

Lesson Guide

This exercise is best done with small groups. A class can be broken up into four groups and each group must order the words from lesser to greater. This allows individuals to tackle one or two pairs at a time.

Students should be encouraged to use browser image searches once they are familiar with the basic definition. They should also be encouraged to use sites such as wikidiff.com or to simply search up “word X vs. word Y”.

The lists include words that do not necessarily denote size, but rather parts of the target concept, differences in usage, or other aspects and features. As the students work, they should begin to notice this and be encouraged to identify how the word is different **as this is the goal rather than completing the list**. Encourage discussion by asking the following questions.

How is it different?

What feature in the definition distinguishes from others?

Once they have a basic breakdown, each group can write the words on the board according to the order they determined. This is their opportunity to show what words did not fit the list and why. Once the answers are on the board, the instructor can post or display the answer sheet and discuss the words that didn't fit to show how semantic features can distinguish synonyms. There will certainly be regional differences that could come up as well.

BREAK DOWN BY FEATURES

CIRCULAR MOTION

Ripple

Wave

Roller

Comber – Breaker

Whitecap

Tsunami (formally tidal wave)

SPEED

Gush

Torrent

Flash Flood

RISING MOTION

Overflow

Swamp (verb)

Swell

Tide

Flood = Inundation

Deluge

(Flowage = Flooding, i.e. the action of)

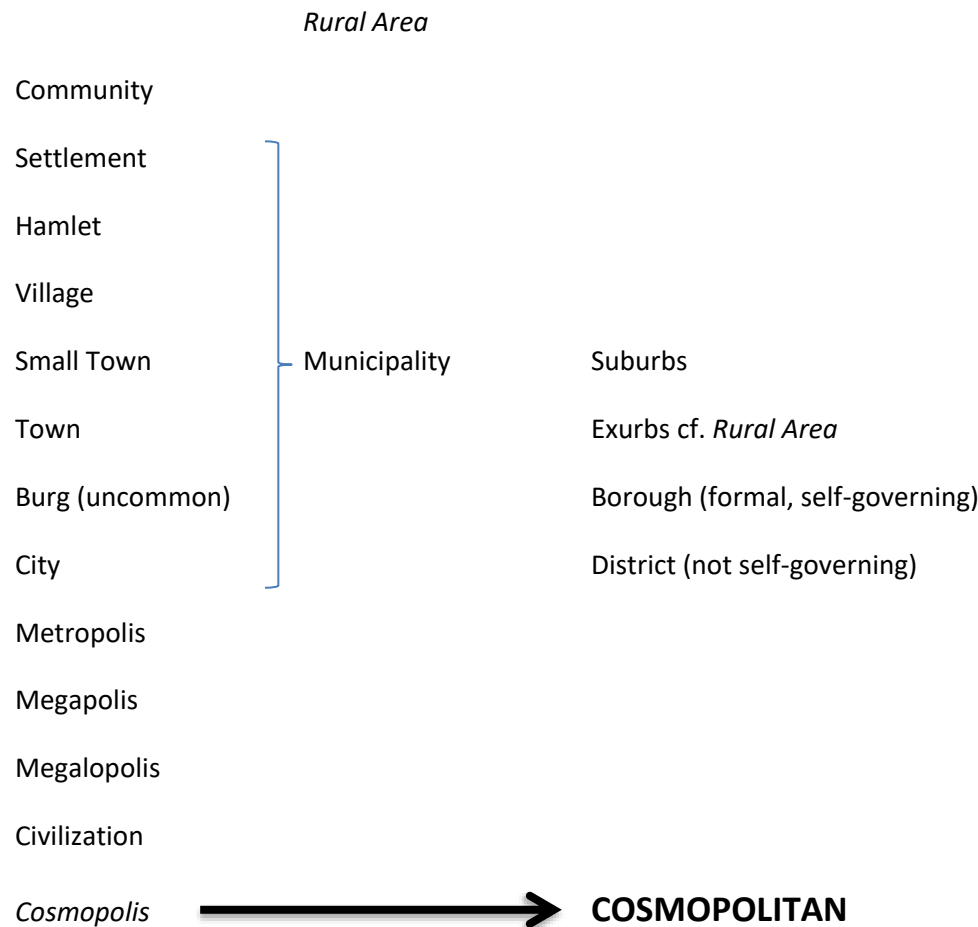
Flux – can be a flood,

but refers to bodily fluids

Breakers - A heavy ocean-wave which breaks violently into foam against a rocky coast or in passing over reefs or shallows. ***Breakers ahead!*** ‘the common pass-word to warn the officer of broken water in the direction of the course’.

A ‘combing’ wave, a long curling wave, a breaker

Roller -18. A long, swelling wave, moving with a steady sweep or roll. Also *fig.*

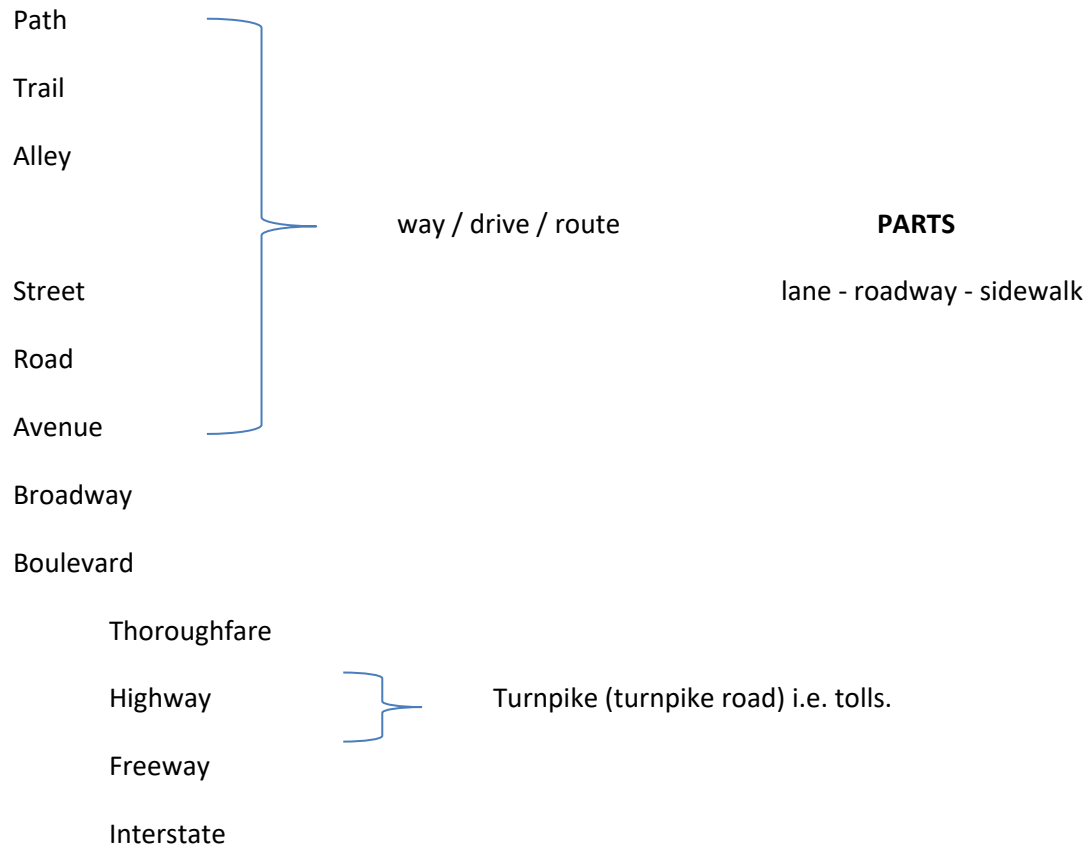


Metropolis - The chief town or city of a country (occas. of a province or district), *esp.* the one which is the seat of government; a capital. In extended use: any large, bustling city.

Megapolis - A chief or capital city; (*gen.*) a large city. Occas. as a name applied to such a city. Also in extended use.

Megalopolis - A very large or principal city, a metropolis (occas. as a proper name); (now sometimes) *spec.* a continuous urban sprawl formed from the expansion of adjoining cities. Also: the way of life characteristic of such a city. Occas.: the practice of building large cities.

Cosmopolis - The (capital) city of the world; a cosmopolitan city or community.



thoroughfare - A road, street, lane, or path forming a communication between two other roads or streets, or between two places; a public way unobstructed and open at both ends; *esp.* a main road or street, a highway.

broadway - A wide open road or highway, as opposed to a narrow lane or byway. From the former practice of treating it as a compound, it has often come to be the proper name of a street, as the *Broadway* in New York, Hammersmith, Stratford-le-Bow, etc.

boulevard - A broad street, promenade, or walk, planted with rows of trees. Chiefly applied to streets of this kind in Paris, or to others which it is intended to compare to them. Now freq. (*esp.* in *U.S.*), a wide or well laid-out street or avenue.

Avenue - The chief approach to a country-house, usually bordered by trees; *hence*, any broad roadway bordered or marked by trees or other objects at regular intervals. Sometimes used of the trees alone, with tacit disregard of the road they overshadow.

4. A fine wide street. (**Used *esp.* in U.S.**)

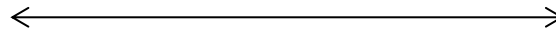
Lean-to

Hovel

Shack

Hut

dwelling



abode

Hogan

OBSELETE a/o LITERARY

Cabin

Cottage

Shanty

FORMALITY

pad - nest - crib

domicile - residence

Apartment



Duplex (a result of division)

Bungalow (one story, temporary or seasonal)

House

Manor

Mansion

Villa

Palace

Estate (includes land (farms + grounds))