Module 1

1. What does one understand by the term ‘urban’?
2. Following the arguments of Charles Cooley explain the origin of cities from the point of view of transportation.
3. According to V. Gordon Childe what were the conditions that led to an ‘urban revolution’?
4. According to Max Weber what was important for the rise of the urban community in Europe? What social factor was responsible for preventing the rise of full urban community in the Indian context?
5. What did Lewis Mumford mean by the term ‘thanatopolis’? Apart from food surplus what other factors did Lewis Mumford consider to be crucial for the rise of the city?
6. Why ‘heterogeneity’ is considered to be an important factor for the rise of the city?

Module 2

1. Write a short note on pre-historic urbanization in India.
2. Discuss some of the salient characteristics of the ancient cities in India.
3. What led to the formation of smaller towns like kubjaka, kharvata and kheta in ancient India?
4. What were some of the distinctive features of the Mughal cities in India?
5. What were the three-fold changes in technology that had taken place during the Industrial Revolution? What were their main impact on society?
6. Who coined the terms Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft? What do they mean?

Module 3

1. What are the most important characteristics of the metropolitan mind according to Georg Simmel?
2. Why was Georg Simmel’s analysis not appreciated in Germany in 1903? Which theoretical school revived Simmel’s contributions and when?
3. “Owing to the curious lay-out of the town it is quite possible for someone to live for years in Manchester to travel daily to and from his work without ever seeing a working-class quarter or coming into contact with an artisan.” – How does Friedrich Engels describe the systematic barring of the working class quarters from the gaze of the upper classes in the city of Manchester?
4. According to Robert Park what are the two levels at which human society was organized?
5. What is human ecology?
6. What were the effects of size on population according to Louis Wirth?
7. Who had argued that the city grew in irregular blobs rather than Burgess’s neat concentric circles?
8. What did Ernest Burgess mean by the process of succession? How does the ‘sector theory’ criticize Burgess’s model?

9. What was the main outcome of the concept of ‘natural habitat’?

10. What are the main criticisms against the ecological school?

11. When did the compositional school based on fieldwork research arise in America?

12. What are the different groups identified by Herbert Gans that reside in the inner city?

13. Discuss Claude Fischer’s contribution to the study of urbanism.

14. Which theoretical school is considered to be a synthesis of the ecological and compositional schools and why?

15. Which theoretical approach is best equipped to explain the global changes that are taking place in the urban context? Explain Henri Lefebvre’s exposition on ‘primary’ and ‘second’ circuit of capital.

16. Discuss the Chicago School and the socio-spatial approach to urban sociology.

17. Which theoretical perspective emphasized the role of government in space?

18. “The spatial order of the city is a product of and reflects the moral order”—Name the sociological school that believe in this dictum.

19. Which of Marx’s concepts did the socio-spatial school find useful for analyzing the city? How did they extend Marx’s formulations in understanding the dynamics of capitalism in contemporary cities?

20. What was the new dimension that the socio-spatial school added to the study of urban development? How did the socio-spatial theorists explain the contemporary conflicts over land?

Module 4

1. According to Robert Blauner what was the most alienating form of technology?

2. Who is the author of Technics and Civilization?

3. Why did the jitney (shared taxi) of the World War I period fail?

4. According to Mark J. Bouman what did street lighting symbolize in the nineteenth century cities?

5. What were the changes in social relation that took place due to the invention of chimney and the fireplace?

6. What were the Union Committee’s main arguments against the Philadelphia Traction Company (PTC) in their struggle against the street-car that operated on over-head wires? What were the PTC’s counter-arguments?

7. What does the conflict between the Union Committee and the Philadelphia Traction Company (PTC) tell us about the relation between urban community and choice of technology that impinges on public property?

8. Why the underground conduit technology for streetcar was not adopted in the late nineteenth century America?
Quiz Questions

Module 5

1. How would you explain the neighbourhood as a sociological category? Is it true that the neighbourhood is an objective as well as subjective category?
2. What was the most unusual characteristic of property transaction within the *pols*?
3. What was the head of the *mahajan* guild called?
4. Describe the traditional administrative system in the *pols* of Ahmedabad.
5. Discuss the difficulties faced in the *pol* areas in contemporary times.
6. Describe how *Gemeinschaft* communities exist in the heart of the modern cities. Do ghettoized communities disprove the idea of ‘death of space’? Explain with suitable examples.

Module 6

1. What were the two most distinctive characteristics of the European cities during the Renaissance period?
2. What is zoning? Give two examples of earliest incidents of zoning.
3. Whose names are associated with the Garden City Movement and the City Beautiful Movement?
4. What is the main difference between the City Beautiful Movement and the Garden City Movement?
5. Which aspect of Howard’s conception of the Garden City was ignored in the later day Garden City designs?
6. Mention two most important pitfalls of city planning.
7. Name the technique that was introduced to regulate unrestricted city development.
8. What is meant by ‘new pluralism’ in contemporary urban planning?
9. What was the city plan of Jaipur based on?
10. In which port city the segregation between the Europeans and Indians was formalized by the construction of a wall in the seventeenth century?
11. Why Queen Victoria’s proclamation of 1858 did not hold true from the point of view of the urban history of colonial Lucknow?
12. Appraise the planning of colonial Lucknow from a sociological perspective.
13. What was the idea that Le Corbusier had taken from the Garden City approach?
14. Why was Chandigarh a symbolic as well as practical necessity?
15. What are the main criticisms against the plan of Chandigarh?
16. How does the discipline of sociology contribute to urban planning? Explain with examples.
17. Discuss some of the main features of the transformation that is taking place in contemporary cities.