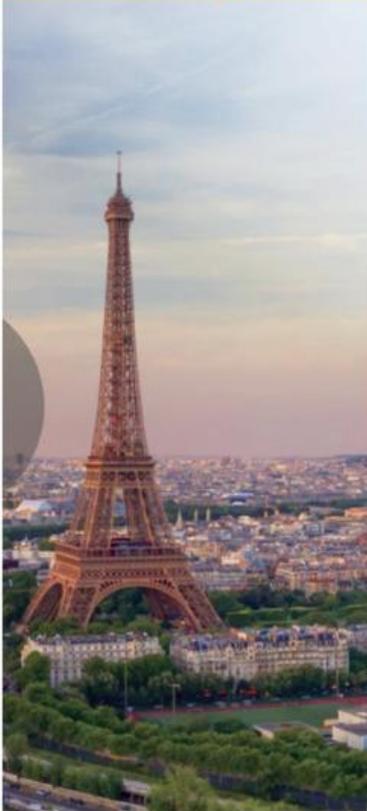


How much do you know about cities in the world?

## Cities of the World

- 1 What proportion of the world's population lives in cities?
  - a Over 80%.
  - b About two-thirds.
  - c Less than a third.
  - d A little over half.
- 2 Which is the world's most populated capital city?
  - a Tokyo
  - b Mexico City
  - c São Paulo
  - d New Delhi
- 3 Which was the first city to reach a population of one million?
  - a Mexico City
  - b New York
  - c London
  - d Rome
- 4 Which is the most visited capital city in the world?
  - a Paris
  - b London
  - c Rome
  - d Athens
- 5 Which is the world's oldest capital city?
  - a Baghdad
  - b Damascus
  - c Cairo
  - d Amman
- 6 Which is the world's highest capital city?
  - a La Paz (Bolivia)
  - b Lima (Peru)
  - c Quito (Ecuador)
  - d Kathmandu (Nepal)



**Read the sentences (a-e) and look at the information below.  
Decide if the sentences are true or false.**

- a** It seems that most people enjoy life in the countryside.
- b** It appears that very few people who live in a city would prefer to live in a rural area.
- c** The results from the first survey seem to suggest that most people are happy to stay in a rural area.
- d** On the other hand, the second survey would seem to show that most people who live in the countryside would prefer to move to the city.
- e** Older people are not believed to be as happy with city life as younger people. But there is little evidence in the surveys to back this up.

**The results of two new surveys have just been published in which people living in rural and urban areas were asked about how happy they are with where they live. Below are some of the results.**

	<b>Survey 1</b>	<b>Survey 2</b>
People who enjoy living in cities	79%	72%
People who live in a city, but would prefer	35%	43%

- a. The ideas describe the professor's personal opinion
- b. The professor's opinion taken from other people's ideas.

#### Verbs

1. **It appears that** people are happier living in cities.  
To describe a personal opinion

#### Passive voice

2. **It is widely recognized that** megacities have to deal with many other problems  
Share someone's opinion or perspective

#### Noun phrases

3. **There is no doubt that** big cities are the most visited in the world.  
Describe your personal opinion about a fact

- a It appears / seems that the population of many modern industrialized cities is beginning to decline.
- b There is \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ doubt that in the future we will have to take radical action to control traffic congestion in our cities.
- c It is generally \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ that living in cities with a population of over a million people can be detrimental to our health.
- d There is little \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ that the levels of toxic pollution in the major cities in the US are beginning to decline.
- e It would \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ that the changes in weather patterns could endanger large urban populations in low-lying land areas due to the rise in sea level.
- f It has been \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ that prolonged exposure to the sun can cause skin cancer.

appear	appears	believed	evidence
hardly any	little	proof	proved
recognized	seem	seems	shown

**Rewrite these sentences using the words in parentheses.**

- a** Smoking can lead to cancer. (no doubt)

*There is no doubt that smoking can lead to cancer.*

- b** Scientists in many countries believe that climate change is the greatest challenge facing our society. (widely)

\_\_\_\_\_

- c** There is evidence to suggest that the rate of population growth in China is beginning to decrease. (appears)

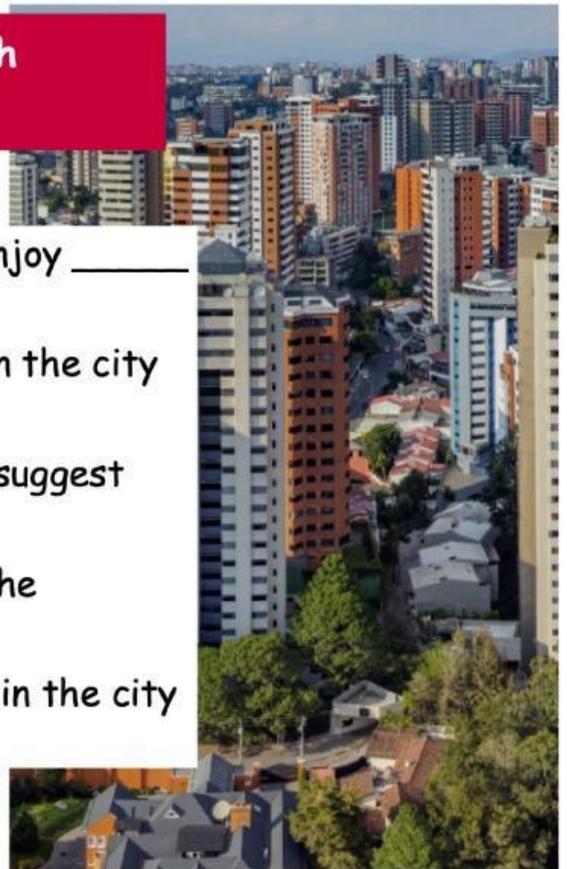
\_\_\_\_\_

- d** There is a general feeling that people believe governments are not doing enough about global warming. (would seem)

\_\_\_\_\_

Discuss and complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. It seems that most people in Guatemala enjoy \_\_\_\_\_ in the countryside.
2. It appears that very few people who live in the city \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The comments from many people seem to suggest that most people in the city \_\_\_\_\_.
4. It is proved that most people who live in the countryside \_\_\_\_\_.
5. There is little evidence that people who live in the city \_\_\_\_\_.



## 1. Take some minutes to complete the ideas.

1. There is no doubt that...
2. It is believed that climate change ...
3. There is evidence to suggest that the rate of crime growth ...
4. There is a general feeling that government ...
5. It is well known that tourism ...
6. \_\_\_\_\_ that most young people prefer to live in large cities because of the job opportunities.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Older people living by themselves get very lonely and ...
8. \_\_\_\_\_ People who live in the countryside are generally more....

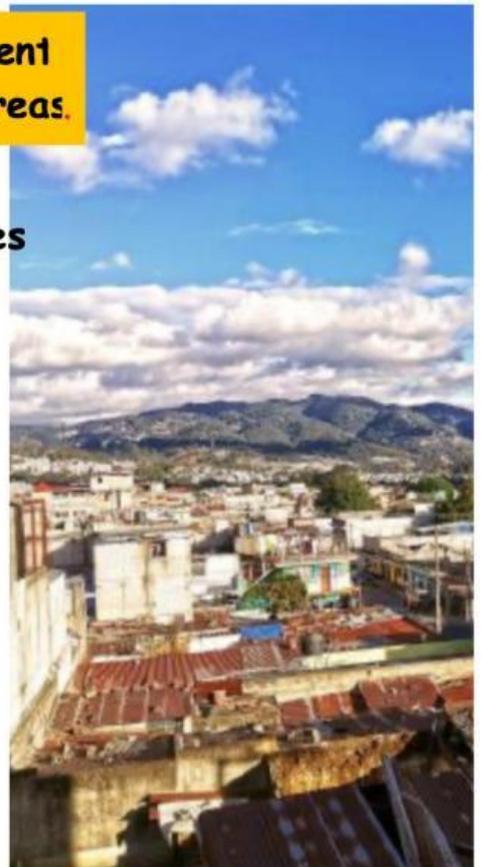
- a. It appears that
- b. It seems that
- c. It was thought that
- d. It is reported that
- e. It has been recognized
- f. There is no doubt
- g. There is little discussion about
- h. There is no evidence that

**Let's talk about living in the city. Use different ideas related to the pros and cons of urban areas.**

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**Use the ideas to complete your own sentences**

1. It appears that
2. It seems that
3. It was thought that
4. It is reported that
5. It has been recognized
6. There is no doubt
7. There is little discussion about
8. There is no evidence that



**Discuss with your classmates the last question posted by Professor Mohamed about cities around the world**

**What should a city offer to consider it an interesting place?**

