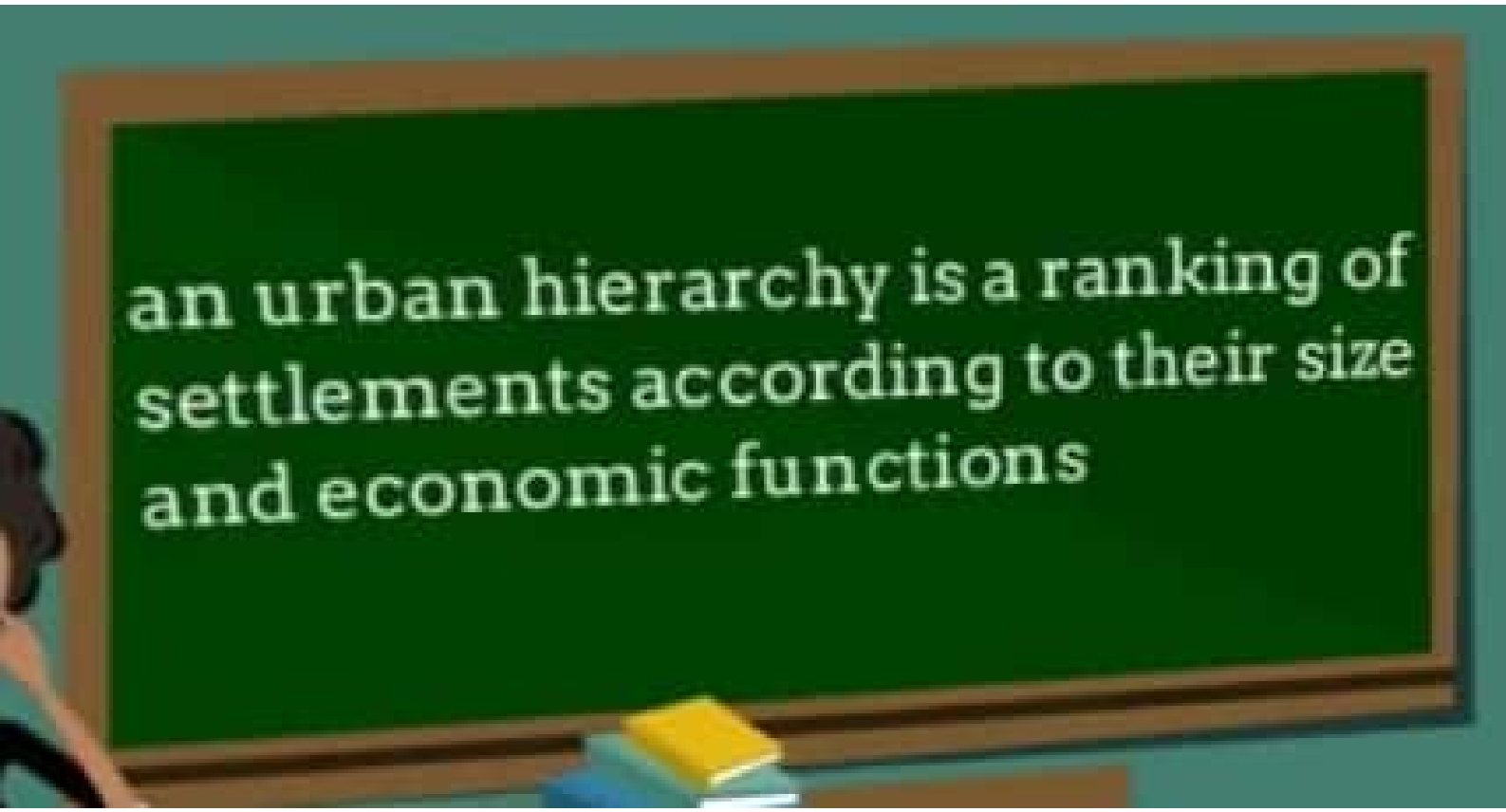


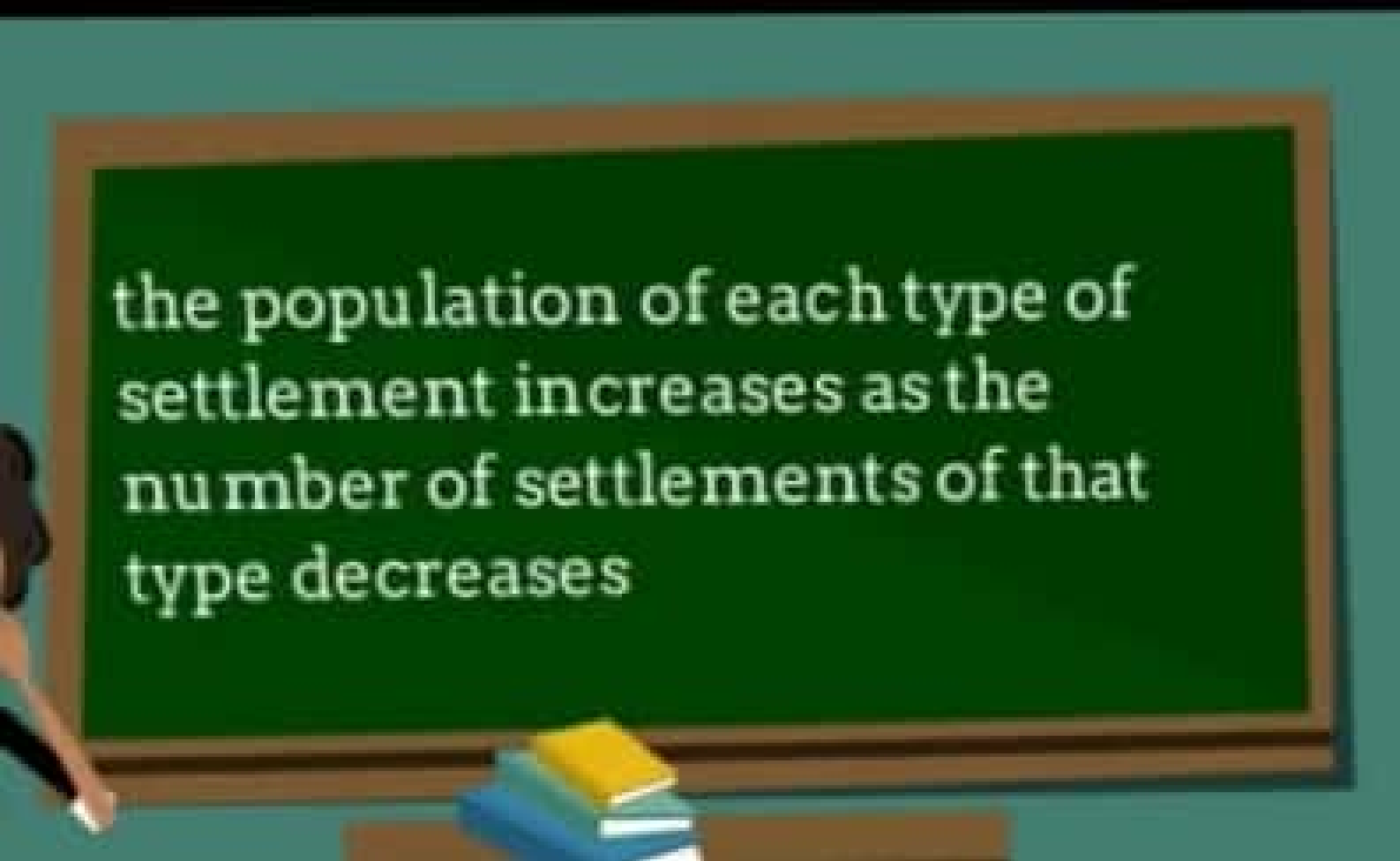
# Urban Hierarchy



CREATED USING  
**BwToon**



an urban hierarchy is a ranking of settlements according to their size and economic functions



the population of each type of settlement increases as the number of settlements of that type decreases



# Isolated Farmhouse

1-2 families, not official communities; may at one time have been a town, but have lost population



## Hamlet

- The most crowded rural place
- Smallest in urban hierarchy
- Low order services (if any)
- Maximum population approx 150

Effie, MN – pop 92



# Village

- Bigger than a hamlet
- No need for public transportation – you can walk across the whole village
- More services than hamlet, still few (lower order)

Ely, MN – pop 3544



## Town

- Term is often used to describe any “small” urban setting
- Often a dominant population center within a county
- More specialized services available (mostly lower)
- Up to 50,000 people

Austin, MN – pop 23,702



## City

- Will have identifiable industrial, residential, and commercial areas
- Often will be a center of local government
- More diverse and specialized services available
- Up to 250,000 people

**Rochester, MN – pop 100,400**





# Metropolis

- This is a city that has expanded and absorbed other settlements around it
- Urban area is usually 2 counties big
- Diverse amount of specialized services available
- Up to 5,000,000 people



# Megalopolis

- An agglomeration of metropolitan areas
- Can also simply refer to a very large urban area
- Center of business and culture
- Important on the world stage (world cities)
- Over 5,000,000
- Tokyo currently largest city at 35,000,000



San Paulo, Brazil – approx 10 million



## Primate City Concept

- The law of the primate city is one of the most basic generalizations regarding the size-distribution of cities introduced by M Jefferson. The law is established on the agglomeration effect by which a city 'over and over again the capital city' grows inexplicably to outshine the rest.



## Primate City Concept

- The Law: 'A country's most important city is always disproportionately large and remarkably expressive of national capacity and feeling'.
- It exerts supremacy on all others not only in population size but also in its role as a political, economic and social centre for the country. Examples are following

London – 7 times that of Liverpool

Copenhagen – 9 times that of Aarhus

Mexico City – 5 times that of Guadalajara