local government for a sanitation project.

   Now discuss which you would prefer.

4. Look back at the people who have appeared so far in this book. What sectors of the economy do they work in? Which of them is likely to benefit most from the effects of loans from foreign banks and governments? From foreign aid NGOs? From investment by foreign companies? Diagram F may help you.



E. How the money flows

Suame Magazine - engineering

Suame and Anloga together form what is to our knowledge the greatest concentration of informal sector activity in sub-Saharan Africa. In this area the people have achieved a level of technology and product range exceeding anything else in Ghana.

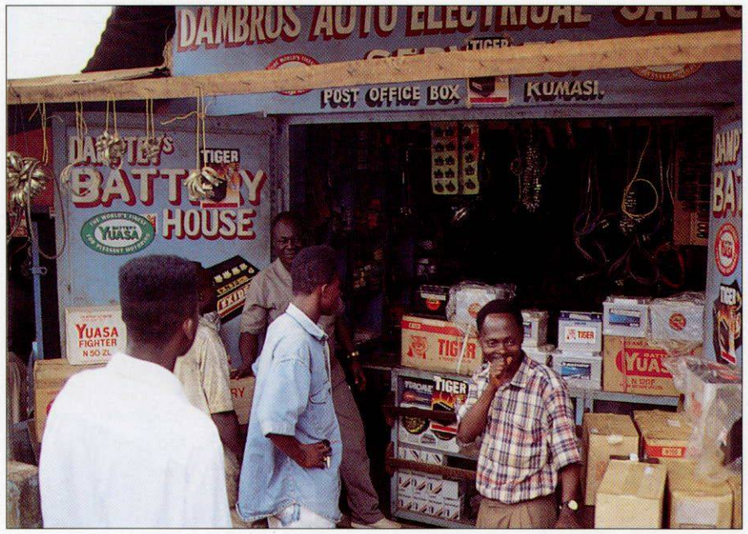
Suame Magazine is located about 3km north of Kumasi's central market.

It employs thousands of people in hundreds of small workshops and fitting areas. Imagine all the garages, scrap-yards, workshops and Sunday afternoon car tinkerers of a large British city put together in one place - and then multiplied by ten.

Every trade or job linked to car repairs and general engineering is found here. If you want a puncture mended, your car serviced, a machine tool made, metal cut to size, or simply a new bulb for your torch, Suame is the place. Trailers for HGVs are made in Suame; so are farm tractors.

The area, like the market of Kumasi, is divided up into sectors dealing with each activity. It has developed without any planning constraints other than two roads which run through the area.

The mechanics, or fitters as they are called, are famed for their skill; there are Fiat cars running with Renault engines thanks to Suame fitters. Jobs are brought to Suame from all over West Africa because 'the fitters are the best, most skilful in Africa'. They are skilful in what they do, and what they use to do it with.

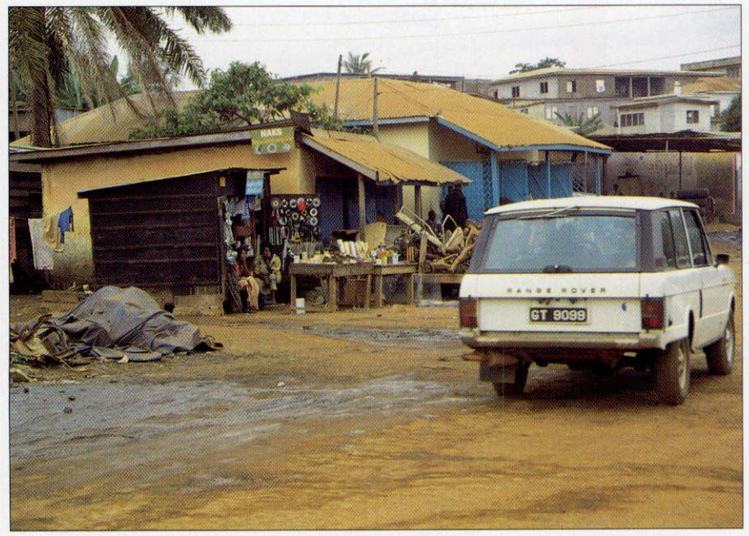


A. Dambros battery house

If the fitters had a motto, it could be 'Never use anything new unless you have to'.

The expense of imported parts and equipment, and the need to make the most of what is available, means the fitters use recycled items whenever possible. Many Suame workers are involved in providing the fitters with the second-hand 'bits' they require - although, some may be sixth-hand!

Thomas has rented a store [the Up Jesus Enterprises] for eight months after spending two years in Japan. When he returned to Ghana, he brought a container full of second-hand Japanese car parts with him - 'axles, engines, panels, radios, lights, everything'. He imported 70 engines, and has sold 30 so far. "I sell a big engine for about £300," he says. "A small one for £150. When I've sold out, I'll go back to Japan and buy more".



B. A street scene in Suame Magazine

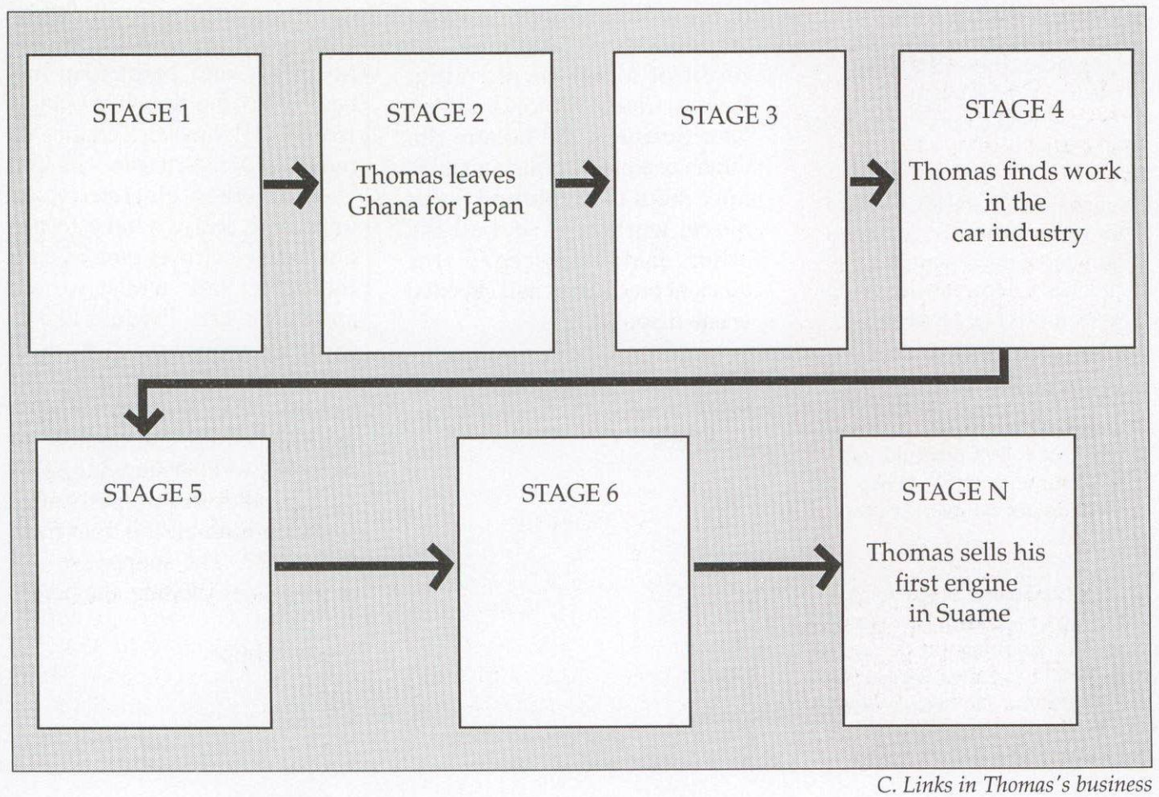
Activities

Working in groups of two or three, use the photographs to complete the tasks below.

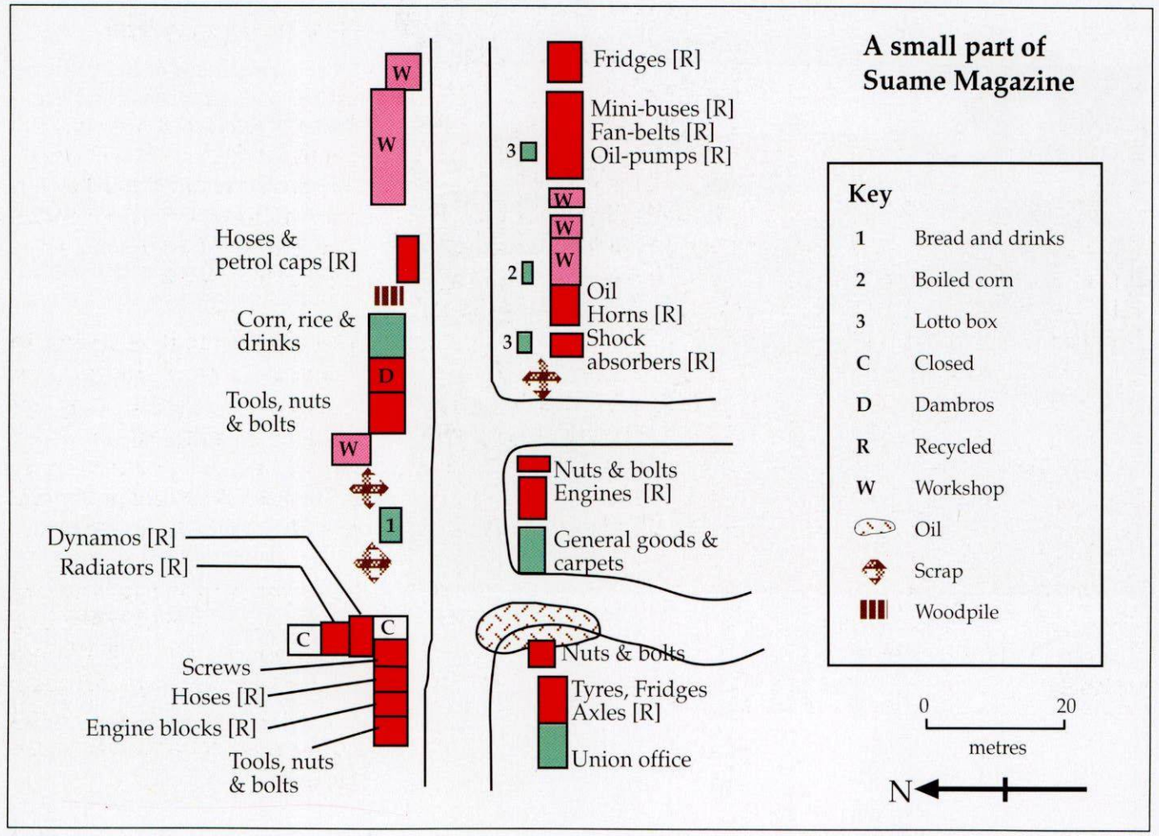
1. Describe the Dambros Battery House which is typical of many of the stores found in the Magazine. Think about - size, building materials, stock, etc.

2. Thomas worked in Japan for two years. What problems do you think he would have faced whilst working in Japan?

3. Thomas has used international links to help start his business. The diagram below shows some of the stages he went through. Some of the stages have been filled in for you. Complete the diagram. The final stage should show Thomas selling recycled engines and car parts in Suame.



C. Links in Thomas's business



Activities

1. In Suame, "One Saturday a month is clean-up day". What evidence is there that this is needed? Think about - the effect of heavy rain, the disposal of waste.

2. Suame provides work and pay for many people, but creates a number of environmental problems. How far should the environment be sacrificed for jobs?

3. Imagine you are walking west from the Union Office. Describe your walk. What would you see, hear and smell? What facilities are available for the fitters?

4. Compare Suame Magazine to a factory or industrial area known to you. Compare products, raw materials, facilities, services etc. Perhaps you can draw a sketch map similar to the one of Suame.

Old and New

Many of the problems faced by the workers of Suame are the result of a lack of planning. Kumasi Council is now building New Suame, a 250 hectare site which used to be housing and is now being developed with model workshops and all the other features needed for efficient production and effective waste disposal.

However, the development of New Suame is not without its problems.

New Suame for me?

Dear Sir,
My spray and paint firm has been in Suame since 1961, and I would welcome the chance to move to New Suame. In Old Suame, the electricity is unreliable and we have to use our own electric engine in case the power fails whilst we are spraying a car. I would like to expand my business, but banks will not lend to firms in Old Suame. Also, Old Suame is so cramped, there is nowhere to park the cars after spraying. And how can they dry properly after spraying with all the dust from the roads? The sooner we can move to New Suame, the better.

Yours in hope.
Ososu

Squatters to be shifted

More than 200 illegally built squatter workshops will be demolished next week to allow the rightful owners to set up business in New Suame.

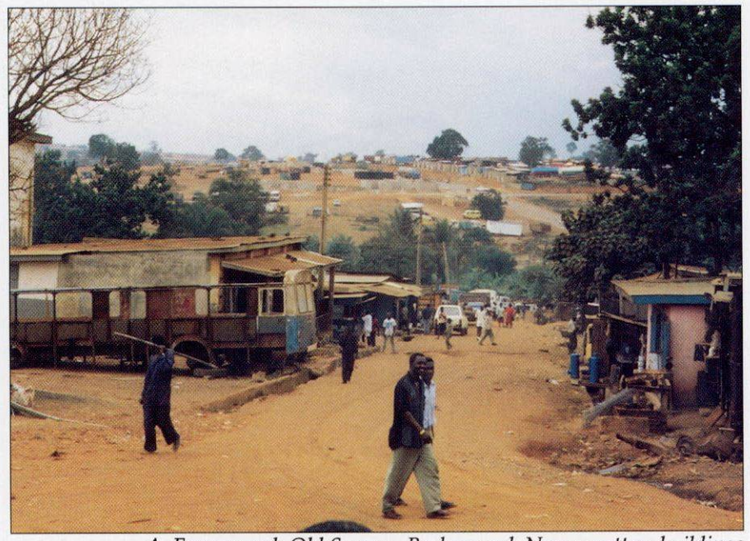
A combined team from the army and police will eject the squatters and destroy their breeze block buildings - some of which have been standing for almost six months.

Kumasi Council has spent over £300,000 in providing water, electricity, access roads and sanitation to the government owned site. The government acquired the land legally through the Legislative Assembly.

A representative for the Master Mechanics Union stated that Old Suame had been so successful in its 30 year history in supplying jobs, that it is vital it is allowed to expand. He continued, "The squatters should not stand in the way of progress or stop people getting on with their business."

A member of the Kumasi Council added that the project had the support of the World Bank, and could be undermined by a small number of irresponsible individuals.

Local newspaper



A. Foreground: Old Suame. Background: New squatters buildings

Give me back my land

Dear Sir,
The New Suame site is Tafo family land which was stolen by the government. It has been in our family for generations and as Prince of the Tafo, I have every right to build on it.

The government is trying to charge £40 for each tiny plot, but it is not their land. They are encouraging people from all over Ghana to come here and set up businesses. They are just trying to make money from our land.

The only thing the government has done is to provide electricity, water and toilets, but it is not enough for the huge numbers they are going to bring in. What about medical and education facilities?

The place is already so crowded many of the fitters sleep in their workshops. I am not surprised the crime rate is so high and businesses unsuccessful.

It is our land and we are not moving.

Yours faithfully.

Masu

"Old and New" Activities

In groups of two or three:

5. Choose different roles suggested by the article or the letters. Try to persuade the others in your group that your view is right.

6. Read the article again carefully. Pick out:
   a] one fact - something that is true, can be supported by facts.
   b] one opinion - something the writer puts forward without factual support.

7. In this disagreement, where do you think the power, influence and money lie?

8. Do you think the demolition should go ahead? Give your reasons.

Anloga - carpentry

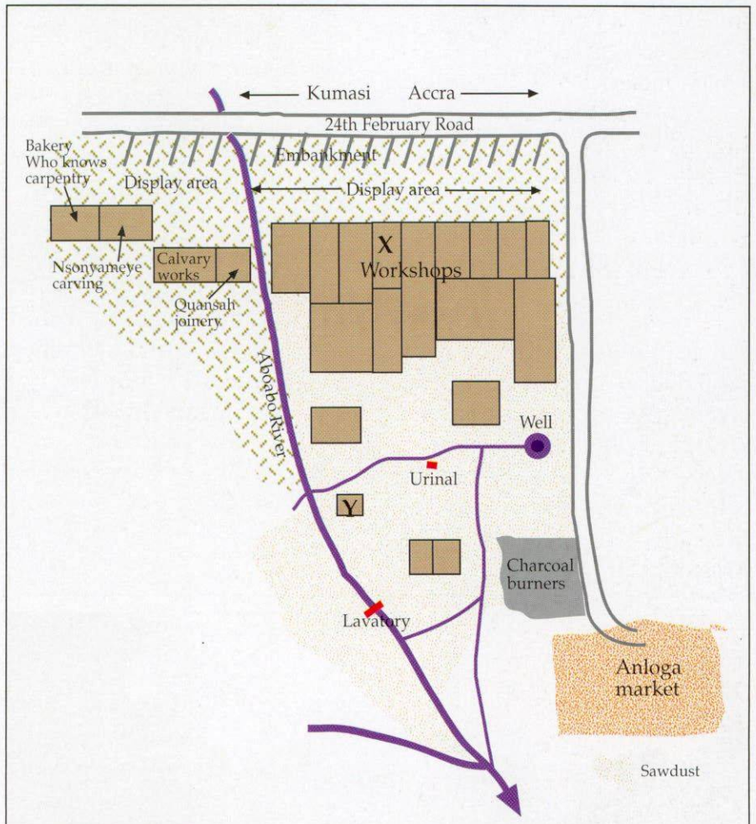
Anloga - "See the photo - read the story"

Introduction
The beautifully carved tables, chairs, doors, window frames, other items of furniture and even tomato boxes made by the carpenters of Anloga, in east Kumasi, supply most of Ghana as well as a healthy export market.

The ornate furniture is made of expensive tropical hard woods such as mahogany [very popular in Britain], odum, sapele and redwood which come from the rainforests in the Volta Region to the west, Brong Ahafo - just to the north - and the surrounding Ashanti region.

The logs are transported to Kumasi by trucks, cut up at local saw mills, the best pieces are exported, then vast quantities are taken to Anloga.

Anloga is an important centre for carpentry supplying furniture to the neighbouring countries of Togo, Burkina Faso, Niger and the Ivory Coast, and attracting workers from all over Ghana. Many of the most skilled carpenters come from Togo which has a longer tradition of carpentry than Ghana.



A visitor's view:
"The woodworking is fantastic, the detail superb, yet most of it is produced by apprentices as young as ten, with cheap tools, little or no regard for safety, and rickety, dirty open-plan workshops we could easily mistake for barns.

Many of these apprentices have travelled from other parts of the country to get work and are forced to live in the workshops".

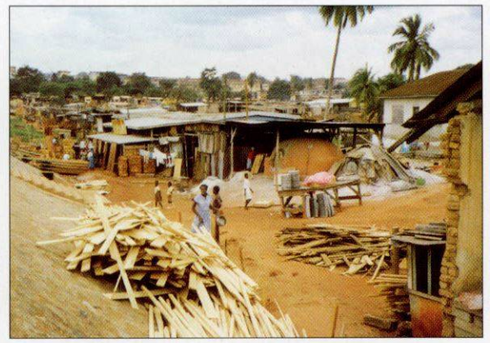
Workshop Owner's View
My name is Amevoh I am the owner of a workshop in Anloga. I was born in Togo and arrived in Kumasi at the age of thirty.

There are a lot of other people in Anloga who were born in Togo. We have a strong community and this is very important to us.

If people want to buy something they come to Anloga and walk around. If they like the look of your work and your price is good then they will do business with you. Those of us with workshops away from the main road undercut the prices of people on the main road and most of the customers are aware of this.

There is a lot of waste left over from our work. We give any offcuts of wood to the charcoal seller. We cannot burn any of the waste because of the fire hazard. So we take the sawdust to the river and dump it. This workshop is near to the river so we need to put shavings onto the floor to stop it being all swampy.

Theophilus, manager of "New Builders Carpenters"
I am from Hohoe in the Volta region and have been in business in Anloga for ten years. We have a good location on the main road which means we sell a lot and because of that we can afford the highest quality hardwood. We mainly make carefully carved doors. We employ twelve people, ten of whom are apprentices, spending five to ten years learning the trade.



A. A view of Anloga from the main road

Even though we are at the top end of the market in Anloga we still miss out on the very best wood, which goes abroad. I get annoyed about this and I can see a time when we won't be able to get wood as the forests are being felled so quickly.



B. Anloga riverside

Kwame, "Kwami Carpenters"
We are just completing my workshop which we have built with the help of money sent over from my brother in England. It will cost 300,000 cedis [£300] to build. We don't have an ideal location for selling our goods and our plot is so boggy we have had to build it up with sawdust, but it means our land is cheaper than others in Anloga.

We are concentrating on tomato boxes and small chairs which we will make from wawa - a light-coloured, cheap softer wood. We will employ six workers, four qualified and two apprentices who will be paid 200 cedis [20p] a day. The few tools we have will be imported from Korea and China, we can't afford the more expensive ones from Britain.

Activities

1. From the map of Ghana can you work out why Kumasi is a good location for the woodworking industry? [Think about who works in Anloga, who buys the finished goods and where the wood comes from].

2. In pairs discuss why the best wood is sent abroad even though there are expert local carpenters to work it.

3. Why do you think many of the carpenters have travelled such a long way to work in Anloga? Could this explain why apprentices are paid such low wages and kept at that level even after they are qualified?

4. On the map two workshops are marked -X and Y. Work out which is Kwame's and which is Theophilas's. Think about
   [a] accessibility,
   [b] type and cost of product, and
   [c] quality of land.

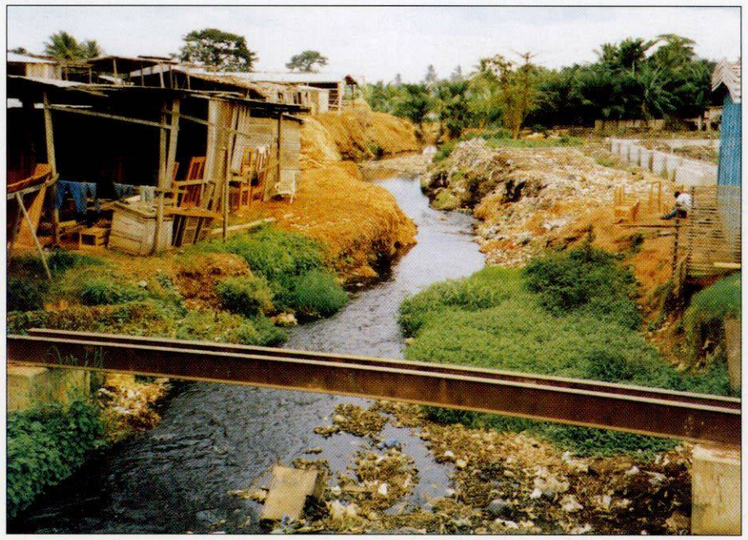
5. Write a report to the Government on the business problems faced by the carpenters of Anloga. It should include:
   [a] the possibility that Ghanaian timber supplies will run out,
   [b] the fact that competition means prices are being lowered,
   [c]the fact that the price of quality timber is rising, and
   [d] the problem of the best timber being sent abroad.

Water, sawdust, everywhere

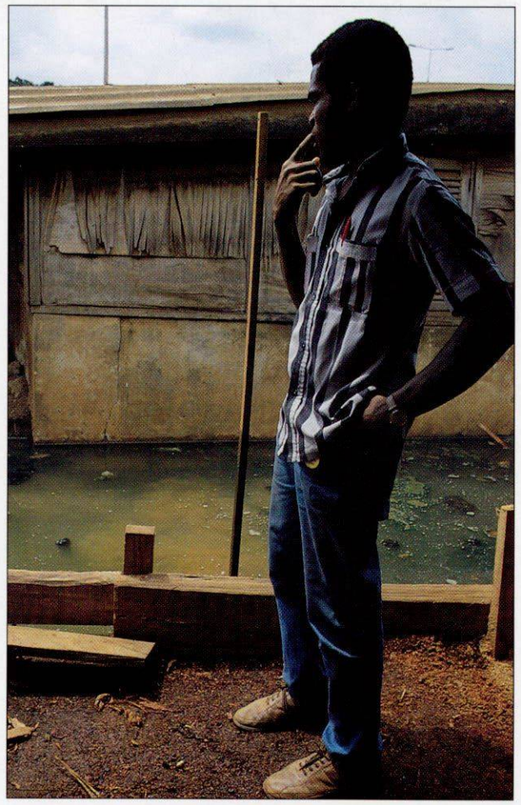
Anloga faces environmental problems as well as business difficulties. Parts of it are sinking and/or being swallowed up by sawdust.

If you look at picture A you will see that over the years the sawdust has raised the height of the land by up to three metres.

This was good at first because Anloga is on the valley floor of the Aboabo River and prone to floods. Unfortunately the sawdust has blocked tributaries [see map on previous page] and the dammed water is beginning to come to the surface, particularly in the wet season.



A. Aboabo river



B. Samuel surveys the water - logging

Samuel who has owned "Samuel and Sons" workshop for 18 years could lose his business because it is near one of the new springs. Each year as the water rises he is forced to dump more sawdust and the floor of his workshop gets nearer the roof.

The drainage problem also means there is a lot of stagnant water which increases the risk of disease. This is made worse by the lack of sanitation and the fact that the only public lavatory is over the river.

The sawdust could be put to many better uses:

1. The workshop owners are trying to divert the Aboabo again by moving sawdust to the other bank.

2. Sawdust from Anloga is transported to Darko Poultry farms just outside Kumasi where it is used on the floors of the hen houses.

3. Women at Anloga use it to help make charcoal. - read about Shetu and Memuma on page 19. Children help the women, most of whom are migrants from the north, to do their job and some men are hired to help shift the larger pieces of wood.

Shetu and Memuma - charcoal burners

We are from near Bawku in northern Ghana. We come from a very rural community. Life was very hard in the north so we moved down to Kumasi looking for money and a job. I have got seven children and Memuma has got eight children, and you can see some of our children in the photograph. They have just finished school and have come to play and help out until we finish our day's work.

Our day starts at 7.30 a.m. We get damaged wood from the sawmill for nothing and light our fires. We hire a man to arrange the wood and then we cover the wood with sawdust from the local workshops. It takes a whole day to pack the wood tightly together. We use sawdust on the top to get rid of the oxygen in the fires. This helps to turn the burning wood into charcoal. It takes four days to burn some of the wood and let it cool, but it takes two whole weeks to burn the entire wood pile. A typical working day will finish at 5.30 p.m. we throw buckets of water onto the pile of wood to put out the fires before we go home. In the meantime our older children go home to start the evening meal, do the shopping and start the laundry.



C. Shetu charcoal burning

Retailers come here to buy the charcoal from us. We sell them measures that cost 200 cedis [20p]. The charcoal is used by most Ghanaian families to light the cookers.

This is a hard job. Our backs ache from carrying wood and charcoal and the smoke makes your clothes smell of smoke and your eyes run. But our lives were even more difficult in Bawku. Maybe one day we will earn enough profit to trade on the markets and make more money.

Activities

1. The two boys in the photo on page 5 are aged five and seven, and have just finished school for the day. What do you think they are doing? What do you think the future holds for them?

2. Imagine you are Samuel. Explain your problems and how you feel about them. What do you think you can do to improve things?

3. The carpenters pay rent to Kumasi City Council. They are trying to negotiate for:
[a] improvements to the site or
[b] a completely new site.
If you were one of the charcoal women, which would you prefer and why?

Kumasi City Structure

You can see the organisation of a town by looking at its buildings and what goes on in them. The map of Kumasi shows several areas of special economic activity. For instance the town centre itself, all the central and local markets, are shopping areas. The different kinds of housing provide homes at different costs and styles for different groups of people.

The pattern made by all these buildings is the **morphology** of the town. The separate parts are bound together by an **infrastructure** of roads, water pipes, drains, electricity, telephones etc.



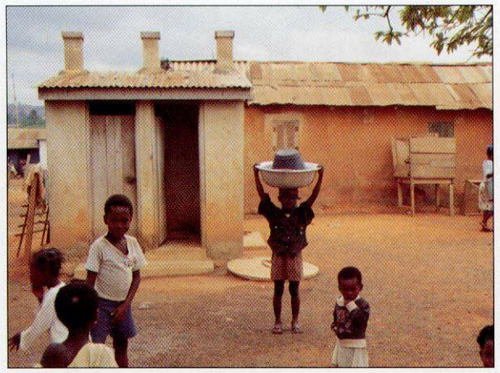
Housing and facilities

Tenements
My family rents four rooms in a large house. There are fifteen other families in the house and we share a central courtyard with its water pump and lavatories. We have our own kitchen.

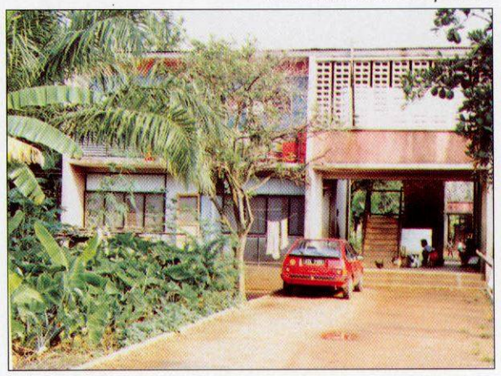
Traditional compounds
We live in a single storey compound shared by six families. We are lucky to have our own compound tap and a new latrine in our courtyard.

New government areas
We have a large plot of land [30m x 30m] and a single storey house just for two families. We have internal plumbing and flush toilets.

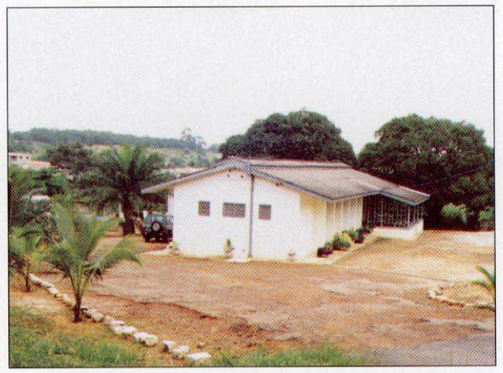
High cost area
My wife and I both work and have a good income. Our large house and garden are set back from the road, we have all mod cons - water, toilets, electricity etc.



A. Traditional compound



B. Government housing



C. High cost housing

Activities

1. What areas of special economic activity are there in Kumasi?

2. Use the table. Which kind of housing has:
   [a] most people?
   [b] most people per hectare?
   [c] most people per building?

3. What kind of housing is there in:
   [a] Moshie Zongo?
   [b] Asafo?
   [c] Danyame?
   [d] Kwadaso extension?

4. Using tracing paper draw a simple map of population density for Kumasi. Is there a clear pattern of population density?

5. In a group discuss:
   [a]the good things about living in each of the places - remember things such as shopping and going to work or play.
   [b] what problems would you see as most important in each place?

Housing in Kumasi [1990]

	People per 1000	Pop-density per ha.	People per building	Main form of sanitation: Public latrines	Bucket latrines	WC septic tanks
Tenements	140	350	40-100	30%	30%	40%
Compounds	320	200	20-50	60%	40%	-
Government	100	50	8-15	-	-	100%
High cost	40	10	5-10	-	-	100%

Strategic sanitation plan

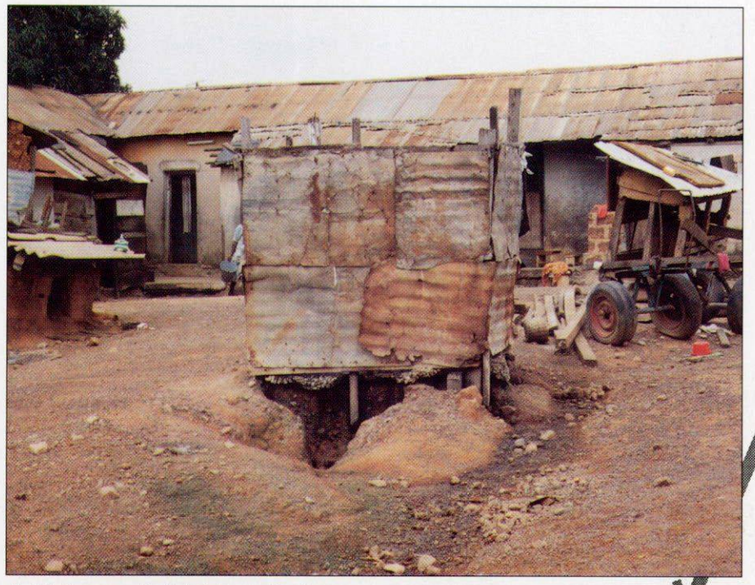
Sanitation in Kumasi
Sanitation is always costly to install and in fast growing cities like Kumasi it is difficult for the facilities to keep pace.

In Kumasi the main issues are
[i] the use of the obsolete unhealthy methods such as bucket latrines
[ii] the difficulty of providing clean running water to each household
[iii] the expense of constructing mains sewers for all housing areas.

Obsolete technologies
Bucket latrines [obsolete, to be phased out]
A bucket in a cabin is emptied daily - 'where?' is the question. Most are collected by private operators who tend to dispose of contents down ordinary drains.

Unimproved pit latrines [obsolete, to be phased out]
The pit is often shallow and leaky, overflowing or leaking into nearby drains. Without ventilation for the pit, the cabin is smelly and unhygenic.

The Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly [KMA] is developing a **Strategic Sanitation Plan** for 1991-2000, and is fund raising for the project. So far the UN and Britain are two of the main contributors.



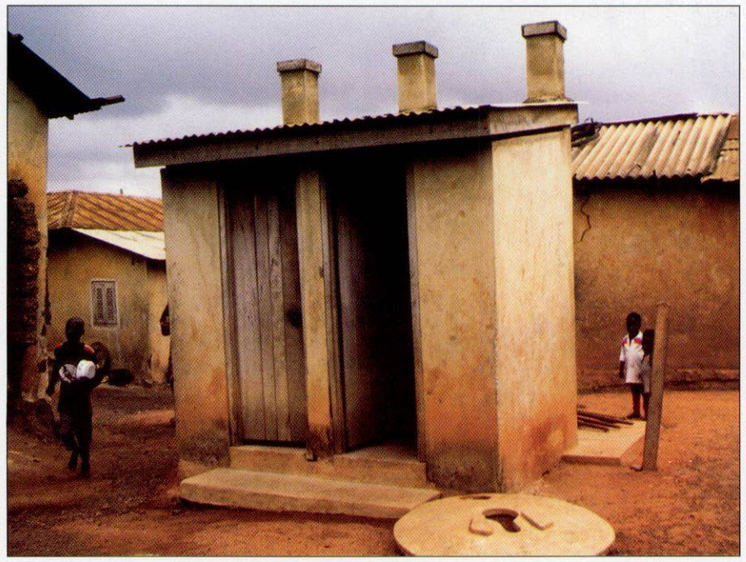
A. Unimproved pit latrines. In Accra it has been illegal to build this kind of latrine since 1930.

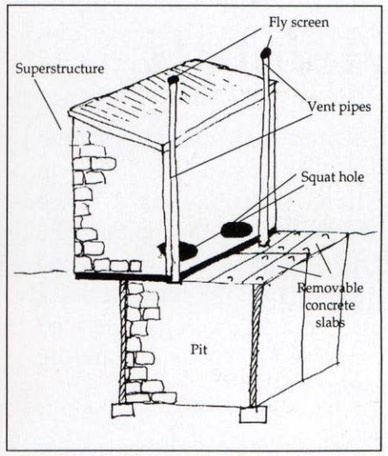
Technology choices - options for future development

Simplified sewerage
This form of sewerage conveys all household waste water to treatment works [settlement tanks etc.], away from the housing area. It is cheaper than usual urban sewerage but very expensive per person served. Small diameter pipes are buried in shallow trenches laid at flatter gradients. Individual houses are responsible for connections to sewers laid under alleyways or backyards. Septic and seepage tanks can be connected to the sewers.

Pour-flush [PF] Toilets with seepage tanks
Where water is used for flushing a 'squatting plate' with a simple U-bend water seal to seal off smells and insects is possible. The solids collect in a pit beneath and water percolates into the ground. Household waste waters can be used for flushing.

PF toilets cannot dispose of large volumes of water, and clog easily where bulky cleansing materials are used. The seepage tank has to be emptied after 2-3 years.





B. A double ventilated improved pit latrine under construction

Septic - tank and Drain Field Systems
Flush toilets [WC] can drain to septic tanks, all the house-hold waste-water flowing by gravity to a watertight concrete tank underground. Solids sink to the bottom, grease etc., forms a scum. The liquid portion then flows to a drain field. The tanks require cleaning by suction after 3-4 years.

This system requires plenty of household water and outside space for the tank and drain field.

Public Latrines
Multiple VIP Latrines or/and Flush Toilets with septic tanks are possible. These latrines need considerable space. The pits are emptied by suction lorries. A charge of a few pence for use is made for each visit.

Ventilated Improved Pit Latrines [VIP]
Look at the diagram and photograph of a VIP Latrine.

No water is required for flushing and the latrine will not become blocked.

The double pit design allows one pit to be closed off after two years, and in 18-24 months the waste will be decomposed and disease causing bacteria destroyed. The pit can then be emptied without health risk and the contents used as soil conditioning. The second pit can then be sealed off for decomposition.

The double pit needs controlled use to make sure the hole to the decomposing pit remains sealed, and the cabin needs cleaning daily. One cabin is needed for about every 25 people.

Activities

1. In a group use a separate piece of paper for each of the four areas on pages 20-21 [Moshie Zongo, Asafo, Danyame and Kwadaso]. Make a list of the main sanitation problems:
   [a] for the people in houses,
   [b] for the local environment.
   Now put the problems into a rank order for each area, biggest problem first.

2. In a pair choose to be one of the following:
   [i] a resident in Asafo
   [ii]a resident in Moshie Zongo
   [iii] a stall holder in the central market.

   Study each of the sanitation technology choices.

   [a]Choose the appropriate technology for your area.
   [b]Join with other pairs and discuss your choices.
   [c]Present your groups' findings as a poster to show to Kumasi's SSP.

Progress in Kumasi is described in Ghana Book 3, *Issues and enquiry*, page 18.

Region and nation

Ashanti

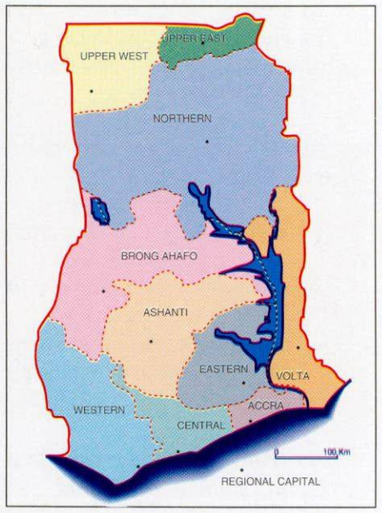
The study of Kumasi has shown you what town life is like in Ghana. Kumasi is a large regional centre - the capital of the state of Ashanti. Ashanti and the Asante people have a long history and the region is well organised to focus on one big town.

In Ashanti there are other smaller towns, such as Obuasi the gold mining town, which are centres for their own local regions. There are also hundreds of villages which are centres for their own small area. Wonoo is an example [see pages 26/27].

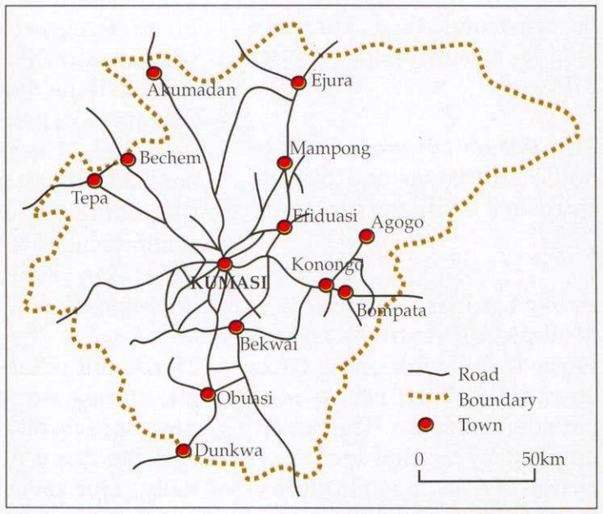
Ashanti state is just one of the ten regions of Ghana. The others are not all so well populated and economically developed, and their main towns can be much smaller than Kumasi - for example Bolgatanga for the Upper East Region. Bawku is another small town in Upper East Region, and you can compare it with Kumasi.

A timeline for Ghana

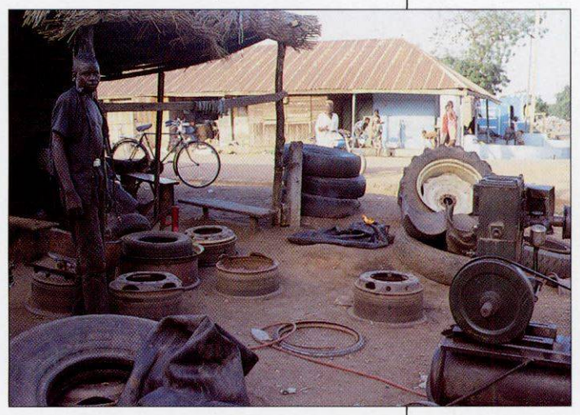
Years ago	
4 million	Age of 'Lucy', the earliest human remains in Africa. The earliest European was half a million years ago.
9000 - 6000	African societies changed from hunter - gatherers to farmers.
3500	Well developed permanent settlements like Bono Manso, 100km NNW of present day Kumasi.
AD	
200	Ancient empire of Ghana set up.
1076	Ancient empire of Ghana conquered by Islamic people.
1100	Modern Ghana's forested area invaded by Savanna peoples from the north.
1500	European obtained gold via coastal forts, modern Ghana was known as the "Gold Coast'.
1697	Osei Tut founds Ashanti empire, with Kumasi as capital.
1800	Ashanti begin to attack peoples to the south and come into contact with European coastal forts.
1821	Gold Coast came under British government control.
1863-95	A long series of disputes and wars between the British and Ashanti, ends with British capturing and burning Kumasi.
1902	Ashanti annexed as part of the British Colony of Gold Coast.
1943	Kumasi land returned to the Asantehene.
1957	Gold Coast gained independence and was named Ghana.
1960	Ghana became a republic.



A. Ghana's regions



B. Ashanti, roads and towns



C. The puncture repair shop

Activities

1. Draw the timeline to scale: 1 cm to 1,000 years.

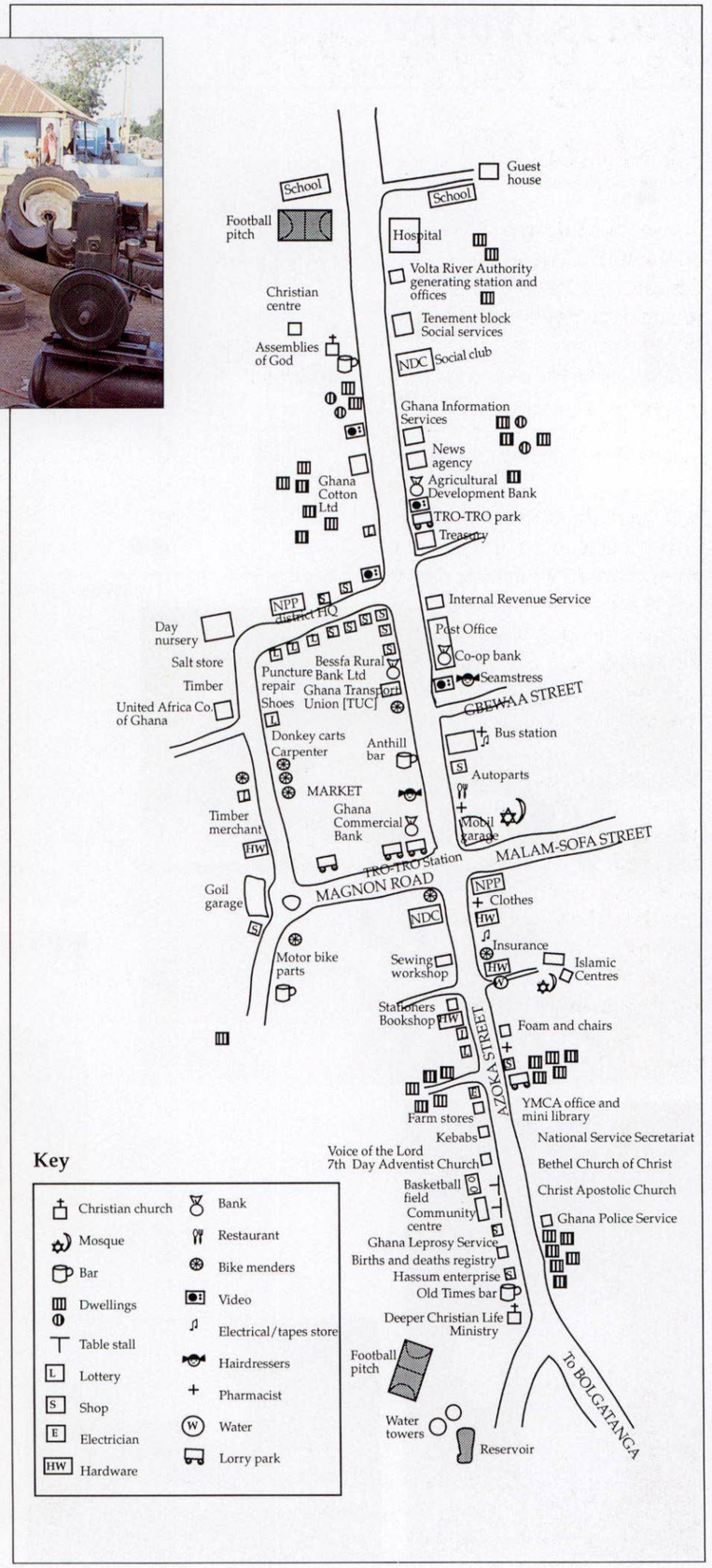
2. Find out abut the history of your home area for 3,500 BC, 200 AD, 1100 AD, 1500 AD and 1821 AD. Compare this with Ghana at these times.

3. Trace the roads on the map of Ashanti. Mark in the main centres of road transport. Describe the pattern. Look at a map of your region. Is the pattern similar?

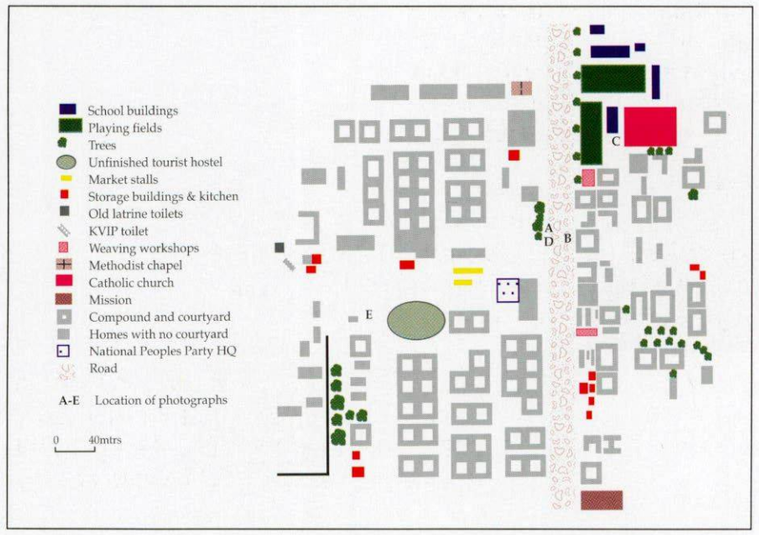
4. Look at the map and photo of Bawku to make a function [activity] survey of the town. List the functions in groups: [a] to do with administration, [b] religion, [c] to do with transport, [d] agriculture, [e] buying and selling, [f] services, [g] in manufacturing. Some activities may come under two headings.

5. Suppose someone was going to visit Bawku and they asked you what went on there. What would you say?

6. Look back at your work on Kumasi. What are the main differences [apart from quantity] between the activities in the two towns?



This is Wonoo



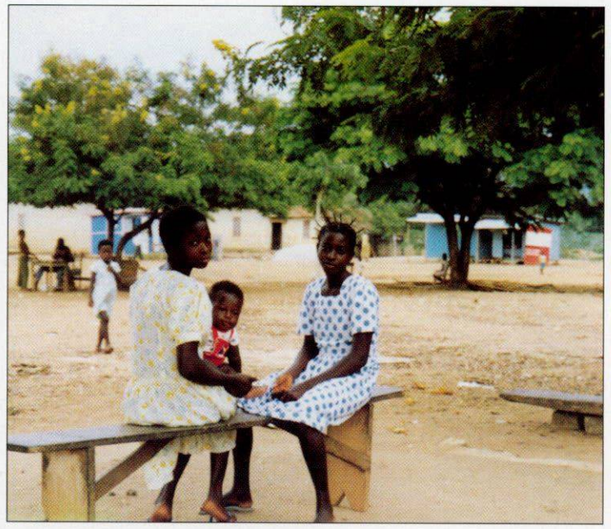
Wonoo village

In all the regions of Ghana there are hundreds of villages smaller than towns like Bawku.

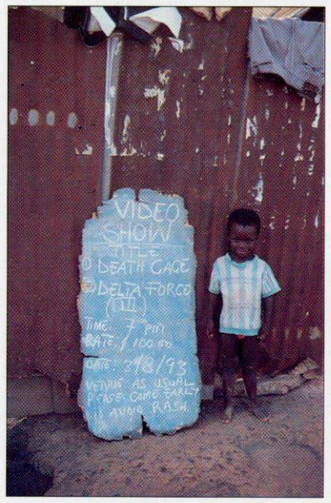
Wonoo is a 'craft' village like many in Ashanti. The crafts were originally sold to the royal family of the Asante. Now they sell their goods everywhere. Each village specialises in a craft - weaving, carpentry, pottery etc.

A visitor arrives

"Ouch, that hurt! We've just travelled 20 kms from Kumasi in a packed minibus [tro-tro] on some of the roughest roads I've ever felt. It took an hour to get to Wonoo and it is so different from Kumasi. Just look at that view, and that's the main village square. I bet there's nothing going on here, we're miles from anywhere."



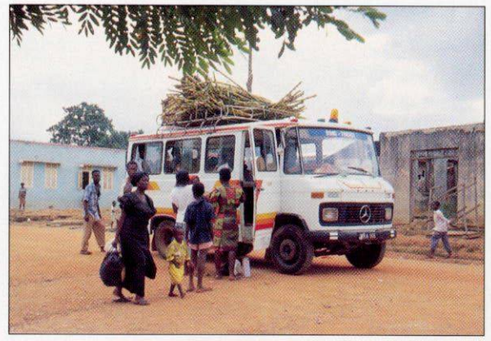
A. General view



B. Video board



C. Church



D. Minibus



E. Water pump

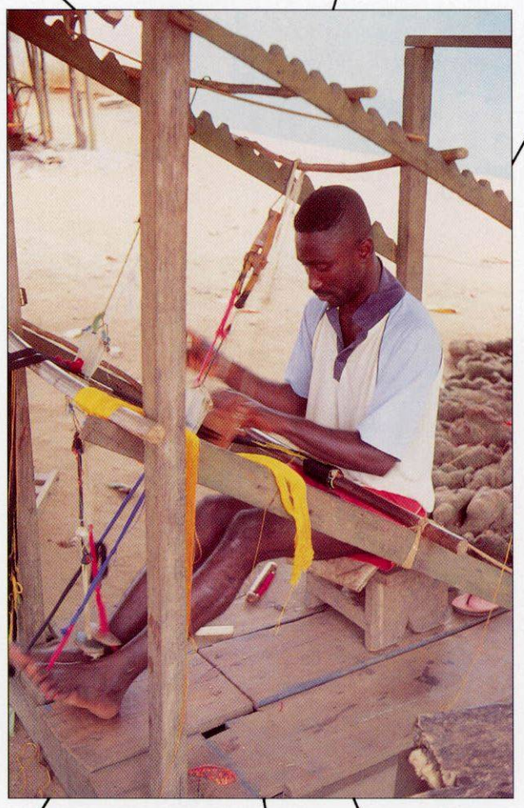
Wonoo's craft - Kente cloth weaving

Many of the weavers are in the co-operative. Not all of the weavers come from Wonoo. The co-op was established by Edward and he encouraged good weavers from all over the region to join. Edward travels widely in Europe and North America to buy yarn for the co-op, and to sell its products. A good weaver earns over £3 per day, and that is more than many office workers in Kumasi.

a. My name is Solomon. I am a weaver of traditional Kente cloth and have lived in Wonoo all my life.

b. My father is dead but my mother works on a cocoa farm near here. One of my brothers is doing a degree in England and another works at Suame Magazine in Kumasi.

c. Only men are allowed to weave Kente cloth but the women sew and sell the cloth. They often leave the village for up to four months travelling to distant markets.



F. Solomon

d. There are many different design names for Kente cloth. The one I am wearing on this picture in called 'The Queen has come to Ghana' which commemorates Queen Elizabeth's visit to our country.

e. I have one overseas contract already. I made 250 'Class of 1993' scarves for a high school in America.

f. We feel the economy is weak so Wonoo supports the opposition [NPP] and is opposed to the government [Rawlings' NDC].

Activities

1. With a partner, using the map and the other information, write a paragraph to describe Wonoo.
2. Can you work out the route the photographer took to get the pictures A-E?
3. How do you think your description would change, if you and your partner visited Wonoo and talked to the people.
4. Some of Solomon's statements have links outside the village. Work out which links they are and decide whether they are regional, national or interntional links. Some may have more than one answer.
5. Does it surprise you Solomon has so many links outside the village? Make a list of all the links you or your family have outside the town or city where you live.

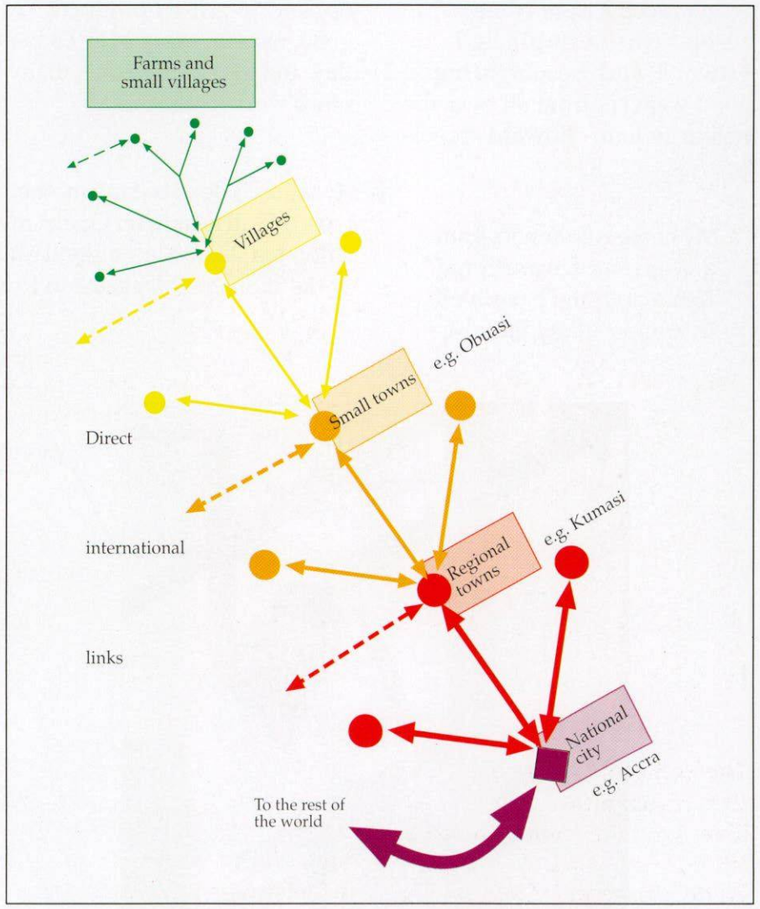
Regions and Ghana

Putting it together

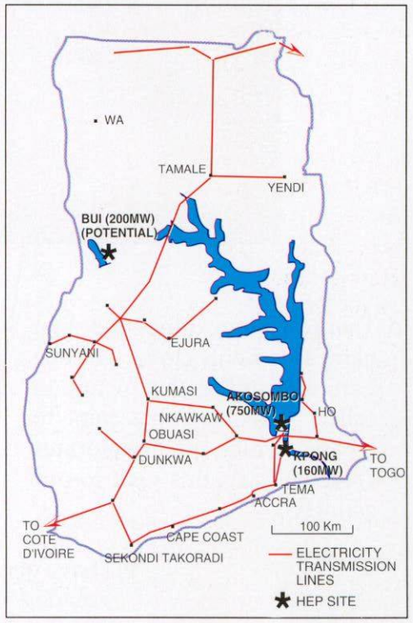
There is a clear pattern to the way settlements and areas work together. Villages like Wonoo serve their small surrounding area. The villages link to their local town that serves the larger area around it. The towns link to their regional centre which serves the region; the regional centres like Kumasi link to the national capital and largest town, Accra. Accra provides the main link for Ghana with the outside world.

This nicely organised structure provides the basic pattern, but it doesn't mean that other links and patterns are not possible. Thus villages link with one another, and as Wonoo showed, even directly with other countries. Obuasi's gold industry links directly to the international world of trade and finance, and Kumasi has many direct global links such as those from Suame industrial area.

But, in general, links in Ghana are from small areas to larger, eventually centring on Accra. In order to work as one, a nation needs **'infrastructure'** to bind it together and to move people and resources easily from one place to another. Besides the road network, focusing on Accra and the other big towns, another most important part of the national infrastructure is the electricity network. Ghana's one great source of electricity is the Volta Dam.



A. Settlement 'hierarchy' in Ghana



B. Ghana's electricity grid



C. Akosombo dam, River Volta

The Volta River Project

The Akosombo Dam on the River Volta was built in the early 1960s, using money from the World Bank and U.S.A. Once a dam has been built HEP is a relatively cheap source of electricity. The Volta Lake flooded 4% of Ghana and 80,000 people had to be resettled.

At first it was hoped the electricity would provide a basis for industrial development, especially at Tema the main port. Here a smelter was built [90% owned by the Kaiser Aluminium Co [U.S.A.]] to convert alumina from local bauxite to aluminium. This process needs a lot of electricity. But the Americans preferred to import alumina from Jamaica and then export the aluminium to U.S.A. - so Ghana gains very little, though the smelter purchases 60% of the electricity produced.

Now most towns and many villages have electricity. Electrification schemes are actively supported by villagers who contribute their labour free to put up poles and build sub-stations. But still 90% of Ghanaians rely on wood and charcoal for cooking.

Activities

1. Look at diagram A. Can you draw a diagram to show the settlement hierarchy in your area?
2. If a lake the size of Volta Lake were created in England, what problems would there be?
3. Where is the electricity you use generated? What energy source is used to generate it?
4. Use the map of electricity grid and the description of the Volta River Project to make lists of the good things, the bad things, and the 'possibly good or bad' things about the project from the point of view of:
   [a] a Volta River fisherman,
   [b] a resident of Accra,
   [c] an American director of the Kaiser Aluminium Co and
   [d] a weaver in Wonoo.

Interdependence

Local- global links

International economic links
There are many businesses in Kumasi. Some of them are much bigger and more complicated than they first appear.

An example of a highly successful small firm is Lava Importers Limited whose headquarters is on the grubby third floor of a shabby Kumasi office block. All available floor space is piled high with cardboard boxes containing television sets, video recorders, record players, fans and even children's bikes.



A. Inside one of the Lava shops

Lava's boss, Victor, said:
"We import electrical goods from China, Indonesia, Singapore, Japan, United Kingdom and India. We already have four of our own shops in Kumasi, three in Accra, two in Tema [where the goods arrive] and one in Takoradi. We plan to open more in the north.

We sell to local companies but also to Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast and Togo. Business is booming, and with electricity spread throughout the country most villages have at least one television set."



B. One of Kingsway's aisles

Activities

1. Why do you think it is mainly electrical goods that are imported?

2. Why do you think some people from Burkino Faso, Ivory Coast and Togo might travel all the way to Kumasi for these goods?

3. Imagine you are from a small village in Ghana that has just received electricity. Describe how you feel when you visit the Lava warehouse; what do you want and why, and how do you feel about the countries the goods come from?



C. Kingsway supermarket

In marked contrast to the bustle, heat and dirt of the market, just 200 metres uphill to the south west stands the sophisticated, subdued and excellently stocked Kingsway Supermarket. The only thing you won't find here is crowds.

The fan-cooled, spacious emporium is packed with goods from Britain, Argentina, Italy, the United States, the Ivory Coast and most other trading countries. In fact you have to look hard amongst the Weetabix, Tetley tea bags, Ariel washing powder, macaroni, Nescafe coffee, corned beef and bottles of American liquor to find some Ghanaian goods.

Supervisor Emmanuel said the shop was aimed at people who worked in the nearby banks, post offices and government offices, though a tenth of the customers were tourists.

"At least 70% of our customers own a car, half have been abroad and so know the good things in life. Most prefer foreign goods to Ghanaian."

Activities

1. On a world map outline, draw arrows from the exporting countries into Ghana to show the global links mentioned on this page.

2. Other sections in this book discuss international links [see especially pages 10-19]. Add these links to your map - different groups may want to concentrate on different sections.

3. How many other goods from abroad can you see in the photograph? Can you name the countries they come from?

4. Write down a weekly shopping list for your family. How many goods do you think come from abroad?

5. Imagine you owned a stall on the market or you were one of the many people in Kumasi who could not afford Kingsway prices. What would your reaction to the shop be?

National - global links

Money problems
Imagine ..... you have a few money problems: You don't earn very much; the price of the things you need keeps going up; it looks as if in the future you are going to be earning less; people are becoming more and more reluctant to accept your money when you try to pay for things. They don't think your money is worth having. They would rather you change your money into another currency.

Then you see this advert. →

MONEY WORRIES?

FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO MAKE ENDS MEET?

CONTACT IMF
The Bank that likes to say 'OK'

Follow our advice and we'll see you through the hard times

How would you feel.....?
It would be tempting wouldn't it?
A loan could be the answer until you manage to sort yourself out.
And advice too.
What more could you ask for?

This is the position Ghana found itself in during the early 1980s.

Inflation was high - a hundred cedis in your pocket were only worth 50 in a year's time - unemployment was high, food was scarce, production was going down. So the government went to the **International Monetary Fund [IMF]** for assistance.

Activities

1. Play the SAP game and then explain how some people can be worse off and some better off.
2. Improve on the game, or make up your own about Ghana and international economies.
3. Which of the conditions on the Global cards will make the international brokers suffer?
4. As a group, look at the sets of cards and discuss how the cards link together in a set.
5. Display the links as a poster - e.g. No.1. is on Diagram A.

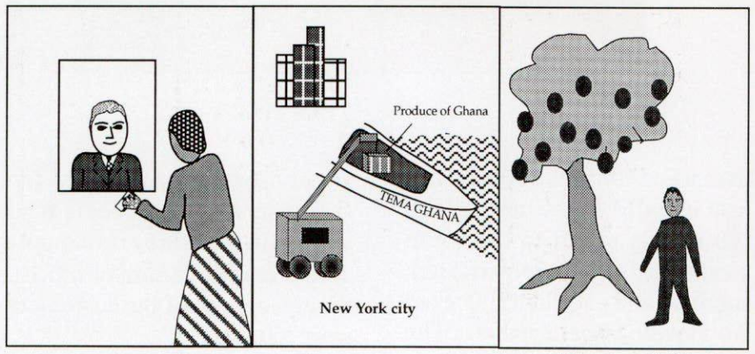


Diagram A. No. 1 set

The richer countries of the world contribute to the IMF who then lend out the money to governments. Since 1945 the UK has borrowed almost twice as much as any other country in the world. But the IMF make conditions before they lend money, and insist on the borrowing government making adjustments to their economy - this is called a Structural Adjustment Policy [SAP].

SAP Rummy - a game for 2 players

Instructions
There are 19 cards, including a 'joker' that can be used anywhere.

The aim is to collect 'sets' of 3 cards. Each has a global, a national, and a local card that link together.

During the game you can 'challenge' a set when it is put down, and check it on page 33. Each set you put down counts as 10 points.

1. Deal six cards each. Place the rest face down between you. Turn up the top card.

2. Each turn you can
[a] take the top unknown card
[b] take one or more of the face up cards
and you must put down one card face up to finish your turn.

3. Before discarding you can put any complete sets you have face up in front of you if you want to.

4. The game ends when one of you put down their last card.

5. At the end of the game you score 10 points for each set you have put down, and lose 5 points for each card left in your hand.

Global [IMF conditions for borrowing countries]	**National** [Effects of SAP]	**Local** Effects of SAP
1 *G* Pay off interest on the loan in US dollars.	*1* *N* Export as much as possible to earn US dollars.	*1* *L* Awere grows more cocoa for export and gets more cedis.
2 *G* Make cedis [the local money] worth less in other countries	*2* *N* Imports [paid for in US$] become more expensive in cedis	*2* *L* Kwesi, taxi driver in Kumasi, loses money because petrol price goes up.
3 *G* Reduce public spending, especially on health education and social welfare	*3* *N* People have to pay more for clinics and school	*3* *L* Emmanuel doesn't continue at secondary school.
4 *G* Sell off government owned industry and services	*4* *N* Privatised businesses lay off people to reduce costs to compete and increase profits	*4* *L* Vivien loses her job in the Government Cocoa Board and becomes unemployed.
5 *G* Stop Government control of prices	*5* *N* The subsidy on foods is removed and the prices go up.	*5* *L* Elizabeth has to live on less food.
6 *G* Reduce taxation and open the country to foreign competition	*6* *N* Foreign companies come in and are intersted in working and trading in Ghana.	*6* *L* Alice near Tamale gets more money for selling her shea butter to a cosmetics company.

The Joker


Bawku
Red Volta
Bolgatanga
Gambaga Escarpment
Sisili
Wa
White Volta
Tamale
Yendi
Oti
Daka
Black Volta
Techiman
Tain
Pru
Lake Volta
812
885
Mount Afajato
Sunyani
Mampong
762
Kumasi
Kwahu Plateau
788
Lake Bosumtwi
Bekwai
Ho
Nkawkaw
Koforidua
Anum
Range
Bia
Obuasi
Ofin
Pampia
Birim
714
Akwapim Ranges
Volta
Keta Lagoon
Accra Plains
Cape St. Paul
Nsawam
Tema
Nungua
Teshie
Accra
Pra
Swedru
Tano
Winneba
Ankobra
Cape Coast
Sekondi-Takoradi
Cape Three Points
Height of land above sea level
500-1000 metres
200-500 metres
0-200 metres
812▲ Spot height in metres
Main road
N
0
50
100
150 km

DEC 93
64 '95