

2 Complete the sentences below with words a–n.

a backwater b far c middle d easy e picturesque

My village is:

in the (1) _____ of nowhere.

a real (2) _____.

within (3) _____ reach of the nearest big town/city.

not (4) _____ from a big town/city.

idyllic and the countryside is really (5) _____.

f congested g cosmopolitan h destination

My city/town is:

very (6) _____. You can meet people from all over the world.

a tourist (7) _____.

pretty polluted and (8) _____.

i spacious k heart m outskirts
j walking l cramped n suburbs

My house is:

(9) _____. I wish it was bigger.

big and (10) _____.

in the (11) _____.

on the (12) _____ of a town called Sopron.

right in the (13) _____ of the village.

within (14) _____ distance of the local shop.



4 1 Listen and complete the texts about changes to the speakers' hometowns.

1 (1) _____, this was a nice place to live. Everyone knew everyone and people looked out for each other. I'm sorry to say that, (2) _____ the population has risen dramatically and this has led to a breakdown in the community ties that used to unite us. Also, second-home owners buy holiday homes here, and that has meant that the price of property has escalated (3) _____, forcing young people to move away from the area.

2 My city is becoming more and more vibrant (1) _____. I love it! (2) _____ really dull, with nothing much for young people to do, (3) _____ bars and clubs have begun opening up. The city's no longer just for the older generations, with theatres and museums – it's got a new lease of life, with a great nightlife and an increasing student population to enjoy it.

3 (1) _____, this town was a hive of activity, with its many factories and its port. (2) _____, however, it's nowhere near as bustling, as manufacturing has moved elsewhere. But I for one don't bewail the changes. There's a certain poignancy and beauty to the disused industrial architecture. And, in fact, many of the old factories (3) _____ into flats, and they're extremely popular with trendy young couples who are now moving into the town.