

Vocabulary

City life

1. Listen to two conversations about cities. List the good and the bad things you hear about each place

good things

bad things

2. Listen again and complete the sentences.

Conversation 1

1. It's really wild. It _____, actually.
2. We went out with these people and _____ at about four in the morning.
3. Actually, that was _____ the congestion.
4. Honestly, you walk out of your hotel and _____ this thick wall of heat.
5. It does _____ but, as I say, it just has a real buzz.

Conversation 2

1. It is, if you like _____.
2. It's more lively. There's _____, you know.
3. So you wouldn't _____ to live there?
4. Don't _____, it is a good place to live if you're bringing up kids.
5. So if I _____, I might move back. It's just not what I want right now.

3. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

congested	run down	spotless
sprawling	vibrant	well-run

- 1 At rush hour in Bangkok, thousands of motorcycles hit the streets. The centre's really
- 2 There was no rubbish anywhere in the city centre. It was completely
- 3 Istanbul is a big,..... city. It seems to go on for miles and miles.
- 4 The area is very, with many buildings in poor condition or completely derelict.
- 5 We have a very bus service. Over 95% of all buses arrive on time.
- 6 Reykjavik's nightlife is really, with lots of great bars and nightclubs.

Match the descriptions (1–8) with the words and phrases (a–h).

- 1 The atmosphere is awful! I sometimes feel like I'm choking!
- 2 Pick that up! Do you want to get a fine?
- 3 They come on time, and everything runs really smoothly.
- 4 The crime rate's quite high, so I worry about being attacked if I'm out after dark.
- 5 She's always got to have the last word in fashion – the latest shoes, watch, smartphone ... You name it.
- 6 Most of the buildings in the area are condemned, and there are plans to redevelop it.
- 7 We were just crawling along for two hours! So I was late for my meeting.
- 8 There are new bars and restaurants springing up in the area. It's really livened up.

- a muggings and shootings
- b slum
- c network of buses and trams
- d traffic
- e smog and fumes
- f buzz
- g dropping litter
- h conspicuous consumption

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

Listening

City life

1.1 Listen to part of a radio programme in which two students give their opinions of a city. Which city (a–c) are they talking about?



Listen again. Who is more positive about the aspects of life in the city: Aytak (A) or Eileen (E)? Or neither (–) or both (A+E)?

A E A+E

- 1 the climate
- 2 the city centre
- 3 the cleanliness
- 4 the local accent
- 5 the local people
- 6 the safety
- 7 the nightclubs
