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| **Reasons for the patterns** | **The Pattern** |
| People can enjoy the social benefits of living close to their neighbours | Nucleated |
| This pattern allows each dwelling to have access to a road or track for transport, and also to an area of farming land at right angles to the road | Linear |
| Cultural reasons can also play a part, where it is not the tradition to live grouped together in villages | Dispersed |
| They have easy access to services like shops and schools | Nucleated |
| Settlements might also be in line just above the flood plain of a river. | Linear |
| This settlement pattern is also found in some relatively modern settlements, such as on the Canadian Prairies, where commercial farms can be huge. | Dispersed |
| The culture of people might favour the pattern. | Nucleated |
| Being close to other may be helpful for defence in times of attack. | Nucleated |
| Sometimes this pattern develops where the agricultural land is poor and people need to farm large areas, e.g. as grazing. It would be very hard for farmers to live in a village and still be within easy travelling distance of their land. | Dispersed |
| Physical geography can also play its part. The settlements might be along a river, or a line of springs, for water supply, or along a valley floor to avoid the steep valley sides. | Linear |
| The pattern often develops in areas with rich agriculture, where farmers can live in the village but still near their fields. | Nucleated |
| In other cases, people don’t waste good farming land, e.g. irrigated land, for buildings but place their houses in a line next to the fertile land. | Linear |

**Reasons for the creation of different types of settlement**

**Demo:** In the table below there are a range of reasons for the creation of three types of settlement (nucleated/dispersed/linear). Read through the reasons and assign the reason to the matching settlement pattern.