

UNIT 2: CITY LIFE

C. READING

I. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

Homelessness is a problem in many big cities in the world. It occurs when a part of the population does not have any (1) _____ place to call *home*. Hundreds of millions of people in the world spend at least some time of the year homeless. This is an issue that the authorities are trying to (2) _____. However, there are (3) _____ things that each person can do to help those people. One of the things that you can do to help the homeless is to volunteer your time. If you have a lot of free time, you might go on an extended trip to help (4) _____ homes or improve an impoverished area. Even with just a few hours a week, it is possible to make an impact in your own city. You can also sign up to help at a (5) _____ soup kitchen: most cities have a mission of some kind (6) _____ food to the homeless and offering temporary shelter.

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|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. A. common | B. regular | C. unusual | D. fixed |
| 2. A. deal with | B. get over | C. look through | D. find out |
| 3. A. little | B. less | C. more | D. fewer |
| 4. A. care for | B. show around | C. set up | D. pull down |
| 5. A. urban | B. central | C. capital | D. local |
| 6. A. cooking | B. supporting | C. helping | D. serving |

II. Read the text carefully, then decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

I live in a small village called Henfield. There are about 500 people here. The village is quiet and life here is slow and easy. You never have to queue in shops or banks. People never throw their rubbish in the streets, so the village is always clean. The air is also very clean because there's not much heavy traffic. It's much more friendly here than in a city. Everyone knows everyone and if someone has a problem, there are always people who can help. However, there are some things I don't like about Henfield. One thing is that there's not much to do in the evening. We haven't got any cinemas or theatres. Another problem is that people always talk about each other and everyone knows what everyone is doing. But I still prefer village life to life in a big city.

True (T) False (F)

1. The writer lives in a small village.
2. The air is unpolluted because there is never traffic jam here.
3. Villagers are very friendly and helpful.
4. There is good nightlife in the village.
5. There isn't much privacy in the village.
6. The writer wishes to live in a big city.

IV. Fill each blank with a suitable word to complete the passage.

If you live in a city, you will probably see many people, hear the noise of traffic, and smell the pollution (1) _____ cars and factories. We are living in a new era in the history of the world. Before this, most people were farmers. They lived in small communities in the country. Now many people are

leaving the farms and moving into the cities. They are looking for (2) _____ jobs. As a result, the cities are growing very quickly. Most cities are becoming more (3) _____. People are driving more cars, burning more fuel, using more water, eating more food, making more garbage, and producing more things in factories than ever before. Life in modern cities can bring many opportunities, but also many difficulties.

The authorities are trying to plan for a better future. They are building new roads, putting (6) _____ new houses, looking for more water sources, and limiting growth in certain areas. But people are still crowding into the cities faster (7) _____ the cities can take them. The cities are (8) _____ out of space. There are no easy answers to this problem.