

Part 1: Gapped Text & Vocabulary (30 Points)

Read the text below about a family moving from a crowded city to an eco-village. Five sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A–F) the one which fits each gap (1–5). There is one extra sentence which you do not need. (4 points per item; 20 points total)

The Great Escape

Living in the capital city was becoming unbearable for the Miller family. The traffic was worse than ever, the air quality was poor, and they rarely spent any quality time together. Last month, they finally decided it was time to make a drastic change. They chose to leave their urban apartment behind and embark on an entirely new lifestyle in a rural eco-village.

On the day of the move, they had to wake up at dawn to pack the final boxes. They managed to (6) _____ just as the sun was rising, hoping to avoid the morning rush hour. (1) _____. Leaving their comfortable, familiar neighborhood felt bittersweet, but they knew it was the right choice.

When they first arrived at the eco-village, the contrast was shocking. The environment was far quieter than their old neighborhood. (2) _____. At first, the lack of modern noises made it difficult for them to sleep. However, after a few weeks, they started to (7) _____ the deep silence of the countryside.

Adapting to the daily routines of the village required a lot of effort. In the city, they (8) _____ buy everything from a supermarket down the street. Now, they have to grow their own vegetables and compost their food waste. (3) _____. Mr. Miller mentioned that learning how to manage the solar panels was the steepest learning curve he had faced in years.

Fortunately, things are looking up. The children have already (9) _____ the local community and have made several new friends. (4) _____. Living a simple life is proving to be much more rewarding than they had originally anticipated. (5) _____.

Sentences to insert:

- **A** In fact, they are finding that they have significantly more energy and less stress now.
- **B** They quickly packed their bags and headed directly back to the city center.
- **C** They locked the front door, checked the mirrors, and set off on their long journey.
- **D** It is taking them a long time to adapt to this hands-on approach to daily survival.
- **E** It is easily the most peaceful place they have ever lived.
- **F** They have also joined the village cycling club, which meets every Sunday morning.

Vocabulary Gap-Fill (Items 6–9)

Fill in the blanks (6–9) within the text using the correct form of the verbs/expressions from the list below. There is one extra expression you do not need. (2.5 points per item; 10 points total)

used to | get used to | set off | get to know | check out

- (6) _____
- (7) _____

- (8) _____
- (9) _____

Part 2: Grammar - Used to vs. Be/Get Used to (30 Points)

Choose the correct option or fill in the blank with the correct form of **used to**, **be used to**, or **get used to**. (3 points per item; 30 points total)

1. When I lived in London, I _____ commute by subway every single morning.
 1. A) was used to
 2. B) used to
 3. C) got used to
2. Don't worry, if you keep practicing, you will eventually _____ waking up early at 5:00 AM.
 1. A) used to
 2. B) be used to
 3. C) get used to
3. Liam felt exhausted because he _____ working long 12-hour shifts on the farm.
 1. A) wasn't used to
 2. B) didn't used to
 3. C) hasn't used to
4. Did you _____ spend your summer vacations at your grandparents' countryside cottage?
 1. A) used to
 2. B) use to
 3. C) using to
5. I find the food here very strange, but I am slowly _____ the local flavors.
 1. A) getting used to
 2. B) used to
 3. C) use to

6. She _____ (not / like) organic vegetables when she was a child, but now she loves them. (*Write the full correct form*)
7. Are you used to _____ (live) without a stable high-speed internet connection yet?
8. My uncle _____ (have) a large car, but he sold it to buy an electric bicycle last month.
9. It took us over six months to get used to _____ (heat) our home using only firewood.
10. I _____ (be) a consumerist, but downshifting changed my entire perspective on life.

Part 3: Comparisons & Phrasal Verbs (30 Points)

Task A: Comparative Transformations

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words. (4 points per item; 20 points total)

1. The city is much noisier than the peaceful eco-village.
NEARLY
The eco-village is _____ the city.
2. As we live more simply, our lives become less stressful.
THE
The _____, the less stressful our lives become.
3. I have never seen a house as small as this tiny cabin.
BY FAR
This tiny cabin is _____ house I have ever seen.
4. Spending money on experiences is more rewarding than buying material things.
NOT
Buying material things is _____ spending money on experiences.
5. Her new life in nature is slightly more difficult than she expected.
A
Her new life in nature is _____ than she expected.

Task B: Leaving & Get Expressions

Replace the underlined words with a suitable phrasal verb related to leaving, or an expression with "get" (such as get over, get away, get by, set off, or leave behind). (2 points per item; 10 points total)

1. We need to **start our journey** early tomorrow if we want to beat the traffic.

2. It took Sarah a very long time to **recover from** the shock of losing her city job.

3. They decided to **abandon / permanently exit** their old life and start fresh.

4. We don't earn a lot of money on the farm, but we manage to **survive financially**.

5. Every summer, they try to **go on a holiday / escape from routines** to a remote island.
