**IB Geography – Homogenization of Landscapes**

**Global Interactions**

Below is information about what life in current day Dubai is like:

**Sport:** Horse riding and falconery are still important, but now people in Dubai enjoy most international sports and Dubai host many important sporting events including: IRB Rugby Sevens, Race to Dubai Golf, international cricket fixtures and ATP Tennis. There is now even an indoor ice rink in Dubai Mall and an indoor ski slope in the Mall of the Emirates.

**Shopping:** Souks do sill exist, but most food shopping is now done in supermarkets e.g. Carrefour and Waitrose and most other shopping in malls e.g. Dubai Mall, Mall of the Emirates, Deira and Mirdiff City Centre Malls - Dubai Mall is one of the largest in the world with over 1200 shops.

**Global Brands:** There are now many different global shops and brands available in Dubai e.g. NEXT, GAP, Nike, Debenhams, Marks and Spencer, IKEA and Decathlon.

**Restaurants:** Dubai has seen an explosion in fast food restaurants, with Burger King, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Starbucks, KFC being found everywhere. International cuisine is also very common with people like Gordon Ramsey having a restaurant in Dubai.

**Tourism:** Dubai is now a popular tourism destination with major airline like Emirates based in Dubai and airlines like Qantas, BA and Singapore Airlines all flying to Dubai. Hotel chains like the HIlton and IHG have a major presence.

**Entertainment:** People now take in a wide variety of activities ranging from the cinema to quad biking, kite surfing to music concerts and yoga to paintballing.

**Schooling:** There are still local government schools, but also a growing number of international schools that teach in English e.g. Repton and JESS. Many foreign teachers are recruited and international and British qualifications are often sat. Most universities teach in English.

**Housing:** Not many people now live in tents.Most people live in compounds, apartments and suburb style developments e.g. Dubai Marina. Most people will now use air con and cookers instead of wind towers and fires.
**Transport:** Not many people now walk or use camels, although dhows are still common sights. The most favoured form of transport is now 4x4. However, Dubai now also has a metro, monorail and bus system along with an international airport.

**Other:** With the development of Dubai other sites are now more common e.g. parks, cricket pitches, football pitches, churches and canals.

**Culture:** With the arrival of so many different nationalities, some aspects of Dubai culture have changed, pork and alcohol are now both available in licensed shops, you see more people wearing western dress (although most local still wear traditional dress), English is now the main business language, there are now different religions and religious buildings e.g. Hinduism and Christianity, people listen to more international music and watch international films.

Thanks to Greenfield Geography Wiki.