

BỘ BÀI TẬP LUYỆN ĐỌC TIẾNG ANH 9 - UNIT 2: CITY LIFE

CẤP ĐỘ 4: LEVEL B2 (UPPER-INTERMEDIATE)

Passage A: Read the following passage and choose the best option (A, B, C, or D) for each gap.

The rapid pace of global urbanization has transformed peaceful rural landscapes into sprawling concrete jungles. While cities serve as hubs of economic opportunity and cultural diversity, attracting millions of **(1)** _____ each year, they also generate severe social and environmental strain. Among the most pressing concerns is urban mobility; millions of commuters get **(2)** _____ in gridlock every day, leading to severe economic losses and high stress levels.

To address these challenges, many progressive city **(3)** _____ are implementing comprehensive urban renewal strategies. Instead of constructing more roads—which often attracts more private vehicles—urban planners are focusing on enhancing **(4)** _____ transport networks. High-capacity **(5)** _____ lines and sky trains are being integrated into city infrastructure to ensure seamless connectivity between downtown districts and suburban areas.

Environmental sustainability is another critical pillar of modern urban planning. Cities are making efforts to expand **(6)** _____ spaces, which act as natural air purifiers and reduce the urban heat island effect. Pavements are being expanded and renovated to prioritize pedestrian **(7)** _____ over motorized traffic. Furthermore, strict environmental regulations are being enforced on **(8)** _____ sites to minimize dust and noise pollution. Public institutions are also taking part; school cafeterias and restaurants are adopting zero-waste initiatives to process **(9)** _____ and prevent food waste. Through these concerted efforts, urban centers strive to **(10)** _____ polluted and overcrowded zones into liveable, sustainable spaces.

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. A. immigrants | B. chairmen | C. tourists | D. drivers |
| 2. A. caught | B. stuck | C. trapped | D. held |
| 3. A. authorities | B. citizens | C. workers | D. visitors |
| 4. A. individual | B. public | C. private | D. secret |
| 5. A. bus | B. car | C. bike | D. plane |
| 6. A. green | B. commercial | C. industrial | D. concrete |
| 7. A. safety | B. jam | C. rule | D. light |
| 8. A. building | B. construction | C. manufacture | D. production |
| 9. A. leftovers | B. rubbish | C. plastic | D. chemicals |
| 10. A. turn | B. make | C. change | D. convert |

Passage B: Read the passage and choose the correct answer (A, B, C, or D) for each question.

Urbanization is one of the most transformative trends of the 21st century. As more people migrate from rural areas to major metropolitan centers in search of employment and higher living standards, cities are expanding at an unprecedented rate. However, this demographic shift presents a double-edged sword: while urban growth fuels economic innovation, it simultaneously exacerbates existing infrastructure and environmental problems.

One of the primary challenges arising from rapid urbanization is the degradation of public health. Densely populated cities often experience alarming levels of air and noise pollution caused by industrial emissions and heavy vehicular traffic. Prolonged exposure to toxic exhaust fumes and dust particles from construction sites is directly linked to chronic respiratory ailments, such as sore throats and asthma, as well as eye irritation like itchy eyes. Moreover, the constant racket of city traffic disrupts sleep patterns and increases stress among urban dwellers.

In response to these multi-faceted crises, urban designers are advocating for holistic "smart growth" frameworks. These frameworks emphasize reducing reliance on personal automobiles by expanding integrated public transit systems, such as underground metros and elevated sky trains. By establishing designated bus lines and improving pedestrian infrastructure—such as wider, tree-lined pavements—cities can encourage active commuting while lowering carbon emissions.

Equally vital is the preservation and creation of public amenities and green spaces. Urban parks not only offer quiet learning spaces and recreational zones for residents but also help regulate city temperatures and manage stormwater runoff during heavy rain. Additionally, municipal programs aiming to minimize food waste by turning cafeteria leftovers into biofuel demonstrate how cities can transition toward a circular economy. Ultimately, transforming a bustling, concrete jungle into an inclusive and liveable future city requires continuous cooperation between city authorities, technical experts, and local communities.

1. What is the author's primary purpose in writing the text?

- A. To criticize people who choose to move to big cities
- B. To examine the impacts of rapid urbanization and discuss sustainable solutions for future cities
- C. To promote the construction of more high-speed highways in urban areas
- D. To analyze the financial costs of building elevated sky trains

2. The phrase "**a double-edged sword**" in paragraph 1 implies that rapid urbanization _____.

- A. brings both significant benefits and serious drawbacks

- B. is completely harmful to economic development
- C. is a problem that cannot be solved by city authorities
- D. only affects rural communities, not city dwellers

3. According to paragraph 2, what physical health issues are associated with urban pollution?

- A. Heart disease and high blood pressure
- B. Respiratory issues like sore throat and eye irritation like itchy eyes
- C. Sleep disorders caused solely by high crime rates
- D. Food poisoning from school cafeteria meals

4. The word "**racket**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. loud, unpleasant noise
- B. sports equipment
- C. fast transportation
- D. strict traffic rule

5. According to paragraph 3, how can cities encourage active commuting among citizens?

- A. By raising the cost of public transport tickets
- B. By expanding pedestrian infrastructure like wider pavements and designated bus lines
- C. By banning bicycles in downtown areas
- D. By replacing green spaces with car parking lots

6. What environmental function of urban green spaces is highlighted in paragraph 4?

- A. They eliminate all noise pollution completely.
- B. They regulate urban temperatures and manage stormwater runoff during heavy rain.
- C. They process industrial waste from construction sites.
- D. They generate high income for city authorities.

7. The word "**exacerbates**" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. improves
- B. worsens
- C. solves
- D. prevents

8. What example of a circular economy is mentioned in the text?

- A. Building more concrete skyscrapers downtown
- B. Turning cafeteria leftovers into biofuel to reduce food waste

C. Increasing the number of private cars on the street

D. Charging higher housing prices for new immigrants

9. The word "**These frameworks**" in paragraph 3 refers to _____.

A. respiratory ailments

B. "smart growth" frameworks

C. personal automobiles

D. chronic health issues

10. Which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?

A. Urban growth should be stopped immediately to protect the environment.

B. Technology alone is sufficient to solve all urban problems without community involvement.

C. Sustainable urban development requires collaboration between authorities, experts, and citizens.

D. Green spaces are unnecessary luxuries in modern urban centers.

Exercise 3: Four phrases/sentences have been removed from the text below. Choose the correct option (A, B, C, or D) for each blank.

URBAN RENEWAL AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

As metropolitan centers expand, municipal governments face complex infrastructure hurdles. Traffic gridlock, construction noise, and airborne pollutants severely degrade the quality of life for urban dwellers. **(1)** _____. Urban design experts argue that expanding road capacity only attracts more automobiles; instead, cities must invest heavily in integrated public transit systems.

The more accessible and reliable sky trains and subway lines become, **(2)** _____. Consequently, urban air quality will improve significantly as carbon emissions decline. Moreover, local councils are urging businesses and educational institutions to **(3)** _____ environmental action plans, such as reducing food waste in cafeterias and collecting leftovers for composting. **(4)** _____, the closer we get to building an inclusive, safe, and liveable city for future generations.

(1)

A. To address these multi-faceted crises, urban designers are advocating for holistic "smart growth" frameworks

B. Housing prices in the downtown core have become increasingly pricey over the past decade

C. Commuters often complain about getting stuck in traffic jams during the morning rush hour

D. Many residents come down with respiratory illnesses due to prolonged exposure to dusty air

(2)

- A. the more likely commuters are to give up their personal cars
- B. more likely commuters are to give up their personal cars
- C. the more commuters are likely give up personal cars
- D. commuters are more likely to give up their personal cars

(3)

- A. carry out
- B. face up to
- C. catch up with
- D. run out of

(4)

- A. The more green spaces and pedestrianized pavements we develop
- B. Develop more green spaces and pedestrianized pavements
- C. The most green spaces and pedestrianized pavements we develop
- D. More green spaces and pedestrianized pavements being developed

Exercise 4: *Choose the correct option and order the sentences in a logical way.*

Part 1: *Choose the best sentence to fill in the blank.*

Rapid urbanization without proper control can turn vibrant cities into overcrowded concrete jungles. _____

- A. The more congested the city streets become, the higher the risk of air pollution and health problems for citizens.
- B. Street food vendors on the pavement provide cheap and convenient meals for local workers.
- C. High crime rates are usually found in quiet rural villages far away from downtown.
- D. Taxis and buses are the only public amenities available in modern metropolitan areas.

Part 2: *Reorder the following sentences to form a coherent concluding paragraph.*

- a. Ultimately, by balancing technological innovation with eco-friendly initiatives, cities can become truly liveable urban centers.
- b. In addition, municipal councils must carry out strict regulations on construction sites to limit noise and dust emissions.

c. To prevent environmental degradation, city authorities must cut down on carbon emissions by promoting electric public transport.

A. c – b – a

B. b – c – a

C. a – b – c

D. c – a – b

Exercise 5: Choose the sentence that is best made from the given cues.

Question: polluted / air / become / people / come down with / respiratory illnesses.

A. The more polluted the air becomes, the more people come down with respiratory illnesses.

B. The most polluted the air becomes, the more people come down with respiratory illnesses.

C. More polluted the air becomes, more people come down with respiratory illnesses.

D. The more polluted is the air, the more people come down with respiratory illnesses.

Exercise 6: Four phrases/sentences have been removed from the text below. For each question, mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

REINVENTING URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE

Modern urban centers are experiencing unprecedented expansion, leading to severe social and environmental pressures. Traffic gridlock, industrial emissions, and construction dust seriously threaten the well-being of urban dwellers. (1) _____. Prolonged exposure to toxic exhaust fumes causes many commuters to come down with respiratory ailments and eye irritations.

To address these multi-faceted challenges, progressive city authorities must (2) _____ comprehensive urban renewal strategies. Instead of expanding roadways for private cars, planners are prioritizing high-capacity sky trains and pedestrianized pavements. The more reliable and interconnected public transit networks become, (3) _____. Furthermore, municipal initiatives aim to minimize food waste by turning cafeteria leftovers into biofuel. (4) _____, the closer we get to constructing a resilient, safe, and liveable city for future generations.

A. the more likely citizens are to give up personal vehicles

B. The more polluted the urban air grows, the more citizens suffer from health problems

C. The more green spaces and sustainable amenities we develop

D. carry out strict environmental regulations

Question 1. _____

Question 2. _____

Question 3. _____

Question 4. _____