

4 Choose one of the cities below. Use the ideas provided or your own to make a similar conversation.

TOKYO in 2050

- Current facts: good infrastructure; overcrowded trains; ageing population
- Future plans: promote advanced technology to make greener cars, faster trains, and more convenient facilities for old people; use robots to do housework
- Aim: to make Tokyo the most liveable city



NEW YORK CITY in 2050

- Current facts: crowded public transport; piles of smelly rubbish; ageing electricity network
- Future plans: promote self-driving electric taxis; use city's building roofs for gardens fertilised with compost; build plants to turn waste into energy; build offshore wind farms
- Aim: to make New York City an eco city



5 Work with a partner. Make predictions about a future city in Viet Nam. Take notes.

LISTENING

A better or worse place to live in?

1 Discuss with a partner.

- Which of the problems shown in the pictures currently exist in big cities in Viet Nam?
- Do you think they will be solved in the next twenty years?



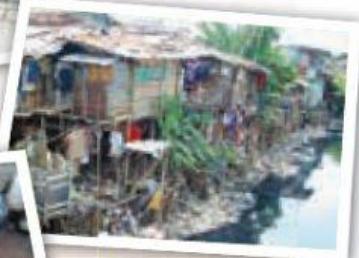
a. traffic jam



b. untreated waste



c. air pollution



d. slums



e. fresh water shortages



f. water pollution



2 Listen to a talk on predictions about our future cities. Underline the words or phrases that you hear.

- a. pessimistic
- b. optimistic
- c. climate change
- d. global warming
- e. overcrowded
- f. overpopulation
- g. capable
- h. available



3 Listen again. Decide which of the following predictions will come true (T) and which will not (NT), according to the two kinds of viewpoints. Tick the correct box.

	T	NT
According to the pessimistic viewpoint:		
1. Pollution will continue to be a serious problem in the city.		
2. Global warming will slow down because of governments' efforts.		
3. A lot of people will leave the city to work in the countryside.		
4. Cities will be overpopulated and traffic will be heavy.		
According to the optimistic viewpoint:		
5. City dwellers will enjoy better health care and medical treatment.		
6. Renewable energy sources will replace non-renewable ones.		
7. People in the city will be able to use renewable energy free of charge.		



4 Listen again and complete the summaries of the two viewpoints.

- According to the pessimistic viewpoint, our future cities will not be safe and _____ places to live in. Governments have no _____ ways to control pollution, which will continue to be a serious problem in the future. Moreover, cities will become _____, which means there will be more waste and _____ traffic.
- According to the optimistic viewpoint, city dwellers will have a better life thanks to advances in technology and _____. Furthermore, the environmental problems will be solved. _____ energy sources will gradually replace _____ fuels in the next twenty years.

5 Which viewpoint do you agree with, the optimistic or pessimistic? Provide your reasons.

