

Which is better: living in the countryside or the city?

Most people in the world today live in cities and towns. Some cities are bigger than some countries - for example Tokyo in Japan has a population of over 37 million people, while Ireland has about 5 million inhabitants.

People who live in the countryside usually live in villages. A village in the UK would often have one small shop, possibly a pub and bigger villages may have a small post office. There also may be a small primary school in a village. Secondary schools are located in nearby towns. Most people who live in the countryside are employed in agriculture or food processing. Countryside, particularly in countries like the UK is often seen as a place for retirement or holidays.

These are some of the reasons why living in the countryside is better than living in the city:

1. Air quality - air is cleaner in the countryside and there is very little pollution.
2. Peace and quiet- there is no traffic, no construction noises, no crowds of people.
3. There is more space - people who live in the countryside tend to have bigger houses and gardens and there are also more places to walk.
4. There is little or no crime in the countryside. Because people living in a village know each other and are often friends, there is less aggression and violence.
5. Closer to nature - living in the countryside brings people closer to nature. There are more animals and plants.
6. Living in the countryside is less stressful - there is no rush and life goes on at a slower pace.

Now that you know the advantages of living in the countryside, I would like you to think of what **the advantages of living in the city** are.

When thinking of arguments in favour of **living in a city**, you may want to address the following issues:

1. How easy is it to get a good job in the countryside? Is it easier in the city?
2. How easy is it to access some forms of entertainment in a village: cinemas, museums, theatres, restaurants?
3. How likely are you to meet people from different races or cultures in a small village?
4. How easy is it to choose/or go to a school when you live in the countryside?

5. Is shopping easy in the countryside? Where do you think food is more expensive - in a big Tesco the city or a small village shop? Where is there more choice?

You can write your responses as a list - the way I have presented my arguments in favour of country life. You can do this activity in your google drives and share them with me or you can write your response in your journals/ piece of paper and give them to me when we see each other back at SWB.

Good luck!

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