

CENTRAL PARK



Fill in the blanks, using the words from the box. Listen and check.

climb poor unhealthy air Avenue cats escape poor natural
peace rare heart world

New York. What do you think of? Skyscrapers. Taxis. Noise. People. John Lennon said that New York is the capital city of the 1) _____ – and it certainly feels that way.

But in the centre of this exciting, noisy, polluted city there is a place to find 2) _____ and quiet. A short walk from busy Fifth 3) _____ in Manhattan you'll find Central Park. Central Park is the green 4) _____ of New York City and over 25 million people come here each year to 5) _____ the city. People run, swim, 6) _____ or simply sit and read a book in the huge park's different scenery. And it's not just for people. Lots of 7) _____ birds have made their home in the park and there are legends of big 8) _____ hiding in the dark trees.

Although it looks completely 9) _____, the park is man-made, created over 150 years ago. Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux designed the park at a time when the city was a very crowded, dirty and 10) _____ place to live. They wanted to make a place where rich and 11) _____ people could find fresh 12) _____ in the dirty city.

It does the same job today. As a friend of mine always tells me, "Life in New York would be impossible without Central Park"

Read the definitions of the words from the text and guess them.

- a) a very tall modern building, usually in a city - _____ (n)
- b) to get free from something, or to avoid something: - _____ (v)
- c) the general appearance of the natural environment, especially when it is beautiful: - _____ (n)
- d) not common or frequent; very unusual: - _____ (adj)
- e) a very old story or set of stories from ancient times, or the stories, not always true, that people tell about a famous event or person: - _____ (n)
- f) produced or developed by humans rather than coming directly from nature - _____ (adj)
- g) Full of people - _____ (adj)
- h) it cannot happen or be achieved: - _____ (adj)