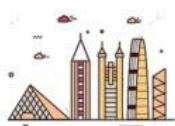


Reading Ex. > Megalopolis



The town of Shenzhen, just forty kilometers north of Hong Kong is the world's biggest building site. In 1982 it was a fishing village with two main roads, fields, and a population of 30,000. Now it has a population of 3 million. It is growing at an incredible speed. It is spreading north towards Guangzhou (*also known as Canton*) and west towards Macau. The Chinese government hopes that in less than ten years this area will be the biggest city on earth, with a population of 40 million people.

China is changing. It is no longer a country where absolutely everything is owned and controlled by the state. Developers are welcome. As Deng Xiaoping, a Chinese leader, said in 1992, *'To get rich is glorious.'* The old China of bicycles

and little red books is disappearing. A world of technology and capitalism is arriving.

The Chinese people seem to welcome dramatic change. They don't worry about losing traditional ways of life. They want the new. As the posters on the sides of the highway say: *'Development is the only way.'*

Shenzhen is an amazing place, like nowhere else on earth. It is a city with no limits and no centre. There are new concrete office blocks, factories, and housing blocks as far as the eye can see. Not just dozens of new buildings, nor even hundreds, but thousands. And it is all happening so fast. It takes just six months to design, build, and finish a skyscraper of 60 stores. As one architect said, *'if you move too slowly here, someone will walk over you.'*

A. Shenzhen is a beautiful place in Asia which is getting bigger and bigger. Based on the article below, circle the best answer (A-C) for each question. (7 points, 1 each)

1. What is the main idea of the text?

- A. Chinese feel happy about Shenzhen.
- B. Shenzhen is an incredible growing city.
- C. Shenzhen is the most populated city.

2. Which idea is NOT included in the text?

- A. Shenzhen is not far from Hong Kong.
- B. There are a lot of buildings in Shenzhen.
- C. Rich people live in Shenzhen.

3. According to paragraph 1,

- A. there are 30 million people in Shenzhen.
- B. Shenzhen is the biggest city on earth.
- C. Shenzhen is not a small village anymore.

4. In paragraph 2 the main idea is that

- A. There are important changes in China.
- B. It is easy to get rich in China.
- C. Developers have a lot money to build.

5. In paragraph 2, what does the expression *to get rich is glorious* mean?

- A. The most important is the glory.
- B. Money can change people.
- C. It is fantastic to have a lot of money.

6. According to paragraph 3,

- A. People accept important changes.
- B. Chinese people dislike big changes.
- C. The traditions are disappearing.

7. According to paragraph 4

- A. It is difficult to walk because there are too many people.
- B. In a short time tall buildings can be constructed.
- C. The construction of tall buildings takes a lot of time.



Text taken and adapted from http://teacherct.altervista.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/test_prova.pdf

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