

- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer read the letter.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer sat down on the sofa.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer's family was napping.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer hugged her mother.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer was bored.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer opened the letter.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer answered the door.

4. How many paragraphs are in this essay? \_\_\_\_\_. In which paragraph does the writer reveal what she wants to study? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the purpose of Paragraph 3?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Building Better Sentences:** For further practice, go to Practice 2 on page 191 in Appendix 1.

### ACTIVITY 3 Studying a Comparison Essay

Discuss the Preview Questions with a classmate. Then read this comparison essay about two types of lifestyles and answer the questions that follow.

#### Preview Questions

1. Describe the place where you grew up. Was it the city or the countryside?
2. What were the best and worst things about living there?

### Essay 3

#### The Urban and Rural Divide

- 1 Imagine life in Tokyo. Now imagine life in a rural Japanese town. Finally, picture life in Cairo, Egypt. Which of these last two places is more different from Tokyo? Many people might mistakenly choose Cairo because it is not found in Japan. However, city **dwellers** all over the world tend to have similar lifestyles, so the biggest differences are found between Tokyo and its smaller neighbor. Urban people and rural people, **regardless of** their country, live quite differently. Perhaps some of the most **notable** differences in the lives of these two groups include the **degree** of friendliness between residents, the **pace** of life, and the variety of available activities.
- 2 One major difference between growing up in the city and in the country is the degree of friendliness. In large cities, residents often live in huge apartment buildings with hundreds of strangers. These urban apartment dwellers tend to be **wary** of unknown faces and rarely get to

**rural:** related to the country

**a dweller:** a person who lives in a place, resident

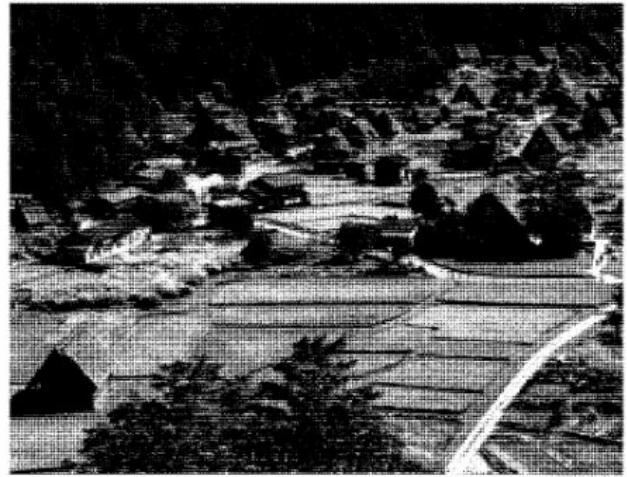
**regardless of:** in spite of

**notable:** important, worthy of notice

**the degree:** the amount

**the pace:** the speed, rate

**wary:** cautious, suspicious



know their neighbors well. The situation in a small town is often just the opposite. Small-town people generally grow up together, attend the same schools, and share the same friends. As a result, rural people are much more likely to treat their neighbors like family and invite them into their homes.

- 3 Another difference is the pace of life. In the city, life moves very quickly. The streets reflect this hectic pace and are rarely empty, even late at night. City dwellers appear to be racing to get somewhere important. Life for them tends to be a series of **deadlines**. In the country, life is much slower. Even during **peak** hours, traffic jams occur less often than in a city. Stores close in the early evening, and the streets do not come alive until the next morning. The people in small towns or villages seem more relaxed and move in a more leisurely way. The pace of life in these two areas could not be more different.

- 4 A third difference lies in the way people are able to spend their free time. Although life in the city has its **drawbacks**, city dwellers have a much wider choice of activities that they can participate in. For example, they can go to museums, eat in exotic restaurants, attend concerts, and shop in hundreds of stores. The activities available to people in rural areas, however, are much more limited. It is rare to find museums or exotic restaurants there. Concert tours almost never include stops in country towns. Finally, people who enjoy shopping might be disappointed in the small number of stores.

- 5 Life in urban areas and life in rural areas vary in terms of human interaction, pace of life, and daily activities. Other important differences exist, too, but none of these makes one place better than the other. The places are simply different. Only people who have experienced living in both the city and the country can truly appreciate the unique characteristics of each.

**the deadline:** the time limit for doing something

**the peak:** the highest, the top (amount)

**a drawback:** a disadvantage, a negative point

### Post-Reading

1. What is the topic of this essay?

---

2. What is the thesis statement?

---

---

3. In each paragraph, which type of location is always discussed first—rural or urban? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Which paragraph talks about activities in each area? \_\_\_\_\_ Which place offers more options for activities? \_\_\_\_\_

5. In Paragraph 3, the writer contrasts the pace of life in the two areas. Write the supporting sentences for the pace of life in each area.

A. Urban

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Rural

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Building Better Sentences:** For further practice, go to Practice 3 on page 192 in Appendix 1.

### ACTIVITY 4 Studying a Cause-Effect Essay

Discuss the Preview Questions with a classmate. Then read the cause-effect essay and answer the questions that follow.

#### Preview Questions

1. Do you think people are healthier now than in the past? Why or why not?
2. What three changes could you make in your lifestyle to become healthier? Be specific.