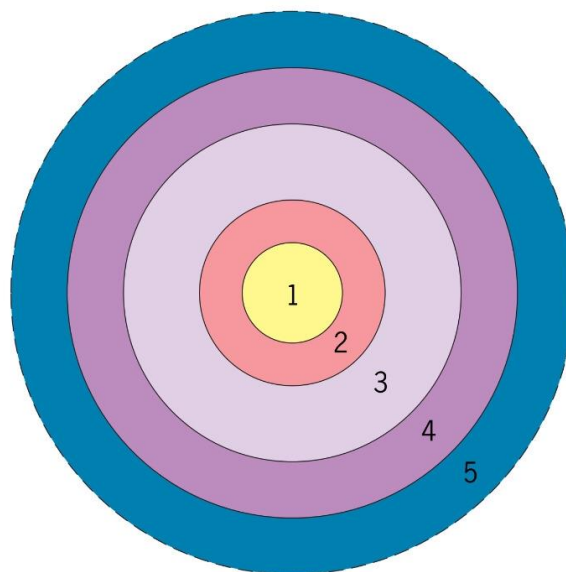


Ernest W. Burgess and the Concentric Zone Theory

Ernest W. Burgess, an American urban sociologist, introduced the Concentric Zone Theory in 1925 to explain the spatial organization of urban areas. According to Burgess, cities grow outward in a series of concentric rings, each with distinct functions and characteristics. This model demonstrates how social and economic factors influence urban development, leading to the spatial distribution of different socio-economic groups. The theory identifies five distinct zones radiating outward from the city's core:

CONCENTRIC ZONE MODEL



Zone 1: The Central Business District (CBD)

- This is the core of the city, characterized by commercial activity, business offices, government buildings, and cultural institutions.
- It is densely populated during the day as workers and shoppers gather but usually lacks residential housing.

Zone 2: The Zone of Transition

- Surrounding the CBD, this area is in flux and often includes deteriorating housing, factories, and warehouses.
- It is home to recent immigrants and low-income residents. This zone experiences social problems like poverty and crime, as industrial expansion competes with residential use.

Zone 3: The Zone of Workingmen's Homes

- This is a residential area for the working class, often close enough to the CBD to allow easy commuting.
- It includes modest, older homes and is typically occupied by people who have moved out of the Zone of Transition as their socio-economic status improves.

Zone 4: The Zone of Better Residences

- This area has newer, larger homes and is primarily middle-class.
- Residents enjoy more amenities and a quieter environment, reflecting greater social stability and economic status.

Zone 5: The Commuter Zone

- The outermost ring, this zone includes suburbs and rural areas.
- It is characterized by higher-income families who commute to the city for work but prefer living away from the urban core.