Urbanisation Case Study

Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sao Paulo is located on the South East coast of Brazil. Can you find it on the map?

Sao Paulo, like many cities in LEDCs, has grown rapidly since the 1950s. One of the main causes of this growth has been an increase in the rate of urbanisation. Sao Paulo is Brazil's largest city with a population of approximately 25 million. The process of urbanisation can be explained by push and pull factors.

LEDC: Less Economically Developed Country

Urbanisation: the increase in the number of people living in towns and cities compared with villages and small towns in the countryside

Push Factor: something that encourages you to leave the area you live in

Pull Factor: something that makes people move to a new area

Shanty Town (Favela): poor housing, usually on the edge of a city

Activity
Divide your page into two halves. Write two headings:
1. Push factors
2. Pull factors
Put the different factors below under the correct heading. Can you think of any more?

Health Care
Unemployment
Drought
Crop Failure
Education
Jobs
Favelas in Sao Paulo

Many people who move from the rural areas to the city live in Favelas on the edge of the city. People living in Favelas face many problems:

- **Poor quality housing**: made from basic materials like wood and iron sheets.
- **Overcrowding**: many people live close together and whole families can share one room.
- Poor access to services: many people share one **water tap**, **electricity** may not be available and **sewage** can be a problem.
- There are very few **schools** in the Favelas.
- **Disease** can spread very quickly in these poor conditions. There is very little access to **health care**.
- **Jobs** are in short supply, so many people remain poor.
- There is very little **public transport**.

Can you compare where you live with conditions in the favela? What would you find hardest about living in a favela?

**Improving Living Conditions**

SOS Children works to improve peoples quality of life in Sao Paulo in a number of different ways.

There are SOS primary schools in two areas of Sao Paulo, Juiz de For and Rio Bonito. If children are better educated they are more likely to get a job and work themselves out of poverty.

Vocational training centres and workshops provide young people with the opportunity to acquire skills and trades, which will help them lead independent lives and improve their job prospects.

SOS Children also runs day care centres and transit homes to provide temporary accommodation and care for the many street chil-