**GCSE Geography - Paper 3 DME possible questions & model answer***‘The proposed Tudeley Village development is an example of a sustainable settlement’. To what extent do you agree with this statement? Use evidence from the resource booklet and your own understanding to explain your choice. [9 marks + 3 SPaG]*

***(Note – there are many ways to answer this question. This is just an example).***

**P:**I disagree with the statement to a large extent because the proposed Tudeley Village development is socially and environmentally unsustainable.

**E:**Figure 2 shows that the village will have 2800 new homes, but may end up becoming a **commuter settlement**leading to more traffic congestion on local roads.

**E:**This is likely to increase **air pollution,**due to particulate matter from car exhaust fumes, which could cause more residents to develop health and breathing problems such as asthma. Additionally, the increased use of cars would release more **greenhouse gases**(e.g. CO2) into the atmosphere increasing the **carbon footprint**and contribution to **climate change**of the local area.

**E:**(Grade 7+) In addition, the **River Medway**is close to the north of the proposed development. This means that an increase in **impermeable** surfaces such as roads that do not let water through will increase **surface runoff**when it rains**so**water reaches the river faster and could cause more floods in the local area. This could lead to increased insurance premiums, disruption for residents and the potential for injury or even death.

**R:**However, the proposed development could potentially have some elements of economic, social and environmental sustainability.

**E:** In Figure 1, **the NHF** estimate that 340,000 new houses are needed each year but there is only enough space on brownfield sites to build 1.3 million homes. The Tudeley Village development would therefore provide a social opportunity to meet the country’s housing needs with some affordable homes.

**E:** Additionally, the development makes an effort to reduce the negative impacts of developing on the greenbelt, for example, the new village will include a traditional village green, a cricket club, recreational areas and community buildings.

**E:** These willallow people to exercise and socialise which will improve their physical and mental health, leading to increased quality of life and life expectancy of local residents.

**E:**(Grade 7+) The village will have pedestrian and cycle routes and is designed to encourage resident to walk and cycle instead of drive. Additionally, the development is proposing to build a railway station within the development. This will increase **sustainability for current and future generations** because it will reduce car use and traffic congestionand mitigate (reduce) some of the environmental problems related to a growing number of car users.

**L:** Overall, I strongly disagree with the statement to a large extent. The development will take over 30 years to complete and there is no guarantee that it will be fully completed as the plans suggest so measures to mitigate issues caused by increased traffic such as the railway station may never be built. Although efforts are being made to reduce the negative effects of building on greenbelt by providing social and economic opportunities, these are outweighed by the long term social and environmental challenges it will create. 1.3 million homes can be built on brownfield sites, perhaps these should be developed on first before developing on greenfield sites the greenbelt.

Other examples of the question could include:

1. Should the proposed Tudeley Village development go ahead? Use evidence from the resource booklet and your own understanding to explain your choice.

2. ‘The proposed Tudeley Village development will create more benefits than the environmental damage it could cause’. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

3. ‘The proposed Tudeley Village development will create more challenges than opportunities’. To what extent do you agree with this statement?