

Inside Reading Level 3
Unit 2 Skill Review: Previewing and Predicting

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Unit 2 Review Skill asks you to preview and predict the topic of Reading 1. Let's take a closer look at how to preview and predict.

1. First take a look at the title: "The New Megalopolis." You may be asking yourself "What is a Megalopolis?" Read the subtitle below and see if it can help give you an idea of what a megalopolis is and what the reading might be about:

Our focus on cities is wrong. Growth and innovation come from new urban corridors

What do you think a megalopolis is?

2. Now consider that there are two Satellite images. One is of the Boston-to-Washington Mega-region in the United States and the other shows the greater Tokyo Mega-region in Japan. Add to your definition above based on this information.
3. Now skim the first and last paragraphs of the reading below. Look for names and details that are mentioned frequently. Underline words or phrases that help you to understand what a megalopolis is.

China isn't the world's most ferocious new economic competitor—the exploding east-coast corridor, from Beijing to Shanghai, is. India as a whole is not developing high-tech industries and attracting jobs, but the booming mega-region stretching from Bangalore to Hyderabad is. Across the world, in fact, nations don't spur growth so much as dynamic regions—modern versions of the original "megalopolis," a term coined by the geographer Jean Gottman to identify the sprawling Boston–New York–Washington economic power corridor in the United States.

Instead of technology helping to spread economic opportunity and lift many more boats, economic power is concentrating in a small number of key regions. It's time for political and economic leadership to wake up to this new reality. It makes little sense to dwell on individual cities or countries anymore, when the real engines of survival, innovation, and growth are the New Megas.

4. What is a megalopolis? What is the writer trying to accomplish by writing this piece?

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Answer Key

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Our focus on cities is wrong. Growth and innovation come from new urban corridors

What do you think a megalopolis is?

A megalopolis isn't a city but an urban corridor. Maybe it's made up of more than one city.

2. Now consider that there are two Satellite images. One is of the Boston-to-Washington Mega-region in the United States and the other shows the greater Tokyo Mega-region in Japan. Add to your definition above based on this information.
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4. What is a megalopolis? What is the writer trying to accomplish by writing this piece?

A megalopolis is a region that includes key cities which provide economic force. The author is trying to persuade readers that national boundaries and individual cities don't matter as much as key regions in producing economic growth.