

UNIT 14: URBANISATION

Speaking Part 2 – Urbanisation

Describe a city that has changed a lot due to urbanisation.

You should say:

- what city it is
- what changes have happened
- why these changes happened
- and explain how you feel about these changes

better prospects	consisted of	dominated by	economic hubs
growing population	impressed by	inevitable	infrastructure
integration into	invested heavily	nostalgic for	packed with
residential districts	rural-to-urban	sustainable	transformation

I'd like to talk about **Ho Chi Minh City**, the largest city in Vietnam, which has undergone dramatic (1)_____ due to rapid urbanisation over the past two decades.

When I was younger, the city had far fewer skyscrapers and shopping malls. Most areas (2)_____ low-rise buildings, traditional markets, and narrow streets (3)_____ motorbikes. However, nowadays the skyline is (4)_____ high-rise apartment blocks, luxury condominiums, and massive commercial centres. Entire (5)_____ have emerged where there used to be empty land or farmland.

One of the most noticeable changes is the improvement in (6)_____. New bridges, metro lines, and highways have been constructed to cope with the (7)_____. International corporations have also (8)_____ in the city, leading to the development of modern business districts. As a result, job opportunities have expanded significantly, attracting people from rural areas who are seeking (9)_____.

These changes have largely occurred due to economic growth and globalisation. Vietnam's (10)_____ the global market has encouraged foreign investment, and urban areas have naturally become (11)_____. Furthermore, (12)_____ migration has accelerated because many young people want access to higher education, stable employment, and modern amenities.

As for my feelings, I have mixed emotions. On the one hand, I'm (13)_____ the city's modern appearance and improved living standards. It feels more dynamic, vibrant, and internationally connected. On the other hand, I sometimes feel (14)_____ the quieter atmosphere of the past. Traffic congestion, air pollution, and overcrowding have become serious issues, which somewhat reduce the quality of life.

Overall, I believe urbanisation is (15)_____ and brings many opportunities, but it needs to be managed carefully to ensure (16)_____ development.

Speaking Part 2 – Urbanisation

Describe a city that has changed a lot because of urbanisation.

You should say:

- where it is
- what changes have happened
- what problems these changes have caused
- and explain how you feel about these changes

affluent residents	community-oriented	considerable challenges	
daily frustration	dramatic transformation	global reputation	
in search of	In terms of	long-term quality	low-income workers
low-rise buildings	suburban areas	towering skyscrapers	upscale residential

I'd like to talk about **Ho Chi Minh City**, the largest city in southern Vietnam, which has undergone (17)_____ over the past two decades due to rapid urbanisation.

When I was younger, many areas of the city still had a semi-rural feel, with open fields, narrow streets, and **relatively** (18)_____. However, today the skyline is dominated by (19)_____ such as **Landmark 81**, which has become a symbol of modern development. Entire districts, especially District 2 and District 7, have been redeveloped into (20)_____ and commercial hubs filled with shopping malls, international schools, and luxury apartments.

(21)_____ infrastructure, the city has expanded significantly. New highways and bridges have been constructed to connect (22)_____ to the city centre, and public transport projects like the metro system are gradually taking shape. As a result, economic opportunities have multiplied, attracting migrants from across the country (23)_____ better jobs and higher living standards.

That said, urbanisation has also brought (24)_____. Traffic congestion has become a (25)_____, air pollution levels have risen noticeably, and green spaces are increasingly scarce. Moreover, the widening gap between (26)_____ and (27)_____ is becoming more visible, which could potentially lead to social tensions.

Personally, I have mixed feelings about these changes. On the one hand, I'm genuinely impressed by the city's rapid progress and its growing (28)_____. It feels vibrant, dynamic, and full of opportunities. On the other hand, I can't help but feel a sense of nostalgia for the quieter, more (29)_____ atmosphere that once defined the city. Overall, I believe urbanisation is inevitable, but it should be managed sustainably to ensure (30)_____ of life.