

TA12. U4. Reading 2

Reading Article 1

Urbanisation and City Life

As cities around the world continue to grow, the process of urbanisation is transforming the way we live and work. In modern urban centers, residents often prefer high-rise apartments for their convenience and proximity to workplaces. However, these high-density areas are not without their challenges. During rush hour, commuters frequently face traffic jams, leaving many people stuck on overcrowded roads. The availability of public transport is crucial in addressing this issue, offering a more sustainable alternative to private vehicles.

Housing affordability is another concern in rapidly urbanized regions. As the demand for accommodation increases, the cost of living rises, making it harder for many people to find convenient and affordable housing. In some cities, planners have introduced low-rise developments in suburban areas to reduce congestion in the city center. Additionally, the construction of skyscrapers has become a symbol of urban progress, although these massive buildings often dominate the skyline, leaving little room for green spaces.

Urban life is also marked by the vibrant yet crowded environment of city centers. While the busy streets offer countless opportunities for work and leisure, they can also lead to stress and frustration for those seeking a quieter lifestyle. Finding the right balance between urban growth and quality of life remains a significant challenge for city planners across all regions.

1. What is a common solution to reduce traffic during rush hour?
 - a) Building more skyscrapers
 - b) Expanding public transport
 - c) Increasing housing prices
 - d) Encouraging low-rise developments
2. What problem do commuters face during rush hour?
 - a) Shortage of housing
 - b) Overcrowded roads
 - c) Urbanization delays
 - d) Affordable transport
3. Why is housing affordability a major concern in urban areas?
 - a) The cost of living decreases over time.
 - b) Demand for housing exceeds supply.
 - c) Urban residents prefer low-rise homes.
 - d) Public transport is not available.
4. What has become a symbol of urban progress?
 - a) Low-rise buildings
 - b) Rush-hour traffic
 - c) Skyscrapers
 - d) Suburban housing
5. What do residents often experience in crowded urban centers?
 - a) More green spaces
 - b) A quieter lifestyle
 - c) Stress and frustration
 - d) Easy access to farmland
6. How does urbanization affect housing?
 - a) It makes housing cheaper.
 - b) It increases demand for housing.
 - c) It decreases the need for housing.
 - d) It encourages people to move to rural areas.
7. What do city planners aim to balance?
 - a) Public transport and green spaces
 - b) Urban growth and quality of life
 - c) Housing costs and infrastructure
 - d) Commuters and suburban areas
8. What is an advantage of high-rise apartments?
 - a) They offer more farmland.
 - b) They are more affordable.

- c) They are located near workplaces.
 - d) They reduce traffic jams.
9. What often dominates the skyline in urban areas?
 - a) Public transport
 - b) Skyscrapers
 - c) Low-rise buildings
 - d) Green spaces
 10. What do suburban developments aim to achieve?
 - a) Reduce congestion in city centers
 - b) Increase the number of skyscrapers
 - c) Promote urbanization
 - d) Make urban centers more crowded

Reading Article 2

Economic and Social Issues

Economic growth in many countries has been accompanied by a rise in unemployment and social challenges. One of the most pressing issues is the inability of low-income families to afford basic necessities such as housing and education. This often leads to increased rates of crime, as individuals may resort to illegal activities to survive. Another issue is the shortage of resources, which has caused tension within local communities. For instance, the rising population in urban areas has created fierce competition for jobs, healthcare, and education. Many residents have voiced their complaints, demanding that the government take action. However, making a fair decision that satisfies everyone is never easy.

Despite these challenges, efforts have been made to promote equality and unity. Governments are introducing policies aimed at ensuring equal opportunities for all citizens, regardless of their background. Community programs and initiatives are also being launched to foster collaboration and strengthen ties within local neighborhoods. The goal is to create a more inclusive and supportive community, where people can thrive together.

1. What is one reason for the increase in crime?
 - a) Lack of education
 - b) Inability to afford basic needs
 - c) Growth of community programs
 - d) Introduction of new policies
2. What has the rising population in urban areas caused?
 - a) Better education systems
 - b) Shortage of resources
 - c) Decrease in unemployment
 - d) Expansion of housing
3. What is a common complaint among residents?
 - a) Increased crime rates
 - b) Lack of job competition
 - c) Inaction by the government
 - d) Unemployment rates decreasing
4. What is the government trying to promote?
 - a) Higher housing costs
 - b) Equality and unity
 - c) Increased competition
 - d) Fewer community programs
5. What does the word "equal" mean in the text?
 - a) Fair and just
 - b) Similar in size
 - c) Based on laws
 - d) Sharing resources
6. What are local communities demanding from the government?
 - a) More complaints
 - b) Better action plans
 - c) Decreased population
 - d) Stricter policies

7. What is the focus of community programs?
 - a) Building new infrastructure
 - b) Promoting crime prevention
 - c) Strengthening ties among residents
 - d) Expanding resources
8. Why is making a fair decision challenging?
 - a) It requires illegal activities.
 - b) It is difficult to satisfy everyone.
 - c) It promotes competition.
 - d) It decreases equality.
9. What is the goal of community programs?
 - a) Create a divided society
 - b) Build inclusive communities
 - c) Reduce housing costs
 - d) Promote stricter laws
10. What does the text suggest about unemployment?
 - a) It leads to stronger community bonds.
 - b) It is no longer a major issue.
 - c) It contributes to social challenges.
 - d) It is being eliminated through policies.

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