Royal Geographical Society with IBG Advancing geography and geographical learning

Physical Factors	
Reasons for High Density	Reasons for Low Density
Relief: lowland areas which are flat are easier to farm, build settlements and transport links.	Relief: mountainous areas are too steep to farm easily, difficult to build on and get around easily.
Climate: moderate climate with enough rain and warm temperatures to allow crops to grow.	<b>Climates:</b> Very cold, very hot or very dry climates can affect the growing season and make growing crops difficult. It can also make it unpleasant to live there.
Vegetation: Areas of open woodland and grassland make it easier to develop settlements.	Soil: Thin, rocky or acidic soils all result in difficult farming conditions.
Accessibility: areas with easy access to transport (and therefore trade).	Accessibility: empty areas of large countries can be far away from large settlement meaning it can take a long time to access other places.

Teachers should cut out these cards (and laminate if possible) and for main activity, pupils should then be able to arrange them into physical and human factors and why they may be reasons for high or low density population

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**Resources:** plenty of natural resources **Resources:** few natural resources make it such as water, wood, coal, oil and difficult for a country to trade, make more copper enable areas to develop and money and sustain a population. sustain a population. **Human Factors Economic:** Good trade links, large **Economic**: Poor trade links and markets, markets for trade, good infrastructure poor infrastructure with few roads and such as roads, railways as well as services. This limits job opportunities for skilled workers. people who live there. **Social:** Some groups of people prefer **Social:** Some groups of people prefer to be to live together. Some people prefer more isolated. Some people prefer rural urban environment. environments. Political: Stable and fair government. **Political:** Unstable governments and civil wars.

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