

1 Choose the correct option A, B, C, or D to fill in each blank in the following passage.

The local newspaper carried out a survey with city dwellers about how to make the city a more (1) _____ place. Most participants in the survey talked about the city's traffic. First, they wanted stricter traffic (2) _____ to stop drivers from ignoring traffic lights and breaking speed limits. This would help reduce road accidents. In addition, they hoped their city would improve its (3) _____ system. For example, buses should be clean and have air conditioners. There should be bus lines that reach almost all areas in the city, so it would be easy for people to (4) _____. They said that good public transport could also (5) _____ the city money. The local authority wouldn't need to construct new parking lots and (6) _____ roads to cater for the increasing number of private cars. Finally, the survey (7) _____ suggested the local authority build traffic apps. The apps could recommend to drivers the best routes to avoid traffic (8) _____. The sooner the government started implementing these, the more convenient it would be to travel around the city.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. A. lifelong | B. living | C. lively | D. liveable |
| 2. A. jams | B. laws | C. lights | D. safety |
| 3. A. public transport | B. underground | C. amenity | D. parking |
| 4. A. go away | B. move in | C. get around | D. come out |
| 5. A. earn | B. make | C. save | D. spend |
| 6. A. narrow | B. widen | C. reduce | D. block |
| 7. A. participants | B. people | C. government | D. police |
| 8. A. signs | B. flow | C. accidents | D. congestion |

2 Read the passage and match the information with the person by writing A for Gina, B for Olivia, and C for Hoai.

Living in Vancouver

Vancouver, a coastal city in Canada, ranks among the most liveable cities in the world. Let's meet three residents to learn why they love this city.

A. Gina (20 years old)

I fell in love with Vancouver's natural habitats. I can go hiking in the summer and snowboarding in the winter in the mountains. Sometimes I pack my favourite foods and go to Kitsilano Beach to get a bit of sunshine. I like swimming in the Kitsilano pool, which is the longest outdoor swimming pool in North America.

B. Olivia (30 years old)

Life in Vancouver is convenient. The food here is good. There are both great restaurants and food trucks. Farmers' markets offer a wide range of fresh produce. When I'm too busy to cook, I pick up prepared meals in the supermarket.

C. Hoai (35 years old)

This is such a kid-friendly place. The whole city is like an adventure playground. There are hundreds of activities to entertain children. At weekends, I take my daughters to the mind-blowing museum, explore a rainforest, or play outdoor games with them. Vancouver is a perfect place for family life.

Who ...?	Person
1. sometimes doesn't cook	
2. praises Vancouver for being perfect for her family to live in	
3. describes the Vancouver's nature	
4. compliments Vancouver on its convenience	
5. loves outdoor activities	
6. lives in Vancouver with her children	

3 Read the passage and do the exercises.

Twenty years ago, people tried to leave the suburbs for cities but nowadays many people are reluctant to make such a move. They say that compared to suburban areas, city life has many drawbacks.

The high cost of living is the first disadvantage. The bigger the city is, the higher the living cost is. Accommodation and petrol are expensive. Food and drinks are also pricey. Apart from that, city people seem to suffer from more noise and air pollution. The densely populated neighbourhoods, busy traffic, and big construction sites make cities noisy and dusty. These are harmful to people's health, such as increasing their stress levels, disturbing their sleep and making them suffer from breathing problems.

Lack of space is another drawback of city life. House prices are high in the city, so people tend to live in smaller houses or in apartment blocks. Many cities lack spaces for outdoor activities; therefore, teenagers often hang out at shopping malls or in entertainment complexes instead of doing sports outdoors.

The cities' authorities are trying to overcome these problems. However, they still have a long way to go before they can reduce living costs and pollution, and increase green space to make all cities in the world more liveable places.

a. Choose the correct answer A, B, C, or D.

1. What is the passage mainly about?
 - A. The reasons for moving to the suburbs.
 - B. The disadvantages of city life.
 - C. The high cost of living in cities.
 - D. The causes of pollution in cities.
2. Why does the author mention "accommodation, petrol, food, and drinks" in paragraph 2?
 - A. To give examples of high living costs.
 - B. To explain how convenient city life is.
 - C. To describe what city people often lack.
 - D. To suggest city people save money.
3. What does the word "**them**" in paragraph 2 refer to?
 - A. bad effects
 - B. stress levels
 - C. city people
 - D. construction sites
4. According to the passage, teenagers often hang out at shopping malls because _____.
 - A. they find shopping malls interesting
 - B. they have few places outdoor to play
 - C. they prefer them to entertainment complexes
 - D. their houses are too small
5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned about city authorities?
 - A. They are trying to find solutions to city problems.
 - B. They all want to solve problems for all the world's cities.
 - C. They hope to lower the costs of living in cities.
 - D. They reduced pollution levels in cities by half last year.

b. Complete each gap in the sentences below with no more than THREE words taken from the passage.

1. Fewer people nowadays want to move to the city than _____ ago.
2. The bigger cities often have _____ living costs.
3. Congested traffic and building sites can cause _____ pollution in neighbourhoods.

4. People living in noisy and dusty areas may have problems with stress, _____ and _____.
5. Many people live in small apartment blocks because of high _____.
6. It takes a long time for the authorities to _____ these city problems.

E Writing

1 Make sentences using the words / phrases below to help you. You can make changes to the words / phrases and add more words if necessary.

1. boy / came / food poison / after / eat / street food.

2. big / mall / is, / the easier / it / people / to / lost / in it.

3. They / decided / hang / cinema / instead / a coffee shop.

4. The restaurant / bit / pricey, / so / it was / popular / teenagers.

5. Travel / a dusty road / every day / causes / have / itchy eyes / runny nose.

2 Choose the best option A, B, C, or D which has the same meaning as the original sentence.

1. It's difficult to get around the city at rush hours due to congested roads.
 - A. Moving to the city at rush hours is not a good idea.
 - B. It's not easy at rush hours because the downtown is congested.
 - C. Traffic congestion makes it difficult to travel in the city at rush hours.
 - D. Don't get around the city because all roads are congested.
2. The city council will cut down on electricity used for public lighting.
 - A. According to the city council, there will soon be no public lighting in the city.
 - B. The city council intends to reduce energy used to light public places.
 - C. The city council will cut down on investment in public amenities.
 - D. Public lights use up much electricity so the city council will remove them.
3. They should reduce the amount of fatty foods in their daily meals.
 - A. They should cut down on the amount of fatty foods in their daily meals.
 - B. They should eat more fatty foods in their daily meals.
 - C. They shouldn't cook fatty foods every day.
 - D. The more fatty foods they eat, the healthier they become.

4. Jack caught a cold after walking home in the rain.
- A. Jack felt cold because he had to walk home in the rain.
 - B. The rain was cold, so Jack tried to walk home as quickly as possible.
 - C. The heavier the rain, the more quickly Jack walked to his home.
 - D. Jack came down with a cold because he walked home in rainy weather.
5. Tom conducted research to find out how much food his friends were throwing away.
- A. Tom's research was about wasting food at his friends' home.
 - B. Tom did research on how to throw away food without harming the environment.
 - C. Tom's friends carried out research because he was throwing away too much food.
 - D. Tom carried out a study on his friends' food wasting habit.