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HIS114

13 April 2023

City Comparison

Cities are some of the most desired areas for people to live, some of the reasons for this would be their bustling culture, desirable architecture, diversity, and more. Four of the most well known cities in the world are Tokyo, London, Lagos, and New York City. Each city has its own unique characteristics influenced by a multitude of sources. Yet, no matter how great, every city has similarities and differences.

One of the similarities shared by each of these cities would be their massive influence on politics, business, and culture. It's important to note that all four cities are referred to as "global cities" (Sassen). Another similarity would be that each of them has a multitude of immigrant populations from very diverse backgrounds, this helps to create a multicultural environment (Krugman). Not only that but each city is a bustling financial and commercial center that contributes significantly to the global economy (Florida). Like wall street or the world trade center for example.

Although there are some similarities between the cities, there are also many glaring differences. The first difference being how the cities are dispersed over several continents and have very unique features. For example, the east coast of Japan, Tokyo is widely recognized for its congested urban environment and susceptibility to earthquakes (Weber).

The southeast English city of London is well recognized for its historic structures and near proximity to the Thames River. The West African city of Lagos is well renowned for its bustling port, rivers that may be traveled on, and advantageous location on the Gulf of Guinea (Otusanya). The city of New York City in northeastern America is well-known for its Atlantic coast location and skyline of skyscrapers.

Another difference between the cities would be regarding their population size; each city has a different size with some being larger than the other. For example Tokyo is the largest metropolis with a population of over 37 million, followed by Lagos with over 21 million people, New York City with over 8 million people, and London with just over 9 million people (World Population Review).

Because of its history, artistic communities, and music scenes, every city has a different cultural identity. Tokyo is well-known for its culture of anime and manga, London is well-known for its theater and music, Lagos is well-known for its Nollywood film industry and Afrobeat music, and New York City is well-known for its Broadway theater and diverse artistic scene (Rogers).

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