

- ◆ Why do you enjoy doing it?
- ◆ How did you start doing it at first?
- ◆ How often do you practice it?
- ◆ Who do you often practise it with?
- ◆ Do your Mum/ Dad/ friend(s) also like it?
- ◆ What free-time activities would you like to try in the future?

UNIT 2

LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

A. PHONETICS

I. Say the words aloud, then circle the words that matches to the pictures.



1. clock / block



2. blaze / clay



3. blame / clap



4. clasp / blanket



5. blind / climb



6. blender / cleaner



7. clash / blast



8. cloud / blouse



9. clothes / blossom



10. blown / clown



11. blow / close



12. bliss / click

II. Underline the words that has consonant clusters *bl* or *cl*.

- Nick enjoys looking at the clear blue sky.
- I climbed over the hill and found the bright bloom of the wild flowers.
- They claimed that those special clinics were built for blind people.
- Tight winds are blowing over the blackberry farm.
- We will have a clear view after passing these building blocks.
- There are some clues about the blast near the church yesterday.
- Clay may stick on your clothes when you go flying kites on the field.
- The blades of her juice blender was broken.

B. VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

I. Match the word or phrase with its definition.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. buffalo drawn cart | a. a circular wooden canvas and felt tent |
| 2. harvest time | b. land covered with grass where sheep, cows, horses, etc., feed |
| 3. paddy field | c. a vehicle with two or four wheels pulled by buffalo |
| 4. cattle | d. a structure where bees are kept for producing honey |
| 5. pasture | e. cows and bulls that are kept as farm animals |
| 6. ger | f. a high mountainous area of a country |
| 7. beehive | g. a field in which rice is grown |
| 8. highlands | h. the time of year when crops are cut and collected from the fields |
| 9. dairy products | i. a member of a community that moves with its animals from place to place |

5. Rural areas are *common* / *commonly* known as the countryside or a village.
6. Nomadic children are very *brave* / *bravely* to learn to ride a horse at the age of five.
7. The sun is shining *bright* / *brightly* through the trees.
8. We all find living in the city very *stressful* / *stressfully*.
9. Don't talk so *fast* / *fastly*– I can't understand what you're saying.
10. John was a kindly and *generous* / *generously* man.

VI. Complete the dialogue with the comparative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- David: How do you like living in the big city?
- Maria: There are many things that are (1) _____ (good) than living in the country!
- David: Can you give me some examples?
- Maria: Well, it certainly is (2) _____ (interesting) than the country: There is so much more to do and see!
- David: Yes, but the city is (3) _____ (dangerous) than the country.
- Maria: That's true. People in the countryside are (4) _____ (friendly) than those in the city.
- David: I'm sure that the country is (5) _____ (relaxed), too!
- Maria: Yes, the city is (6) _____ (busy) than the country. However, the country is much (7) _____ (slow) than the city.
- David: I think that's a good thing!
- Maria: The country is so slow and boring! It's much (8) _____ (boring) than the city.
- David: Life in the country is a lot (9) _____ (healthy) than in the city, I think.
- Maria: Sure, it's (10) _____ (clean) too. But, the city is so much (11) _____ (exciting).

VII. Complete the sentences with the comparative form of adverbs in the box. Add 'than' where necessary.

carefully hard quietly slowly healthily well badly quickly far fast

1. The teacher spoke _____ to help us to understand.
2. She answered all the questions _____ the other students and she got a very good mark.
3. The Spanish athlete ran _____ the other runners, so he won the race.
4. Jim threw the ball _____ Peter.
5. This street is crowded and narrow. Couldn't you drive a bit _____?
6. These days we are eating _____ ever before.
7. I did _____ on the test than Mark did. He got an A+ and I just got an A.
8. Machines can help farmers harvest _____.
9. Does more money make you work _____?
10. You're talking so loudly. Could you speak a bit _____, please?

VIII. Underline the correct words or phrases.

1. Cattle usually cross over the road. You should drive *more careful* / *more carefully*.
2. Life in some parts of the country is *boring* / *more boring* than that in other parts.
3. The old usually get up *earlier* / *more early* than the young.

- An ox doesn't plough *weller / better* than a buffalo.
- These 7 thinking habits will help you become *more confident / more confidently*.
- Don't worry. The river is not as *deep / deeper* as it looks.
- After a hard working day, you may sleep *soundlier / more soundly* than usual.
- My father has been much *healthier / more healthy* since he stopped smoking.
- The air in the mountainous zones is *more fresh / fresher* than that in the cities.
- I can't understand. Would you ask him to speak *clearlier / more clearly*?

IX. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- Some people think that health is _____ than money. (important)
- The pollution in our city is much _____ than it used to be. (bad)
- My new teacher explained the lessons _____ than my old teacher. (clear)
- He doesn't play volleyball as _____ as his brother. (good)
- Get rid of the sorrow! You will do it _____ next time. (good)
- Communication is a lot _____ than it was 50 years ago. (easy)
- People in rural areas wear _____ than those in cities. (simple)
- Robert arrived at the meeting _____ than Francis. (late)
- These trousers are too wide. Do you have any that are _____? (narrow)
- My mother always gets up _____ than everybody else in the house. (early)
- Rene speaks _____ than the other ESL students in the class. (fluent)
- Can't you think of anything _____ to say? (intelligent)
- I think his new book is much _____ than his last one. (boring)
- Max finished the homework _____ than anyone else in the class. (fast)
- He doesn't look as _____ as he used to. (happy)

X. Fill in each blank with an appropriate preposition.

- The farmers loaded the rice straw _____ buffalo drawn carts.
- She is always envious _____ her cousin's long blond hair.
- He joined the boys _____ herding the buffaloes.
- Would you like to visit the countryside _____ harvest time?
- I think it's better for children to grow _____ in the countryside.
- The computer provides access _____ all the information.
- The nomad move two or three times a year to look _____ new pastures.
- A ger can be put _____, then taken _____ and transported.
- My father used to live _____ a farm when he was younger.
- Last summer holiday I went _____ a trip _____ the countryside.

C. SPEAKING

I. Match the questions with the answers.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. What is your hometown, Michele? | a. I usually played outside with my friends. Sometimes we went into the city to go shopping or see a movie. |
| 2. How big is the town? | b. Actually I find it exciting to live in the city, but it's so crowded and the people aren't friendly. |
| 3. What is the town's population? | c. It's pretty small, just about 1.86 sq mi. |

4. Did you like your hometown? d. Ten years ago.
5. What did you usually do for fun? e. I lived in a small town called Beaverton.
6. How often did you go to the city? f. About three thousand people I think.
7. When did you move to the city? g. When I was little I liked it, but when I got older I found it pretty boring being in such a small town.
8. Do you prefer city or country life? h. Twice or three times a month.

II. Complete the conversation with the sentences from the box.

Sounds great! I wish I could join...

Hi Thang. It's Tony. How is your stay there?

Two hours? Wow! It must be fun.

I'm so envious of you! I wish I could ride that cart.

But where can you fly kites?

What are you doing?

Have you got lots of new friends there?

Really? Who did you go swimming with?

Thang: Thang speaking.

Tony: (1) _____

Thang: Hi Tony! It's very exciting here. I'm having a wonderful time.

Tony: (2) _____

Thang: Lots of interesting things. Yesterday we went swimming in a river.

Tony: (3) _____

Thang: My cousins and their friends. We played and swam for 2 hours.

Tony: (4) _____

Thang: Yeah. Then we rode a buffalo cart to home. Fantastic!

Tony: (5) _____

Thang: Tomorrow afternoon we're going to fly kites together. It's even more exciting, I think.

Tony: Sure. (6) _____

Thang: Yes. I made friends with many local boys. They're very friendly.

Tony: (7) _____

Thang: There are lots of open fields nearby. They're great places to fly a kite.

Tony: (8) _____

Thang: Well, I wish you were here Tony.

D. READING

I. Fill in each blank with a word from the box.

outdoor around peaceful conclusion boring isolated possible polluted

Nowadays, some people choose to live and work in the countryside. New ways of working, such as online working, have made it (1) _____ for more people to live there. There are both advantages and disadvantages to living in the countryside.

On the one hand, life in the countryside is very (2) _____. There are less cars and that

means that there is less noise, and that it is less (3) _____. Furthermore, there is more land available in the countryside, and people can often live in bigger houses or flats than in cities. Finally, it is easier to do a lot of (4) _____ activities such as walking or cycling if you live in the countryside. On the other hand, life in the countryside can be (5) _____. There are fewer restaurants, cinemas and shops to go to. Moreover, there is little public transport, which makes it difficult to get (6) _____ if you don't have a car. Finally, you can feel (7) _____ if you live a long way from other people.

In (8) _____, there are both pros and cons to living in the countryside. However, in my opinion, the peacefulness of the countryside makes it a very attractive option.

II. Read the text carefully, then answer the questions.

Many people enjoy living in a big city because they think life is more exciting there. However, I come from a small village and in my view, there are lots of benefits. The main reason I prefer village life is because it's very quiet, so I always feel calm when I'm here. Another reason is that the air is so fresh and clean. We have more green spaces and bigger gardens, too. In addition, I think the people here are friendlier. Personally, I'm interested in wildlife photography, so the countryside is perfect for me.

The only downside is transport. I have an early start for a long Journey to school in Faro and the school bus is always stopping to pick up more people. Also, it's boring sometimes, but I enjoy chatting to my friends. Fortunately, I'm learning to ride a moped. On balance, I disagree that city life is better, as I think my village lifestyle is healthier and more relaxing. In spite of that, some of my friends couldn't cope with life in the country, so it comes down to personal opinion.

1. Where does the writer come from?

2. Does he like living in a big city?

3. Why does he prefer village life?

4. How does he think about the people in his village?

5. According to the writer, what is the disadvantage of living in the village?

6. How does he go to school?

7. Does he think city life is better than village life?

8. What is he interested in?

E. WRITING

I. Put the words or phrases in the correct order.

1. I say/ people/ it / is/ Some/ for/ better/ children/ that/ in the city/ to/ than/ grow up/ in the countryside.

2. in/ Is/ the country/ living/ healthier/ living/ much/ in/ than/ the city?

3. because/ the air/ People/ living/ fresh/ the villages/ enjoy/ is/ clean/ in/ and.

4. We/ onto / load/ helped/ buffalo drawn carts/ the farmers/ the rice.

5. changed/ in/ has/ a lot/ ten/ over/ Life/ the/ countryside/ past/ the/ years.

6. In/ children/ the city/ play/ the countryside/ freely/ than/ more/ in.

7. learn/ a/ Nomadic/ horse/ when/ to/ children/ they/ small/ are/ ride.

8. jobs/ many/ formers/ Unlike/ depend/ other/ the/ heavily/ weather/ on.

II. Write a comparative sentence using the information and the word in brackets.

1. The average rainfall in Arica, Chile is 0.76mm per year. The average rainfall in the Libyan Sahara Desert is less than 15mm per year. (dry)

Arica, Chile _____

2. Henry arrived at the meeting at 7 o'clock. I arrived at 6:45. (soon)

I _____

3. It costs 100 million dong to build a concrete bridge, but only 50 million dong to build a steel bridge. (expensive)

Building a concrete bridge _____

4. It takes Linh 45 minutes to load hay onto the cart, but his father needs only 30 minutes. (slowly)

Linh _____

5. His house's yard is about 100 square meters while your house's yard is about 50 square meters. (large)

His house's yard _____

6. It was very difficult to travel to the town 5 years ago. Now people can drive a car or take a bus to the town. (easily)

People can travel _____

7. I do yoga three times a week, but my sister does it almost every day. (frequently)

My sister _____

8. The Australian athlete jumped 8.78m. The American athlete jumped 8.59m. (far)

The Australian athlete _____

9. Red River is 1.149 km long. Mekong River is 4.350km long, (long)

Mekong River _____

10. A horse can run 80km/h while a dog can run 50km/h. (fast)

A horse _____

TEST FOR UNIT 2

I. Choose the word whose underlined part is pronounced differently from the others.

1. a. ride b. excite c. ridden d. beehive
2. a. pasture b. vast c. brave d. farm
3. a. cattle b. circular c. country d. collect
4. a. generous b. ger c. grassland d. guess
5. a. worked b. watched c. relaxed d. crowuded

II. Complete the passage with the comparative form of the adjectives in brackets.

Is life better now than it was in the past? Of course in many ways life is (1)_____ (easy) now. We live in the world which is (2)_____ (clean) and safer. It is generally (3)_____ (healthy) as well, and because of improvements in medical care, both men and women can expect to live (4)_____ (long) lives. Our day-to-day existence is (5)_____ (comfortable), but are we (6)_____ (happy)?

The rhythm of life is faster, and (7)_____ (stressful). People are always in a hurry. In the end it is hard to say things were (8)_____ (good) or (9)_____ (bad) before. As the saying goes 'the grass is always (10)_____ (green) on the other side of the fence'.

III. Choose the best answer a, b, c or d to complete the sentence.

1. I went on a trip to the countryside and had my first experience _____ farm work.
a. on b. with c. for d. of
2. We usually spend our holiday in the village _____ our grandparents live.
a. what b. where c. which d. when
3. I think country life is so boring and _____ because you're not close to shops and services.
a. unhealthy b. inconvenient c. comfortable d. peaceful
4. On the farm, uncle Duong showed us how to _____ cucumbers.
a. plough b. produce c. pick d. put up
5. Mongolian children start to learn _____ before they can walk.
a. horse riding b. riding horse c. ride horse d. horse ridden
6. On the side of the road, a herd boy was herding _____.
a. kites b. hay c. cattle d. blackberries
7. Mongolian children learn to ride when they are _____ as three years old.
a. as young b. younger c. younger than d. so young
8. Does your new stereo play music _____ than your old one did?
a. louder b. more loudly c. louder d. more louder
9. Countryside is not polluted _____ you can breathe there fresh air.
a. although b. however c. therefore d. as
10. 'Children in my village often fly their kites in dry rice fields.' '_____'
a. It's right up my street! b. That's awesome.
c. Exactly what I want. d. How interesting!

IV. Choose the underlined word or phrase, A, B, C or D that needs correcting.

1. Farzana didpoor on her algebra quiz because she couldn't concentrate well.