

Language across the Curriculum: Geography

A lot of what we learn in English can be useful in other subjects. For example, we can apply our knowledge about **prefixes** in **Geography**.

A Complete the following sentences by adding appropriate prefixes to the words in brackets.

- 1 _____ (residential) buildings in a city include offices, shops, warehouses, schools, factories, etc.
- 2 In Inner Mongolia, rainfall is generally low and _____ (reliable), so the vegetation in the region is sparse.
- 3 The government plans to _____ (develop) this old industrial estate into a commercial area.
- 4 Fossil fuels like coal and oil are non-renewable sources of energy and their supply is _____ (sustainable).
- 5 ^a _____ (grazing) by animals is one cause of desertification, which refers to the change of useful arable land into deserts. The soil in such land may become ^b _____ (fertile), leading to a decrease in food production.

Use some of the **prefixes** you learnt in Unit 7 p. 63 and Unit 8 p. 89.

A ppendix **2**

B Prefixes can help us understand the meaning of words. Below are some other Geography-related words formed using prefixes. Can you identify what each word means? Blacken the correct circle.

1 **deforestation** (n)

the _____ an area

- addition of trees to
- cutting or burning down of all the trees in

💡 Here, *de-* means 'going the opposite way'.

2 **sub-tropical** (adj)

located _____ the Tropics

- at
- north or south of

💡 Here, *sub-* means 'under' or 'below'.

3 **semi-arid** (adj)

where the climate is _____

- dry, but with a little rain
- hot and humid all the time

💡 Here, *semi-* means 'partly but not completely'.

4 **micro-irrigation** (n)

a method of irrigation using _____

- high energy
- low water flow

💡 Here, *micro-* means 'very small'.

5 **infrastructure** (n)

the _____ in a city or country

- basic systems and structures like roads and railways
- structures like the roof or floors of a building

💡 Here, *infra-* means 'below something in a range'.

