

## 2

# Life in the city

- ▶ Discuss transportation and public services
- ▶ Ask questions about visiting cities

## 1 WORD POWER Compound nouns

**A** Match the words in columns A and B to make compound nouns.  
(More than one combination may be possible.)

subway + station = subway station

**A**

bicycle  
bus  
green  
parking  
recycling  
street  
subway  
taxi  
traffic  
train

**B**

center  
garage  
jam  
lane  
light  
space  
stand  
station  
stop  
system



traffic jam



green space

**B PAIR WORK** Which of these things can you find where you live?

**A:** There are a lot of bus lanes.

**B:** Yes. But there isn't a subway system.

## 2 PERSPECTIVES City services

**A** Listen to these opinions about city services. Match them to the correct pictures.



### YOUR VOICE COUNTS!

1. The streets are dark and dangerous. I don't think there are enough police officers. And we need more streetlights.

2. There's too much pollution from cars, motorcycles, and old buses. In cities with less pollution, people are healthier.

3. There should be fewer cars, but I think that the biggest problem is parking. There just isn't enough parking.



**B PAIR WORK** Does your city or town have similar problems?  
What do you think is the biggest problem?

### 3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

#### ▶ Expressions of quantity

##### With count nouns

There are **too many** cars.  
There should be **fewer** cars.  
We need **more** streetlights.  
There aren't **enough** police officers.

##### With noncount nouns

There is **too much** pollution.  
There should be **less** pollution.  
We need **more** public transportation.  
There isn't **enough** parking.

GRAMMAR PLUS see page 133

**A** Complete these statements about city problems. Then compare with a partner. (More than one answer may be possible.)

1. We need \_\_\_\_\_ public schools.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ accidents.
3. There are \_\_\_\_\_ public parks.
4. There is \_\_\_\_\_ noise all the time.
5. There is \_\_\_\_\_ recycling in our city.
6. The government should build \_\_\_\_\_ affordable housing.
7. The city needs \_\_\_\_\_ bicycle lanes.
8. There are \_\_\_\_\_ free Wi-Fi hotspots.

**B PAIR WORK** Write sentences about the city or town you are living in. Then compare with another pair.

1. The city should provide more ...	5. There should be fewer ...
2. We have too many ...	6. We don't have enough ...
3. There's too much ...	7. There should be less ...
4. There isn't enough ...	8. We need more ...



### 4 LISTENING It'll take forever.

▶ **A** Listen to a city resident talk to her new neighbor about the city. Check (✓) True or False for each statement.

	True	False	
1. Jacob already started his new job downtown.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	He starts his new job tomorrow.
2. The city needs more buses.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. There aren't enough tourists in the city.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Not many people ride bikes in the city.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Sophia offers to lend Jacob her bike.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

▶ **B** Listen again. For the false statements, write the correct information.

**C PAIR WORK** What things can a city do to improve the problems that Sophia mentions? Does your city have similar problems?

## 5 DISCUSSION Rate your city.

**A GROUP WORK** Which of these services are available in your city or town? Discuss what is good and bad about each one.

recycling system  parks and green spaces  affordable housing  
 transportation system  Wi-Fi service  recreational and sports facilities

**B GROUP WORK** How would you rate the services where you live? Give each item a rating from 1 to 5.

1 = terrible    2 = needs improvement    3 = average    4 = good    5 = excellent

**A:** I'd give the parks a 4. There are enough parks, but they aren't always clean.

**B:** I think a rating of 4 is too high. There aren't enough green spaces in many areas of the city . . .

## 6 WRITING A social media post

**A** Read this post about traffic in the city on a social networking page.

**B** Use your statements from Exercise 3, part B, and any new ideas to write a post about a local issue.

**C GROUP WORK** Take turns reading your messages. Do you have any of the same concerns?

Posted by Michelle K  
Today at 5:30



I'm tired of this city. There's too much traffic, and it's getting worse. It used to take me 15 minutes to get to class. Today it took me more than 30 minutes during rush hour! There should be more subway lines. I think people want to use public transportation, but we need more . . .

comment

## 7 SNAPSHOT



### Common Tourist Questions

<input type="checkbox"/> What's the best way to see the city? <input type="checkbox"/> How much do taxis cost? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Which hotel is closest to the airport? <input type="checkbox"/> Where should I go shopping? <input type="checkbox"/> What festivals or events are taking place?	<input type="checkbox"/> Where can I buy a SIM card for my phone? <input type="checkbox"/> Where's a good place to meet friends? <input type="checkbox"/> Where can I get a city guide? <input type="checkbox"/> What museums should I see? <input type="checkbox"/> What are some family-friendly activities?
--	--

Check (✓) the questions you can answer about your city.

What other questions could a visitor ask about your city?

Talk to your classmates. Find answers to the questions you didn't check.

## 8 CONVERSATION Do you know where . . . ?

► A Listen and practice.

**Rachel:** Excuse me. Do you know where the nearest ATM is?

**Clerk:** There's one down the street, across from the café.

**Rachel:** Great. And do you know where I can catch a bus downtown?

**Clerk:** Sure. Just look for the signs for "Public Transportation."

**Rachel:** OK. And can you tell me how often they run?

**Clerk:** They run every 10 minutes or so.

**Rachel:** And just one more thing. Could you tell me where the restrooms are?

**Clerk:** Right inside. Do you see where that sign is?

**Rachel:** Oh. Thanks a lot.



► B Listen to the rest of the conversation. Check (✓) the information that Rachel asks for.

the cost of the bus fare  
 the cost of a city guide

the location of a taxi stand  
 the location of a bookstore

## 9 GRAMMAR FOCUS

► Indirect questions from Wh-questions

**Wh-questions with *be***

Where is the nearest ATM?

Where are the restrooms?

**Wh-questions with *do***

How often do the buses run?

What time does the bookstore open?

**Wh-questions with *can***

Where can I catch the bus?

**Indirect questions**

Could you tell me **where the nearest ATM is?**

Do you know **where the restrooms are?**

**Indirect questions**

Can you tell me **how often the buses run?**

Do you know **what time the bookstore opens?**

**Indirect questions**

Do you know **where I can catch the bus?**

GRAMMAR PLUS see page 133

A Write indirect questions using these Wh-questions. Then compare with a partner.

1. Where can I rent a car?
2. How much does a city tour cost?
3. How early do the stores open?
4. Where's the nearest Wi-Fi hotspot?
5. How much does a taxi to the airport cost?
6. What time does the post office open?
7. Where's an inexpensive hotel in this area?
8. How late do the nightclubs stay open?

B PAIR WORK Take turns asking and answering the questions you wrote in part A.

**A:** Do you know where I can rent a car?

**B:** You can rent one at the airport.

## 10 PRONUNCIATION Syllable stress

► A Listen and practice. Notice which syllable has the main stress in these two-syllable words.

subway      •      garage  
traffic      •      police

► B Listen to the stress in these words. Write them in the correct columns. Then compare with a partner.

buses      improve  
bookstore      provide  
event      public  
hotel      taxis

•      •  
\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

## 11 SPEAKING The best of our town

A Complete the chart with indirect questions.

		Name:
1.	Where's the best area to stay? "Do you know where the best area to stay is	?"
2.	What's the best way to see the city? "	?"
3.	How late do the buses run? "	?"
4.	How much do people tip in a restaurant? "	?"
5.	What's a good restaurant to try the local food? "	?"
6.	What are the most popular attractions? "	?"
7.	Where can I hear live music? "	?"

B **PAIR WORK** Use the indirect questions in the chart to interview a classmate about the city or town where you live. Take notes.

A: Do you know where the best area to stay is?

B: It depends. You can stay near . . .

C **CLASS ACTIVITY** Share your answers with the class. Who knows the most about your city or town?

## 12 INTERCHANGE 2 Top travel destinations

Discuss ways to attract tourists to a city. Go to Interchange 2 on page 115.

## 13 READING

A Skim the article. Which of the following things does it mention?

transportation natural areas safety entertainment schools housing

**The World's Happiest Cities** ☺

When author Dan Buettner went looking for the world's happiest people on four different continents, he found some really great places to live!

\_\_\_\_\_ a. Singapore  
With a population of 5.1 million, Singapore is really crowded, and people work very long hours. Yet 95 percent of Singapore residents say they are happy. Subway trains almost always arrive on time. The police are good at their jobs and always ready to help. People in Singapore love that their city is so clean and safe.

\_\_\_\_\_ b. Aarhus, Denmark  
Although people pay an incredible 68 percent of their salaries in taxes here, they get lots of services for free: healthcare, education, and daycare for young children. The city has lots of entertainment options too, like museums, shopping, and nightlife. For those who love nature, it's only a 15-minute bike ride to incredible beaches and forests.

\_\_\_\_\_ c. San Luis Obispo, California, U.S.A.  
People here smile and feel happy more than in any other American city. Most people travel less than 10 minutes to work, and there are lots of bike lanes, so commuting is easy. Residents share their joy with others, too. Almost 25 percent of people in San Luis Obispo volunteer to help people in their free time.

\_\_\_\_\_ d. Monterrey, Mexico  
Although many of its people don't earn high salaries, they still feel rich. People in Monterrey have strong family relationships and very busy social lives. They also have a positive attitude about life – they laugh and stay strong even in times of trouble.

Adapted from <http://www.rd.com/advice/travel/the-4-happiest-cities-on-earth>



B Read the article. Match the paragraphs (a-d) to the pictures (1-4).

C Read the comments from residents of these four cities. Which city do you think they live in? Write the letter.

1. "I spend a lot of time with my relatives." \_\_\_\_\_
2. "A lot of what I earn goes to the government, but I don't mind." \_\_\_\_\_
3. "I can see great art in my city." \_\_\_\_\_
4. "I often have to spend eleven hours or more in the office." \_\_\_\_\_
5. "I help children with their homework after school for free." \_\_\_\_\_
6. "I try to be cheerful, even when things are going badly." \_\_\_\_\_
7. "I take the train to work, and I'm never late." \_\_\_\_\_
8. "On weekends, I can get out of the city without taking the car." \_\_\_\_\_

D **PAIR WORK** Which sentences in part C are true for you and your city or town? How would you improve the place where you live?