

Unit Six Vocabulary - Town & Country

Town & country

A. Match the sentences in the left-hand column with the most appropriate sentence in the right-hand column. Use the words in bold to help you.

1. London is a truly <i>cosmopolitan</i> city.	A. <i>Drug abuse</i> is also a big problem.
2. A modern <i>metropolis</i> needs a good integrated transport system.	B. Shops, libraries, hospitals and entertainment complexes are just a few of them.
3. London suffers a lot from traffic <i>congestion</i> .	C. Chief among these are concerts and exhibitions.
4. <i>Poverty</i> in the <i>inner-city</i> areas can <i>breed crime</i> .	D. In particular, I enjoy the <i>atmosphere</i> that is unique to the city.
5. Cities around the world have seen a huge <i>population explosion</i> .	E. Prices in London are particularly exorbitant.
6. Birmingham has plenty of <i>amenities</i> .	F. Without them, they are unable to function properly as cities.
7. A lot of people visit Paris for its <i>cultural events</i> .	G. It is especially bad during the <i>rush hour</i> , when thousands of <i>commuters</i> try to enter or leave the city.
8. Cities in poorer countries often lack basic <i>infrastructures</i> .	H. Stress-related illnesses are very common in cities like New York.
9. The <i>pressures of modern city life</i> can be difficult to deal with.	I. Nowadays there are more <i>city dwellers</i> than ever before.
10. The <i>cost of living</i> in some places can be very high.	J. Everywhere you go there are <i>building sites</i> , <i>pedestrian precincts</i> , <i>blocks of flats</i> and <i>housing estates</i> spreading into the countryside.
11. A lot of people appreciate the <i>anonymity</i> of living in a large city.	K. They like to feel that they can do something without everybody knowing about it.
12. I love the <i>urban lifestyle</i> I lead.	L. Most people use buses and the underground to get to the banks and offices where they work.
13. In Singapore, private cars are banned from the <i>Central Business District</i> at <i>peak periods</i> .	M. Unfortunately, this is something that most large capital cities lack.
14. <i>Urban sprawl</i> is prevalent in most cities.	N. It's a <i>melting pot</i> for people from all parts of the world.

Don't forget to keep a record of the words and expressions that you have learnt, review your notes from time to time and try to use new vocabulary items whenever possible.

Answers Part A

- 1.
- 2.
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B. Match the sentences in the left-hand column with an appropriate response in the right-hand column. Use the words in **bold** to help you.

- 1. I enjoy a **rural** lifestyle.
- 2. There isn't much **pollution** if you live outside a town.
- 3. There is a lot of **productive land** in this area.
- 4. In recent years, there has been a lot of **migration** from the towns to the cities.
- 5. The government has promised to leave the green belt alone.
- 6. There has been a huge reduction in the amount of **arable land** over the last twenty years.
- 7. My uncle's farm covers almost 800 **hectares**.
- 8. What are the main **crops** grown in this area?

- A. Really? So why are we seeing so much **construction** in the countryside around London?
- B. I'm not so sure. All those **pesticides** and **chemical fertilisers** that farmers use nowadays can't be good for the **environment**.
- C. That's probably because we import more food from abroad.
- D. Mostly **wheat, oats and barley**.
- E. Really? How much is that in **acres**?
- F. I'm not surprised. With such terrible **prospects** within towns, **depopulation** is inevitable.
- G. Well I can't see much evidence of **cultivation**.
- H. Really? I always find there's nothing to do in the countryside.

C. Now read this article and fill in the gaps with one of the words or expressions from Tasks A and B. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible. You may need to change some of the word forms.

For seven years I lived in Singapore, a 1 _____ of almost three million people. Like London, Paris and New York, Singapore is a 2 _____ city, with people from different parts of the world living and working together. I enjoyed the 3 _____ lifestyle I led there, and made the most of the superb 4 _____, ranging from the excellent shops to some of the best restaurants in the world. In the evenings and at weekends there were always 5 _____; with such diverse attractions as classical western music, an exhibition of Malay art or a Chinese opera in the street, it was difficult to get bored. Perhaps most impressive, however, was the remarkable transport 6 _____, with excellent roads, a swift and efficient bus service and a state-of-the-art underground system which could whisk 7 _____ from the suburbs straight into the heart of the city (this was particularly important, as the government banned private cars from entering the 8 _____ during the morning and afternoon 9 _____ in order to reduce 10 _____ on the roads and 11 _____ from the exhausts).

Of course, living in a city like this has its disadvantages as well. For a start, the 12 _____ can be very high - renting an apartment, for example, is very expensive. And as the city is expanding, there are a lot of 13 _____ where new apartments are continually being built to deal with the 14 _____ which is a direct result of the government encouraging people to have more children.

Fortunately, Singapore doesn't suffer from problems that are common in many cities such as 15 _____, which is partly the result of the government imposing very severe penalties on anyone bringing narcotics into the country, so it is safe to walk the streets at night. In fact, the 16 _____ housing estates there are probably the safest and most orderly in the world.

Singapore wouldn't be ideal for everyone, however, especially if you come from the countryside and are used to a 17 _____ lifestyle. The traditional villages that were once common have disappeared as the residents there realised there were no 18 _____ for their future and moved into new government housing in the city. Nowadays, there is very little 19 _____ around the city, which means that Singapore imports almost all of its food. And despite a 'green' approach to city planning, the 20 _____ which has eaten into the countryside has had a detrimental effect on the 21 _____.

Answers Part B

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Answers Part C

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