Key issues 3-4 study guide by Jeff, hopfully I got all the important stuff in this thing! :D

Global cities play an important role in global business services. There are a lot of business services in them, as well as a lot of headquarters of big corporations.

Global cities are divided into 3 levels, which are Alpha, beta, gamma. These are subdivided into alpha++, alpha+, alpha, beta+, beta, beta-, gamma+, gamma, gamma - There are a few factors that divide global cities into these ranks:

* Economic factors: number of headquarters for multinational corporations, financial institutions and law firms that influence the global economy.
* Political Factors: headquarters for international organizations, capitals of countries that play a role in international events
* Cultural factors: renowned cultural institutions, media outlets, sports facilities, education
* Infrastructural factors: major international airports, healthcare

New methods of transportation and communications reduced needs of clustering in large cities, like telegraph and railroad Global cities have retail services with extensive market areas, since there are lots of rich people there are luxury and specialized products, also with many plays, concerts, and operas.

Global cities are also centers of national or international political power, and many are national capitals. There are representatives from foreign countries, trade associations, such as New York, which is home to the UN

Developing countries specialize in offshore financial services and back-office functions in the global economy

Offshore financial services: provide 2 functions in the global circulation of capital:

* 1. Taxes: The taxes for storing money are very low or nonexistence, so the US loses 70 billion from tax revenue a year.
  2. Privacy: Businesses can evade disclosure in their home countries.

So they are havens for companies looking to dodge taxes and other illegal schemes. An example of this is the Cayman Islands, they just have 40k inhabitants but over a trillion dollars stored there.

The second type are business process outsourcing. These contain insurance claims processing, and payroll management. They traditionally housed their back-office staff downtown, but high rents made it move to suburbs and stuff. Developing countries attract these because:

* Labor: you can earn more money than most other sectors of the economy.
* Ability to speak English: there are a few countries with a lot of English speakers, and this leads to a strategic advantage to communicate it over telephone, so you know what American customers like.

The economic base of a settlement is important. A basic industry exports goods to consumers outside the settlement, Nonbasic industries sell items to people in the same community.

The economic base is started when your basic industries export to bring money into the local economy, allowing nonbasic industries to make goods for the settlement.

Key issue 4

Rural settlements can be clustered or dispersed. A clustered rural settlement is an agriculture based community where a number of families live in close proximity to each other, with fields surrounding the collection of houses and farm buildings. A dispersed rural settlement, is characterized by farmers living on individual farms isolated from neighbors, rather than next to other farmers.

Clustered rural settlements: these have a few homes, barns, with a few consumer services like schools and shops. Each person is allocated strips of land in the surrounding fields. There are a few types of these settlements.

* Circular rural settlements: these have a open space surrounded by structures
* Linear rural settlements: have buildings clustered along a road or river to facilitate communications. The fields extend behind the building strips. In a French long lot system, houses were erected along a river, and narrow lots were constructed perpendicular to the river.

Clustered settlements in Colonial America: New England colonists built settlements built around a area called a common, churches and schools were built next to it.

Dispersed Rural Settlements: were more common in American colonies outside New England. They were settled by people hunting for cheap land, and later on more buildings connected the farms together.

Before the establishment of permanent settlements, people were nomads and hunter gatherers. People made places to bury the dead, as the first buildings. Until skyscrapers, religious buildings were often the tallest structures in the community.

Settlements let males travel further to find food, and women built household objects. People needed tools, clothing, shelter, containers, and fuel, so settlements became manufacturing centers.

Public services followed religious services. Soldiers were stationed to protect from attack, and walls were built for more defense. These cities became citadels- areas of military importance. Business services followed public services, such as transportation and people eventually learned about agriculture.

Settlements existed 5k years ago, and in 1800, only 3 percent of everyone lived in urban areas.

Settlements originated in Mesopotamia, in the fertile crescent of southwest Asia.

Prehistoric urban settlements: the oldest documented urban settlement is Ur.

Ancient Urban settlements: were established in the eastern Mediterranean, 2500 BC. These were major trading areas with the government protecting the hinterlands. They were city-states- independent self-governing communities that included the settlement and nearby countryside. The Roman empire encouraged urban settlement.

Medieval Urban settlements: was revived in EU, due to the 11th century. Walls were able to be destroyed by cannonballs, thanks to gun powder. After the collapse of the Roman Empire, the largest urban settlements were clustered in China.

The percentage of people in urban settlements was 3 percent in 1800, 6% in 1850, 14% in 1900, 30% in 1900, and 47% in 2000. Megacities have gone from Asia (1800), to EU and NA (1900), to developing countries (present day)

Louis Wirth said that a city is a permanent settlement that has a large size, high population density, and socially heterogeneous people.

* Large size: in rural settlements, most people know each other, as you see each other a lot. In urban areas, you only know a small percentage of people, and people you meet are in their specific roles, such as a teacher or a clerk.
* High density: There must be specialists to support large numbers of people and to make the system to run smoothly.
* Social Heterogeneity: The larger the settlement, the more the variety of people. In rural settlements, some actions may be scorned, but in urban, people feel lonelier. This lets people have greater freedom in urban areas.