

Urban Planning « Master 1 »

Lecture 01

Urban planning is the process that is concerned with the design of land use and infrastructure passing into and out of urban areas such as; transportation, communication human settlements and many more. It is considered as an interdisciplinary field that includes social engineering, design sciences and architecture. The term urban planning is used interchangeably with urban and regional planning, regional planning, and town or city planning and urban development.

Urban planning dates from ancient Egyptian times. Therefore, archeologists studying the ruins of cities proved that the idea of planned cities was adopted by many civilizations such as the Greek and the Roman civilizations. Yet, it is the Roman Empire that had the most prominent effect that still can be seen nowadays in Europe especially in their paved streets and city centers.

An urban planner is confined to do many tasks. Primarily, formulating plans for the management of urban and suburban areas. In addition to analyzing land use according to the economic, environmental and social trends. They therefore must consider issues of sustainability, potential pollution and crime rate. Most importantly, they must set their goals strategically, legally, culturally and physically in real life.

There are many reasons for a person to major in urban planning. For instance, population growth and new human settlements need some planning to avoid chaotically based cities. Moreover, climate change and pollution rises the need for sustainable planning including green zones and natural parks. Last and not least, urban planning makes it easy for both the residents and the visitors to access the city making it a trending center locally and globally.

Questions

Read the text and answer the following questions

1. Under which area of study is urban planning categorized?
2. According to the text, how can the term urban planning be referred to? I.e. what are the synonyms of urban planning?
3. In which paragraph it is mentioned that, “ Urban planning theories are old, however only one major influence made its ways to the present days”
4. What are the duties that the urban planner?
5. Find in the text the synonym of “ internationally” (§4) , the antonym of “the least”(§2)
6. What are the considerations the urban planner must respect when making design decisions?
7. Explain why it is important to study urban planning?
8. As a future urban planner, what would you like to do in terms of empirical or practical research?

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Lecture 2

Urban Transport Planning; the Traditional Approach

Public transport planning is a very important part of urban planning. It stands for the exercise of involving strategies and policies to achieve a set of goals in transport.

Urban transport planning constitutes of two main approaches; a traditional approach known as the “Automobile approach” and a sustainable one known as the “contemporary approach”.

To start with the traditional approach, it is planned on large blocks of land use with missed use zone. In addition to a single district with unidirectional traffic movement inwards to the industrial zones in the morning and outwards to the suburbs in the afternoon. Furthermore, the roads in this approach are connected like tree branches i.e. small local streets are connected to larger collector streets which connect to larger roads with high costly infrastructures such as; grade separations.

Therefore, the traditional transport planning has a negative impact on land use. First, increase in automobile ownership. Second, increased traffic jams and congestion. Third, fatalities and injuries due to accidents.

Traditional transport planning proved to be failure to urban planning. Consequently, there was a need for a new approach.

References

Transport planning a paper presented by ministry of urban development, government of India, institute of urban planning transport, sustainable urban transport project India.

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

- 1- What is the type of the text?
- 2- The text talks about
 - *Urban transport planning; the past and the future
 - *The traditional approach to urban transport planning; what’s wrong!
 - *The guidelines of urban transport planning
- 3- State true or false
 - The automobile approach is based on the use of big zones
 - The contemporary approach is poorly planned with expensive infrastructures
 - The road design of the traditional approach causes accidents
 - The traditional approach proved to be a failure, yet it is okay to keep it
- 4- In which paragraph it is mentioned that; “the nature of the roads lay out led the traffic to be centered in two key rush hours of the day”?
- 5- Find in the text the synonym of “modern” (§2), the antonym of “successful” (§5).
- 6- What are the disadvantages of the traditional approach?
- 7- According to what is explained in (§3), try to draw the road diagram of the traditional approach
- 8- According to your past studies and experience; suggest a new approach to transport in which you avoid the mistakes of the traditional one.
- 9- In your opinion, what are the key guidelines to have a successful transport system in a city?

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Lecture 3

Urban Transport Planning; the Contemporary Approach

To avoid the mistakes of the traditional approach to transport planning; a new approach has been introduced to assure a more sustainable development. The latter can be defined as any means of transport with a low impact on the environment that includes walking and cycling as well as the technology to move people, goods and information in a way that reduces impact on the environment

Sustainable transport planning is based on a number of key design plans. First, access to and out of cities should be easy, and cities should be designed for people not cars where people can live with or without cars by assuring close services such as; schools, parks, shops ... etc.

Second, importance should be given to public transport with less land use and less expensive infrastructures to exemplify; collective busses, underground subways and metros.

Third, encourage the use of cleaner fuels technologies for example the use of battery charged cars. In addition to including a cycling section in the roads with the appropriate organizational signs.

Finally, the contemporary approach if planned properly; can change the urban transport planning for good.

References

Transport planning a paper presented by ministry of urban development, government of India, institute of urban planning transport, sustainable urban transport project India

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the term "sustainable" stand for in this text?
2. How can the contemporary approach reduce land use?
3. In which paragraph it is mentioned that; "much importance should be given to the inhabitants of a city rather than to the system of transport"?
4. Find in the text the synonym of "to transport" (§1) the antonym of "High" (§1)
5. State (T) for true and (F) for false
 - When designing ; the sustainable approach makes sure to have a high effect on the environment
 - Using subways , collective busses and metros can reduce traffic jams and congestion
 - If the people find all the facilities near them; they don't have to use cars all the time
 - Roads in the sustainable approach take a huge land space
6. Match the statements (a-d) with the ones from (1-4) using the effect connectors such as ; so that, consequently, as a result and thus

Design plan	Its effect
a. Add a cycling section in the roads	1. People won't have to use cars
b. Encourage the use of clean fuels	2. Reduce air and noise pollution
c. Use collective means of transport	3. The roads will take less land space
d. Design a city with close services	4. Cars won't consume much petrol

7. Game time

The students will be divided into two groups, they will be given statements on piece of papers showing guidelines from both approaches, then decide which approach it is. The teams can use a ball to allocate turns to each other's.

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Lecture 4

Sewage and drainage planning

Like transport planning, sewage and drainage planning constitutes a very important part of urban planning. It can be defined as the process of directing wastewater to units of removing contaminants from wastewater containing mainly household sewage in addition to the industrial wastewater. There are several chemical and physical processes used within the sewage procedure to treat water so that it is safe enough to be released into the environment. Sewage treatment can be also referred to as wastewater treatment.

A successful sewage plan requires a lots of strategic thinking. First, the planner must study pervious literature review on existing sewage systems i.e. analyzing their conditions, assessing water flow and pollution loads, measuring their hydraulic capacity, counting their estimate cost, listening to the recommendations of specialist to avoid leakage problems and installations.

Second, the planner is supposed to look at the city map and drainage records to collect data about the wastewater i.e. carry out hydrographic studies, so that he/she can design sewage catchment areas i.e. the facility units. The latter has to be built on a governmental land in a place far from human settlements and near a naturel water source such as a river or a lagoon.

Third, the planner need to respect many environmental aspects. For instance, avoid water pollution, by assuring that the water passes by many sediment removal units before discharging it. Moreover, the planner need to construct deodorization and dust control units to control odor and air pollution. The planner is required also to care about the aesthetics of the units and securing them by building walls and fences in order to respect the cities look. Noise pollution has to be controlled by designing acoustic shielding.

References; Wikipedia, Drainage Services Department (2013). *Sewage Manual; Key Planning Issues and Gravity Collection System* pp. 13-18.

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
 - a) Water pollution
 - b) Guidelines to design wastewater treatment plans
 - c) Guidelines of wastewater treatment
2. Can the planner start his work without referring to past studies? Provide the argument from the text
3. Pick up from the text the statement that has the same meaning as the following one” the urban planner must be smart enough in order for his designs to operate properly”
4. State “ True” or “ False”
 - a) After the treatment process, the wastewater is stored in big basins
 - b) The urban planner has to carry out surveys to learn from past experiences
 - c) The urban planner can plan his work in any land available
 - d) Environment considerations really matter when it comes to sewage planning
 - e) The sewage facilities cannot be placed near nature because of possible pollution

f) The planner ask the help of specialists and ask for recommendations

5. Match the statements (a-d) with the ones from (1-4)

Types of Pollution	How to control it
a) Air Pollution	1. Designing acoustic shielding
b) Water Pollution	2. building walls and fences
c) Design and Safety	3. construct deodorization and dust control units
d) Noise Pollution	4. assuring that the water passes by many sediment removal units

6. Find in the text the synonym of “Domestic” (§1), the antonym of “ charging “ (§ 4)

7. Reorder the following statements to make a coherent paragraph

- a. Then put the final design in physical reality
- b. In order to plan a sewage treatment facility in a city; the planner needs to do research about past experiences
- c. He/she has to collect data about the present situation
- d. He/she has also to think about the environmental considerations.

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Lecture 5

“City design is an art... It is seen in all lights and weathers” (Lynch, 1960, p.3). Therefore city planners have to decide about all the city’s components especially its streets. Thus street planning is the design of the area of the street where people walk, shop, sit play or interact outside the moving vehicles i.e. the pedestrian area. The plan needs to fulfill the needs of all the street users.

First, the urban planner must design street trees in a way that fits the street proportions and district e.g. the basin size, the branching height and the tree trimming. Generally, in all zoning districts are supposed to plan a tree every 20 feet in soil-filled trench.

Second, to avoid floods in the winter time; the planner must design storm water management facilities which are designed to transform, infiltrate and treat storm water before it enters the city streets. They therefore should be designed aesthetically with trees and walks.

Third, the planner is also required to design the sidewalks where people walk. When planning sidewalks certain elements must be respected such as the width of the street and the type of the zone. In addition to this, the planner must set up the street lights and site furnishes which consist of and aesthetic relief and a place where the passing people can sit to chat, have a cup of coffee or read the morning newspaper.

All in all, the street is more than a place where people walk through their daily life, yet it is a place where people make their memories.

References, Lynch. K (1960), *the Image of the City*.p.3

Guide to the San Francisco Better Streets Plan/ December 2010, www.Sfbetterstreets.org

Questions read the text and answer the following questions

1. The text talks about: Street lighting/ Street layout/ The pedestrians
2. How did Lynch refer to city design?
3. What are the areas that should be designed in a streets?
4. Does the street plan need to fulfill only the needs of the can users?
5. Say whether it is “True” or “ False”
 - a) The street trees can be designed without referring to the street proportions
 - b) Storm water facilities are very useful in time of storms, rain and tsunami
 - c) The sidewalks are designed only for walking
 - d) Putting chairs and furniture is really helpful for people to do many activities
6. In which paragraph it is mentioned that;” the streets go beyond their actual use; they are part of our past, present and future”
7. Match the statements (a-e) with the ones from (1-4)

The street’s Plan	Its function
a. Streets furnishing	1. People can walk away from car users area
b. Street Trees	2. Avoid floods in winter time
c. Street lights	3. Add Green space and aesthetics to the street
d. Storm water management	4. People can sit down to chat, drink coffee or read newspaper
e. Sidewalks	5. People and cars can see at night safely

8. According to your past studies and referring to the present text, draw a street design including all the street elements e.g. car users, pedestrians, street lights, furniture trees...

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Lecture 6

Street planning is a very crucial part of the overall urban planning process, in which the urban planner is required to design a street in way that guarantees balance between all the users of the streets; car drivers, bicycles, pedestrians, people with physical deficiencies and many others.

There are many key principles the planner should respect when designing streets, one of which is sidewalk width. The latter can be defined as the space that allows all users to use the street safely. Sidewalk width is related to the street type i.e. it differs from one street to another. Therefore, there are many street types, e.g. commercial, industrial, and residential to mentioned few.

To facilitate the sidewalk design plane, the sidewalks are divided into five zones. First the *frontage zone* which is the area that transits from the sidewalk and the building uses. Second, *Throughway zone* that is the area where people walk through the street. Third, The *furnishing zone* that includes street trees, lights, furniture and transit spots. Forth, the area where people get in and out of parked cars is called the *edge zone*. Finally, the *extension zone* that is the area where the pedestrian space can be extended into the roadway such as curb extensions.

To sum up, the planner should design the sidewalk width according to the zones and street types the thing that adds more organization and safety to the street users.

References: *Guide to the San Francisco Better Streets Plan/ December 2010, [www.Sfbettem.,ko\),&²streets.org](http://www.Sfbettem.,ko),&²streets.org)*

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. The text talks about; Sidewalk's width and zones/ Street types/ Street design guidelines
2. What should the street planning assure?
3. To what sidewalk width is related?
4. Does all sidewalks have the same width in all streets?
5. State whether "True" or "False"
 - a) A good street plan is the one that allows only cars users to drive safely
 - b) Handicaps, blind and people with special needs should be taken in consideration when planning streets
 - c) All sidewalks have the same width in all streets
 - d) Sidewalk width depends on the street's type
 - e) Dividing sidewalks into zones will assure more organization and safety
 - f) Sidewalk is the space where people walk through the street
6. Find in the text the synonym of "important" (§1) the antonym of "dangerously" (§2)
7. Match the statements (a-e) with the ones from (1-5)

Sidewalk's zone	Sidewalk's function
a. The Throughway Zone	1. It is the space between the residential area and the sidewalk
b. The Frontage Zone	2. It is a link between the parking space and the street
c. The Furnishing Zone	3. It is a link between the street and the sidewalk
d. The Extension Zone	4. The Pedestrian's area
e. The Edge Zone	5. It includes the street's accessories

8. According to your experience and past studies, draw a model of a well-organized sidewalk demonstrating one of the zones.

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Lecture7

Landscape Planning; Public Gardens Styles

Landscape planning is a very important area of urban planning, it can be defined as a set of plans that are directed to preserve nature and its elements e.g. natural parks, forests and public gardens. The latter can be defined as a piece of land where different types of plants are cultivated. Gardens can be according to the designed following four styles, which are the formal, the informal, the free style and the wild one.

To begin, in formal gardens the planer prepares the plan then selects the land which should be leveled to create a symmetrical design. Then, the geometrical shapes are designed in squares, circles, triangular tree beds. Furthermore, the roads and paths are cut using the exact angles and proportions. Consequently, the formal style reflects balance in all the elements. Moreover, the trees should be trimmed and chosen as individuals. Examples of the formal garden style can be seen in the Persian, Mughal, Italian, French and American gardens.

The informal gardens from the other hand force the plan to fit the land which is not leveled. Therefore, the design is asymmetrical with non-geometrical shapes in tree beds. In addition, the trees are untrimmed and are chosen randomly not as individual features. As a result, no balance is required in the informal garden style. Instances of this style can be seen in Japanese, Chinese and English gardens.

In free style of gardening both formal and informal styles are used to create a mixture of all elements, while in the wild style of gardening no rules are followed where the aim is to make the garden beautiful by nature.

References; *advanced English dictionary /C.V. Haaren, C. Galler,S. Ott (2008) Landscape Planning; the basis of sustainable Landscape Development/Types of Gardens Compatibility Mode*

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. Name the examples mentioned in the text of the formal style and the informal style of gardening
2. What is the aim of landscape planning?
3. How should the land be in the formal style of gardening?
4. Is balance required in the informal style of gardening?
5. Which style of gardening uses two other styles to create a cocktail of elements?
6. State whether the following statements are “True” or “False”
 - a) Tree beds can be shaped in triangles, circles, squares in the informal style
 - b) Geometry is a rule in the formal style
 - c) The roads are cut using the exact math calculations in the formal style
 - d) The free style of gardening uses the features of the informal style more than the formal
 - e) The wide style of gardening aims at creating an aesthetically pleasing garden
 - f) Japanese, Chinese and Persian gardens are examples of the informal style of gardens
 - g) The trees are not trimmed and are chosen freely in the informal style of gardening
7. Fill in the table using the information provided in the text

The Formal Style of Gardening	The Informal Style of Gardening
1. The Land:	
2. The Design:	
3. The Geometry of shapes:	
4. The Trees:	
5. The Roads:	

6. The Balance:	
7. Examples:	

- Using the information from the text, draw a model of your favorite garden style.

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Lecture 8

Landscape Planning: Domestic Gardens

Home gardening is made for personal interests to achieve comfort and a get away from the city's problems. The urban planner is required to follow many principles when designing domestic gardens.

First, the planner is required to use variety in order to achieve unity e.g. variety in textures, in the materials used, the plants and furniture. Second, incorporating trees for both purposes aesthetics and fruits producing trees. Third, using long paths in zigzags and different objects in different colors to avoid monotony. Home gardens avoid using too much details in a small place, thus, simplicity is the key.

The home gardens have functions. To start with, it is an extension of the living area. Second, they serve as a privacy and protection from the sun and the wind. Moreover, it minimizes city noises and absorbs pollution. Third, it protects the house from the wind and the sun as it provides a cooling effect in summer. In addition, home gardens can serve as a source of organic food and a shelter of wildlife.

References: *Types of Gardens Compatibility Mode (Pdf file)*

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What are Home gardens made for?
2. How can unity be achieved?
3. Why does the planner use different objects and colors?
4. Is the planner required to use a lot of details in a small garden? And why?
5. State whether the following statements are " True" or "False"
 - a) Domestic gardens can be used for public purposes
 - b) Only aesthetic trees can be planted in home gardens
 - c) Using variety when designing domestic gardens reduces routine and changes the mood
 - d) The planner can use a lot of things and ideas to fill the small garden with details
 - e) Home gardens protects the house in harsh summers and winters
 - f) Home gardens can be used as a shelter to both Flona and Flora
6. Find in the text the synonym of " Private" (§1) the antonym of " Complexity" (§2)
7. Match the statements (a-g) with the ones from (1-7)

The Design Technique	Its Function
a. Use furniture in the garden	1.It minimizes noises and absorbs pollution
b. Design the garden in the back yard	2. It acts as a living area
c. Planting food producing trees	3. It acts as a protection from harsh weather
d. Planting big trees	4. It adds aesthetics to the garden
e. Adding color to the garden	5. It serves as a food source
f. Planting flowers	6. It reduces monotony and negativity
g. 90% of the garden should be green Space	7.It assures privacy from neighbors

8. Using your past experience, draw a model of dreams home garden! (What would you like to have in your garden)

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Lecture 8

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References: *Types of Gardens Compatibility Mode (Pdf file)*

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

9. What are Home gardens made for?
10. How can unity be achieved?
11. Why does the planner use different objects and colors?
12. Is the planner required to use a lot of details in a small garden? And why?
13. State whether the following statements are “ True” or “False”
 - g) Domestic gardens can be used for public purposes
 - h) Only aesthetic trees can be planted in home gardens
 - i) Using variety when designing domestic gardens reduces routine and changes the mood
 - j) The planner can use a lot of things and ideas to fill the small garden with details
 - k) Home gardens protects the house in harsh summers and winters
 - l) Home gardens can be used as a shelter to both Flona and Flora
14. Find in the text the synonym of “ Private” (§1) the antonym of “ Complexity” (§2)
15. Match the statements (a-g) with the ones from (1-7)

The Design Technique	Its Function
h. Use furniture in the garden	1.It minimizes noises and absorbs pollution
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l. Adding color to the garden	5. It serves as a food source
m. Planting flowers	6. It reduces monotony and negativity
n. 90% of the garden should be green Space	7.It assures privacy from neighbors

16. Using your past experience, draw a model of dreams home garden! (What would you like to have in your garden)

Lecture 10

The Baroque

Throughout history humans marked their presence in the places where they lived through many ways, one of which is their style of architecture. The Baroque is one of the most important examples of European style of living. It can be defined as a way of living focusing on sculpting and painting art forms that are seen in music, sculpting, painting, drama and religious architecture.

The Baroque style started around the 17th and 18th century in Italy, France, Germany, Austria and Spain. It started mainly because of the European wealth from tobacco, gold and silver trade and the growing number of colonies. Moreover, the ruling families became rich. In addition to the catholic churches' power of reforming itself by celebrating all art forms.

The Baroque's architecture is very specific and unique. First, it focuses on sculpting and painting. Thus, it displays shapes of nature and floral elements such as leaves, shells and branches. Second, the buildings are designed in complex geometrical shapes i.e. religious forms. Third, the use of complicated and elaborate paintings and theater designs. Furthermore, the buildings are accessorized with colored glass windows to add deep lighting to the building and huge central columns to add infinity to the space.

References; IIT College of Architecture-SPRING 2017-Arch 435-**Digital Fabrication, Baroque**

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
2. In which countries the Baroque started? And in which era of time?
3. What are the art forms that reflected the Baroque style?
4. What caused the Baroque style to emerge?
5. How did the Catholic Church reform itself?
6. What makes the Baroque style so unique?
7. Why are the windows made with colored glass in Baroque buildings?
8. Why are there central columns in the Baroque buildings?
9. State whether the following statements are "True" or "False"
 - a) The Baroque style draws inspiration from Roman architecture
 - b) Sculpting, painting and accessorizing buildings are the main features of Baroque
 - c) Civil wars and poverty led Baroque to appear in Europe
 - d) Nature and religion are very present in Baroque designs
 - e) Commerce and colonization helped Baroque to appear and spread
 - f) Baroque buildings are geometrically complicated
10. Find in the text the synonym of "wealthy" (§2) the antonym of "ended" (§ 2)
11. Think about examples that reflect the Baroque in European countries
12. Try to draw a model of a Baroque's design!

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Lecture 11

The Rococo

Rococo style was a continuation of the Baroque, it appeared at the end of the 18th century in France, Germany and Austria. The term “Rococo” is derived from the French word “Rocaille” which means a decorative arrangement of rocks, seashells, plants and veins.

Although the Rococo was a continuation of Baroque; it was very different in its architectural design. First, the Rococo was very simple in its décor reflecting an aristocratic design still very realistic. Second, it was asymmetrical rather than organized. Third, the Rococo came to change the idea of enjoying life, thus, people in the Baroque were too civilized to enjoy the art of living.

In architecture, the Rococo style used paintings of nature elements but in a more simple way e.g. leaves, veins and rocks. In addition the use of light colors especially white and gold or blue, pink and white in order to have a sunny lighting. Moreover, it used wood and mirrors with golden frames and decors to create a reflection of a playful space.

All in all, the Rococo replaced the Baroque. Consequently, it was an escape from the complex, dark, fixed renaissance designs.

References: Excerpted from Edmund Brunke Feldman, *Thinking about art*, 1985, pp.190-195

Questions, Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
2. Was the Rococo a new style or it is a sub style?
3. When and where did the Rococo appear?
4. What was special about Rococo that is different from the Baroque?
5. What did the Rococo change about style of life after the renaissance?
6. How was architecture in the Rococo period?
7. Why did the Rococo use the White color with other pastel colors?
8. The space in Rococo style was playful, what did they use to make it so?
9. State whether the following statements are “ True” or “False”
 - a) The Rococo was a new style never seen before
 - b) The Rococo is not new, but it is an extension of the Baroque
 - c) Simplicity is the Key in Baroque
 - d) The Rococo is sophisticated but focuses on enjoying life
 - e) The Rococo used nature paintings in a more asymmetrical layout
 - f) The Rococo put an end to the complex Baroque area
10. What is the synonym of “ The thought” (§2) the antonym of “ Complex” (§4)
11. Fill in the gaps with the following words; **Complex ,Simple , the Rococo, enjoy life**

The Rococo style came after the Baroque and replaced it later on. The Baroque style of architecture was very and organized whereas the Rococo focused on a more approach to design. Consequently, people liked more because they wanted torather than enjoying being civilized.

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Lecture 13

The Image of the City by Kevin Lynch

According to Lynch “a city is a construction in space, but one of vast scale, a thing perceived only in the course of the long spans of time”. Thus, city design is “a temporal art” i.e. it rarely can be controlled because the patterns of a city can be changes, abandoned or developed. “It is seen in all lights and all weathers”.

The city for Lynch should have “legibility”. Consequently, identifying and structuring the environment in a city using many cues such as the visual sensation of color, shape, light, smell, sound, touch and the sense of gravity is very important for the security, the intensity and the depth of the human experience, the strong expressiveness of the individual and social growth.

To become lost in a modern city is rare because we are supported by maps, street numbers, signs and placards, yet if one gets lost there will be a strong sense of anxiety and disorientation. Thus, the city’s image is strongly related to our balance and well-being.

The city’s image is the result of the present and the past memories of a person. Consequently a clear image is the one that helps a person to move easily and quickly.

The city’s image is important not only emotionally, but socially because it helps building the collective memory of people and that’s why common memories of “Home Town” are the first and easiest points of contact between lonely soldiers in war time.

Reference: the text is a collection of citations and quotations from **Kevin Lynch’s book *the Image of the City*** (Kevin Lynch, *The Image of the City*, pp.7-9)

Questions Read the Text and Answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
2. What is the city for Lynch?
3. Why did Lynch consider the city as a “temporal art”?
4. What do people use to structure and identify the environment in the city?
5. What do people use when they get lost in a city?
6. How do people identify and structure the environment in a city?
7. Why is it important to have a clear “Image” of a city? i.e. the advantages of “ the city’s Image”
8. State “True” or “False”
 - Having a clear Image of a city is important for the individual and the society
 - People get lost in the modern city very easily and all the time
 - Soldiers at war always tell stories about their “Home Town”
 - If you have a clear Image of a city, you can find a friend’s house easily and quickly
 - A city is fixed in time, it doesn’t change or develop
 - A city’s image is a collection of present and past memories
9. Find in the text the synonym of “ Large” (§1) The antonym of “ Permanent” (§1)
10. What do you like about your “Home Town”? What would you like to change?
11. Reorder the following sentences
 - Love/town/because/I/home/made/the person/I am/ today/my/it/me/
 - West/home/east/best/is/

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Lecture 15

People can spend years building a city and making it perfect to live in and start a new life as they can put an end to it by their actions. One of the best examples of turning a perfectly alive city to a hopelessly dead one is the city of “Chernobyl” or “the Dead City”.

On April 26 1986, the most serious accident in the history of the nuclear industry occurred at unit 4 of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the former Ukrainian Republic of the Soviet Union.

The huge explosion led to a violent fire that lasted for 10 days and resulted in large amounts of radioactive materials being released in the environment.

More than 50,000 people used to live in Chernobyl (Pripyat), their evacuation started the day after the accident. The Chernobyl inhabitants were allowed to take only the necessary items with them as they were told to come back in three days; a governmental lie just to avoid panic.

Later on the authorities decided to close the city for good. Eventually, thousands of people were affected by the radiation that although its impact was not immediate; it led to serious diseases such as; acute radiation syndrome, cancer, children’s mutation, thyroid cancer, leukemia, cataracts...etc.

All in all, the first thing city planners need to put in mind is to prioritize the city’s safety i.e. build city to make dreams rather than leaving it for ghosts.

References: exploring with Josh;

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. Suggest a title to the text
2. What is the text talking about?
3. When and where did the Chernobyl’s accident happen?
4. What have resulted from the explosion?
5. How many people used to live in Chernobyl? And what happened to them?
6. Have they returned to their city? And why?
7. What are the negative impacts that have resulted from the accident?
8. State whether the following statements are True or False
 - Chernobyl became a ghost city because of the atomic bombs’ experiments
 - The environment in Chernobyl became contaminated by radiation after the explosion
 - The inhabitants of Chernobyl returned back to their city after three days
 - The impact of the accident didn’t show up at time, for it took years for syndromes to appear
 - Chernobyl was once alive, not it’s a ghost city
9. Find in the text the synonym of “Incident” (§2) and the antonym of “Nightmares” (§6)
10. Reorder the following statements to make a coherent paragraph.
 - a. Turning what was once a dream to a certain nightmare
 - b. It is rather about making it safe and sustainable-regardless how simple it is-
 - c. Because trying to make a city a lab for extremely dangerous experiments may lead to its disappearance
 - d. Urban planning is not about constructing a mere city
11. Write a short paragraph in which you provide suggestions about how can we avoid catastrophes like Chernobyl’s in the future

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Lecture 16

Creativity has no limit, and urban planners must always think outside the box and look beyond making their city a static construction in space, they must make it a huge sports facility in order to opt for an ultimate “Active city vision”. One way to achieve so is using “Squares”.

A square is a large, open and hard surface space, designed to be a place for town gathering-generally established in the 19th and the 20th century-. Therefore, the square can be used by all town residents and has the potential to become an active meeting place. For instance, street basketball, roller-skating, roller hockey and parkour are formal activities usually found in the square.

There are many types of squares. First, *the Emergent Square* is a flexible clear open space without materials that could be used for informal activities e.g. teenagers can decorate it with graphite, they can play football in the morning and a basketball in the afternoon. Second, *the Temporary Square* is generally used to bring life to the static historical sites e.g. children can play a football game in a temporary play ground near a museum in summer vacation. Third, *the Multiuse Square in historical areas* is normally used by skaters and BMW riders, they can use the stairs, the edges and the old pools to display their skills to the seated tourist in cafés and restaurants. Forth, *The Square on the street corner* which puts to use smaller squares, abandoned areas, rear sides and smaller streets, it was first used in New York City under the slogan of “a greener, greater New York”.

References: Anderson, *Activating Architecture and Urban Planning, 50 examples of Development of Attractive and Active Urban Spaces*, (2009)

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What is the type of the text? Suggest a title to it?
2. What the text is talking about?
3. How can the active city vision be achieved?
4. What is a square? And what is made for? And who can benefit from it?
5. State whether the following statements are “True” or “False”
 - An active city is the one that can be used as a huge habitation and sports facility
 - Squares can be used only as meeting space
 - Both formal and informal activities can be found in a square
 - The emergent square is highly equipped with sports material
 - The temporary square can be used in times of vacation as a practice space
 - The multiuse square is used by football players
 - Squares in historical sites displays a mixture between nostalgia and modernity
 - The street corner square was first used in Paris
6. Find in the text the synonym of “Athletics” (§1) the antonym of “Vivid” (§1)
7. Match the statements a-d with the ones from 1-4

Square Types	Possible Functions
a. The Emergent Square	1. People can make use of a historical space when they are on holidays
b. The Temporary Square	2. People can use the architectural structures of a space to create athletic activities
c. The Multiuse Square	3. People can benefit from small spaces and turn them to a green practice space
d. The Street Corner Square	4. People can do whatever they want, they can sit down, play or even paint.

8. Write a short paragraph in which you describe how a popular place in your town can be turned to a square. You can use the information mentioned in the text.

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Lecture 17

Redundant Areas

The unbuilt spaces in the city such as the unused and abandoned spaces, areas around transportation and industry landscapes have a great potential to bring vibrancy to the city's urbanity, because they are unprogrammed and rule-free; they can be used to generate spontaneous sports and social activities.

First, *space under the bridge* can be used when cities suffer from an extreme lack of space to create activities that don't need large space or fancy materials e.g. strength training, tai chi, dancing, gymnastics, Ping-Pong and others. The space can be transformed by adding love seats, letter columns, water fountains, panoramic decks.

Second, *the parking lot* is not a mere monofunctional space; it can serve as a sports facility in certain times of the day and the week-the evenings, the day and weekends-. *Graphic Activations* must be added to separate the functions e.g. adding visual layers, marking directional movements in a variety of colors and lights.

Third, *Former Industrial Areas* can be recycled for unique uses that creates a mixture between industry and urbanity for temporal span of time. The concrete industrial structures create an extreme atmosphere for sports e.g. a gas container can be used as a diving center, the pips can be used for climbing...etc.

Forth, *the Roof Surface and the Facade*, innovation and creativity can be used to create new active spaces with unique proportions. To exemplify, roofs can be used as an urban space that is isolated from the city' noise and rich in sunlight e.g. football, infinity pools, gardens. Facades can be also used as assets with dynamics e.g. parkour, skating and steel frames with nets.

References: Anderson, *Activating Architecture and Urban Planning, 50 examples of Development of Attractive and Active Urban Spaces, (2009)*

Questions: Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
2. What type of spaces does the text talk about?
3. Why these spaces are considered useful to the city's urbanity?
4. Why do people opt for using spaces under bridges? And for what type of activities?
5. How and when can the parking lot be multifunctional?
6. What helps the creation of the dynamic atmosphere in the industrial areas?
7. Can the industrial areas be used as an active space permanently?
8. What are the qualities that made the roof a unique active space?
9. State whether the following statements are true or false
 - Space under bridge is used when there is a lack of unbuilt active space in cities
 - The Parking lot can't be used as an active space, because it is full of cars all time
 - Former industrial areas are so dangerous to be exploited as a sport facility
 - Graphic Activation can transform the space and add sporty vibes.
 - The Roof space has qualities other space don't' have such as calm and natural heat
 - The facade may not be the greatest active space because it is narrow
10. Find in the text the synonym of "unscheduled" (§1) the antonym of "planned" (§1)
11. Match the statements (a-e) with the ones (1-5)

The Redundant Area	Possible Qualities
a. Space Under the Bridge	1. Available for temporary usage, usually for extreme sports
b. The Parking Lot	2. It is unique, yet it actively connects the local buildings
c. Former Industrial Areas	3. Offers a calm get away with natural heat and ventilation
d. The Roof Surface	4. Practical for activities with less space and less materials
e. The Building' s façade	5. Exclusive only for certain periods of time

