

## Masdar City – a positive step?

Mega projects are extremely large investment projects, which are designed to encourage economic growth and bring new benefits to cities. Although megaprojects vary in terms of size and cost, they are all, by definition, expensive, public projects that attract a high level of interest and media coverage. Projects range from motorways, airports, stations, tunnels, bridges, to entire city complexes. etc.

- 1. What are mega projects ( Definition )? They are extremely large investment projects
- 2. The writer states two benefits of creating megaprojects. Write them down.
  - a. They encourage economic growth.
  - b. They bring new benefits to cities.
- 3. What is the difference between all kinds of mega projects? They vary in terms of size and cost .
- **4. What do mega projects have in common ? = disadvantages :** They are expensive, public projects.
- **5.** The text provides many examples of mega projects . Mention two . Motorways, airports, stations, tunnels, bridges and entire city complexes.

The concept of a megaproject is always based on the benefits it brings to a community. However, many megaprojects have been criticised because of <u>their</u> negative effects on a community or the environment. This essay will look at issues with regard to Masdar City, a megaproject in Abu Dhabi.

- **1. Advantage of mega projects** : The benefits it brings to a community.
- 2. Disadvantage of mega projects : They have negative effects on a community and the environment. 2. expensive
- 3. Why are mega projects criticized ? Because of <u>their</u> negative effects on a community or the environment.
- 4. Quote the sentence which shows the main reason to criticize mega projects ? "However, many megaprojects have been criticised because of their negative effects on a community or the environment."

Masdar City, which began its development in 2006 CE, will be the world's first carbon-neutral, zero waste artificially-created city. Covering an area of six square kilometres, when it is completed in 2025 CE, it is expected to house more than 40,000 residents, 50,000 commuters, and 1,500 businesses involved in mainly environmentally-friendly products. The city will run entirely on renewable energy sources. It is built on an advanced energy grid which monitors exactly how much electricity is being used by every outlet in the complex.

## 1. What makes Masdar city environmentally-friendly city ?

a. Masdar City will be the world's first carbon-neutral, zero waste artificially-created city.b. Masdar City will have environmentally-friendly products.

## 2. What will run Masdar City ?

The city will run entirely on renewable energy sources.

**3. Inhabitants (residents)** = 40,000 **commuters** = 50,000 **businesses** = 1,500

Furthermore, in order to reduce its carbon footprint, Masdar City will be a car-free zone, designed to be pedestrian and cycle-friendly. Electric, driverless cars will operate as public transport vehicles, and the city will be connected to other locations by a network of roads and railways.

- There are many procedures that will be implemented to reduce carbon footprint in Masdar city. Mention two.

   a. Masdar City will be a car-free zone, designed to be pedestrian and cycle-friendly.
   b. Electric, driverless cars will operate as public transport vehicles.
- 2. Mention two ways that will connect Masdar City to other locations :

**a.** roads

**b.** railways

Energy will be provided by solar power and wind farms, and there are also plans to build the world's largest hydrogen plant. A desalination plant will be used to provide the city's water, with 80% of water used being recycled. Biological waste will be used as an energy source too, and industrial waste will be recycled. The current residents of Masdar City are all students at the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, a university whose students are fully committed to finding solutions to the world's energy problems. While the project has the support of many global, environmental and conservation Organisations, there is some criticism of it. It is felt that, instead of building an Artificial sustainable city, sustainability should be made a priority of existing cities.

recycle = reuse

- 1. Certain power resources will supply Masdar City with energy. Write down two of these resources .1. Solar power2. wind farms3. a hydrogen plant4. Biological waste.
- **2. Name two materials that will be recycled in Masdar city .** 1. water : 80% 2. industrial waste
- **3. Where does the city's water come from ?** A desalination plant
- **4. Who support the project ?** Many global, environmental and conservation Organisations.
- **5. Why is the Masdar City criticised?** It is felt that, instead of building an Artificial sustainable city, sustainability should be made a priority of existing cities.
- 6. What is Masdar Institute of Science and Technology ? A university whose students are fully committed to finding solutions to the world's energy problems.
- 7. Who is the present inhabitants (residents) of Masdar City ? The current residents of Masdar City are all students at the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology

In conclusion, the benefits of Masdar City for the community and the environment greatly outweigh any disadvantages. If the aims of the developers are realised, Masdar City will be a blueprint for future urban planning that will inspire similar megaprojects in other countries.

- **1. What will happen if the aims of the developers are realized ?** Masdar City will be a blueprint for future urban planning that will inspire similar megaprojects in other countries.
- 2. What does the underlined word <u>"outweigh"</u> mean ? To be more important than something else.
- 1. What are the disadvantages of the creation of Masdar City?
  - It will not be fully environmental clean
  - It is expensive It costs a lot of money.
- 2. What makes Masdar city environmentally-friendly city ? Masdar City will :
  - be carbon-neutral
  - have electric driverless cars
  - have renewable energy sources
  - have environmentally-friendly products
  - have recycling
  - be zero waste

<b>zero-waste</b> producing no waste	خالى من النفايات
desalination The process of removing salt from sea water so that it can be used again	تحلية
criticise To evaluate or analyse – not approved	ينتقد
recycle reuse	اعادة صناعة، تدوير