

## Unit 3. Urban Design & Landscape Architecture

**Ex.1** Read the text and answer the questions below;

### Contemporary planning

The ways in which planning operated at the beginning of the 21st century did not conform to a single model of either a replicable process or a desirable outcome. The concept of participatory planning has spread to the rest of the world, although it remains limited in its adoption. Generally, the extent to which planning involves public participation reflects the degree of population activity in each location. Within a more participatory framework, the role of planner changes from that of expert to that of mediator between different groups, or “stakeholders.” This changed role has been endorsed by theorists supporting a concept of “communicative rationality.” Critics of this viewpoint, however, argue that the process may suppress innovation or simply promote the wishes of those who have the most power, resulting in outcomes contrary to the public interest. They are also concerned that the response of “not in my backyard” precludes building affordable housing and needed public facilities if neighborhood residents are able to veto any construction that they fear will lower their property values.

In sum, the enormous variety of types of projects on which planners work, the lack of consensus over processes and goals, and the varying approaches taken in different cities and countries have produced great variation within contemporary urban planning. Nevertheless, although the original principle of strict segregation of uses continues to prevail in many places, there is an observable trend toward mixed-use development—particularly of complementary activities such as retail, entertainment, and housing—within urban centres.

1. What is the concept of participatory planning?
2. How does the role of urban planner change?
3. What are the main concerns of the local population in city areas towards new construction?
4. What is the main reason for the existing great variation in contemporary urban planning?
5. Is the original principle of strict urban segregation still in use?

**Ex. 1** *Translate the words below; match them to their definitions;*

**Utilities   Enforcement   Affordable Housing   Pedestrian   Landmarks  
Density   Vernacular   Conversions   Green Belt   Podium**

1. Low cost housing for sale or rent, often from a housing association.  
.....
2. The sub-division of residential properties into bedsits, self-contained flats

or maisonettes. ....

3. Buildings, structures and spaces which create distinct visual orientation points that provide a sense of location to the observer within the neighbourhood or district. ....

4. All people on foot or moving at walking speed. ....

5. A base to building or structure. ....

6. In the case of residential development, a measurement of either the number of habitable rooms per hectare or the number of dwellings per hectare. ....

7. Facilities for gas, electricity, telephone, cable television, water and waste water. ....

8. Landscape or architectural style common to, or representative of, an area. ....

9. Procedures by a local planning authority to ensure that the terms and conditions of a planning decision are carried out. ....

10. Specially designated area of countryside protected from most forms of development in order to stop urban sprawl and preserve the character of existing settlements and encourage development to locate within existing built-up areas. ....

**Ex. 1** Write five questions to the text and make up a dialogue with your partner;

### **Architectural Planning and Design of the City**

Construction in Russia, as everywhere, is now in crisis. Many plans to build glittering apartment towers, skyscrapers, schools, parks and shopping malls become pending issues. That's good if you remember the speed with which historical Moscow was being demolished and replaced with malls and office buildings during 1990s. However, some projects are thriving.

Kuntsevo Plaza is a vibrant new live, work, shopping and entertainment village. It occupies a full city block and will deliver a modern community gathering place rooted in art, nature, and urbanity. The pedestrian-oriented center is made up of buildings that differ in size and shape. It is topped with terraces and glass features, to create a new landmark for the city.

The project provides a vital connection to the nearby transit line, multiple entryways and various street connections.

At nearly 250,000 sqm, two high-rise apartment towers with lush rooftop park terraces, and a Class-A office building are integrated with light-filled retail, entertainment and cultural spaces set within extensive public plazas.

The developers say that they designed Kuntsevo Plaza with the intention of bringing a renewed energy to Moscow. There hasn't been a development of this scale, program mix, or contemporary design style before in Russia. The first phase of the project is scheduled to open to the public in April 2014.

**Ex. 1** Write the full words; use the Glossary for reference;

1. An engaged pier or pillar, often with capital and base. P.....
2. A small porch composed of a roof supported by columns, often in front of a doorway. P.....
3. The middle horizontal member of a classical entablature, above the architrave and below the cornice. F.....
4. The side parts of a window frame or window opening, as distinct from head and sill. J.....
5. The triangular space forming the gable end of a roof above the horizontal cornice. P.....
6. A structural form, usually of masonry, used at the corners of a building for the purpose of reinforcement, frequently imitated for decorative purposes. Q.....
7. The vertical segment of a column or pilaster between the base and the capital. S.....
8. A drawing of the footprint of the subject building and immediate adjacent buildings indicating the location of the proposed work. S..... P.....
9. A metal frame clad with fabric attached over a window, door, porch opening or storefront to provide protection from the weather. A.....
10. A railing composed of balusters and a top rail running along the edge of a porch, balcony, roof, or stoop. B.....

**Ex. 1** Circle the right variant;

1. Building or other structure of special architectural or historic interest included on a statutory list and assigned a grade.  
a) Tomb   b) Listed Building   c) Tower
2. Outdoor areas accessible to the public.  
a) Public realm   b) Public building   c) Property
3. The recovery of reusable materials from waste.  
a) Production   b) Manufacturing   c) Recycling
4. Environmentally responsible development.  
a) Enhanced construction   b) Sustainable development   c) Sprawl
5. The appearance and character of buildings and all other features of an urban area taken together as a whole.  
a) Modification   b) Outlook   c) Townscape
6. A continuous area facilitating the movement of wildlife through rural or urban environments.  
a) Wildlife corridor   b) Green belt   c) Sustainable development
7. The volume of space that may be occupied by a building, usually defined