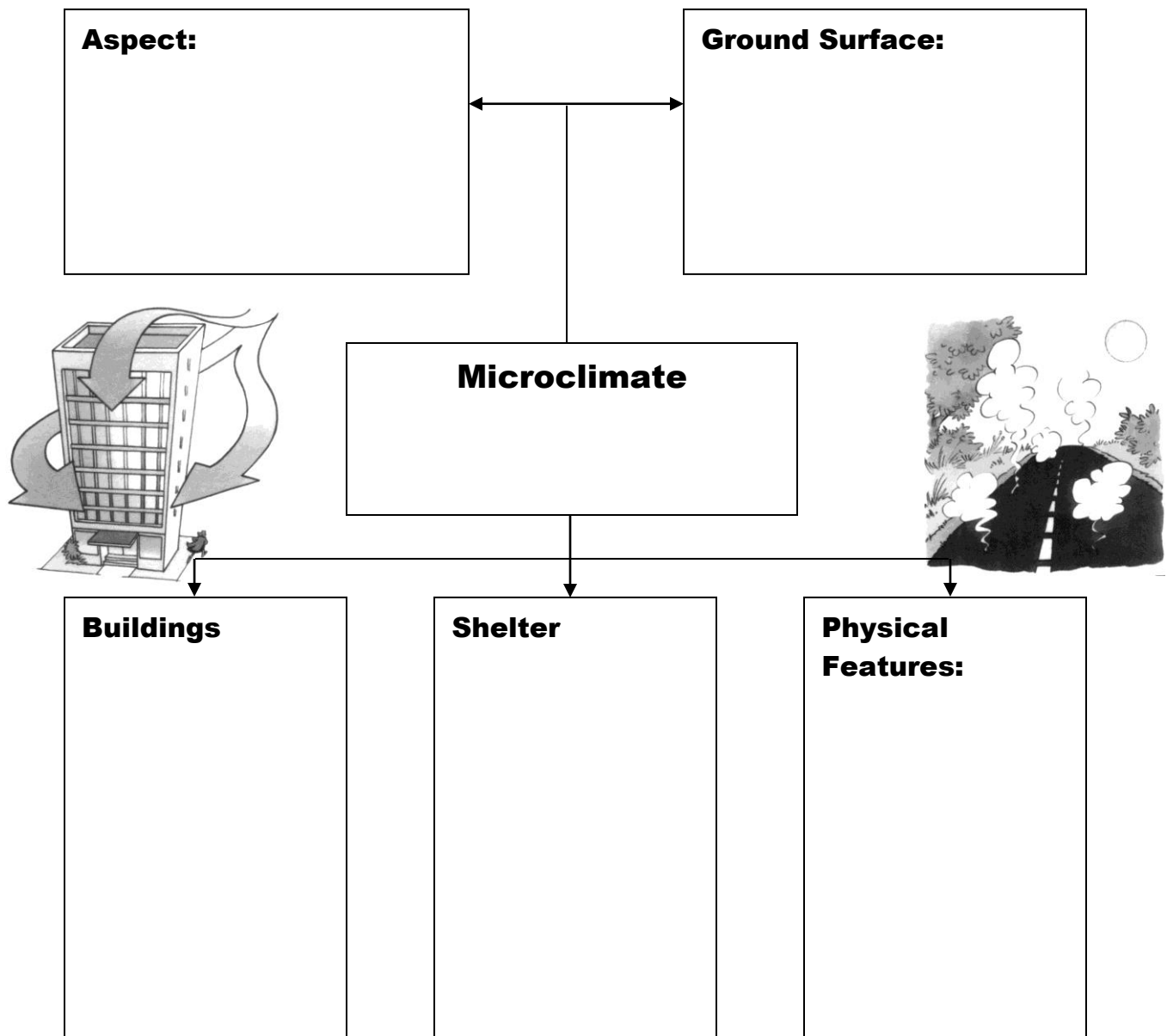


Weather and Climate - Microclimate

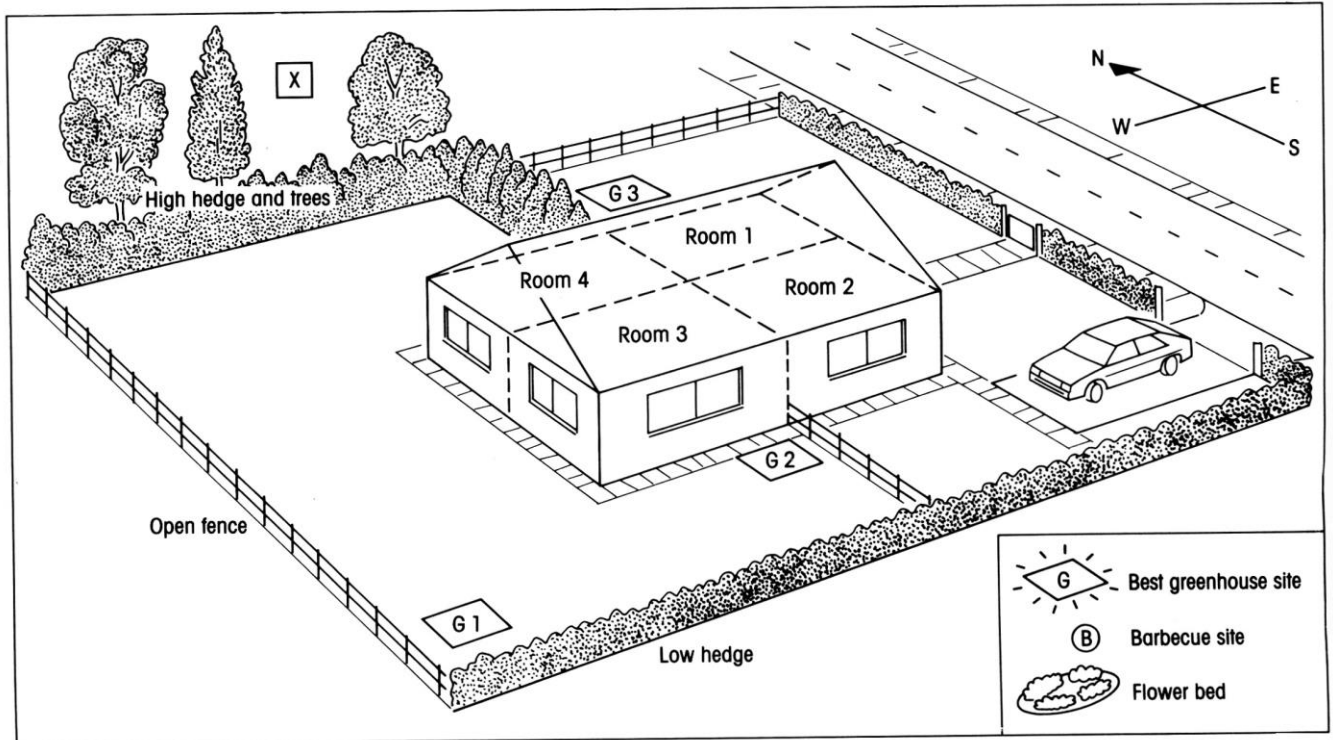
Each particular place or site tends to develop its own special climate conditions. When the climate in a small area is different to the general surrounding it is called *microclimate*.

1. Fill in the diagram below, entitled causes of microclimate.
 - a. the meaning of the term microclimate,
 - b. the main causes for different microclimates.



Causes of Microclimate

2. Imagine that you have just moved into the house shown below. You want to plan the house and garden to get the best out of it. Remember that in Malta North winds are usually cold. The sun rises in the east, is in the south at midday and sets in the west.



- a i) Draw an arrow at point X to show the direction of the cold northerly wind.
 ii) On the sketch, colour in yellow the part of the house that gets sun for most of the day.

- b i) Tick the boxes to show the following:
 The rooms that have sun for most of the day.
 The rooms that have sun in the evening.
 The rooms that are most affected by cold winds.

Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4

- ii) If possible, the living room should have plenty of sun, be sheltered from cold winds and have a good view of the garden.
 Make your choice for a living room and label it on the sketch.
- c A greenhouse needs plenty of sun, particularly in the afternoon and evening. Choose a site from places G1, G2 or G3. Will the wind cause problems here?
- d A barbecue is best placed where it will get evening sun and be sheltered from cold winds. It should also be in the back garden. Mark your choice with the barbecue symbol.
- e Finally decide where your main flower beds should be. Remember they prefer sun for most of the day and must be sheltered from cold winds. Mark these on the sketch with a colourful flower symbol.