

## CONVERSATION That's a thing of the past!

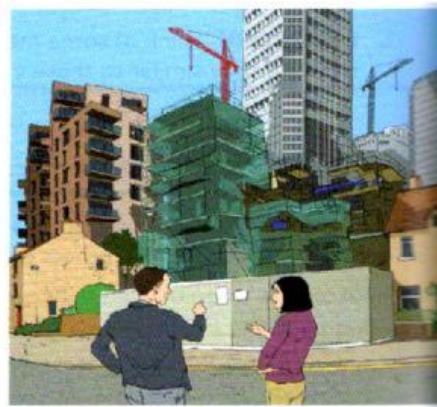
Look at the picture and answer these questions.

What buildings can you see?

How old are the people?

Why do you think they look surprised?

*Tom and Mia are discussing how things have changed in the neighborhood where they grew up.*



Have things changed a little or a lot?

Have things changed for the better or for the worse?

Complete the sentences.

In the past ...

1. There were houses.
2. There was a burger restaurant.
3. There was a high school.
4. People hung out with friends after school.

Now,

- They're...  
It's an...  
They're...  
They...

### A Listen and practice.

**Tom:** I hardly recognize our old neighborhood. A few years ago, there were just houses around here.

**Mia:** I know. They're building a lot of new apartments. The whole neighborhood's different.

**Tom:** Remember the little burger restaurant we used to go to after school, Hamburger Heaven?

**Mia:** Of course . . . Now it's another office tower. And I hear they're tearing down our high school. They're going to build a shopping mall.

**Tom:** That's such a shame. Pretty soon the neighborhood will just be a bunch of malls. And maybe there won't be any schools anymore.

**Mia:** Probably not. Kids will study from their computers anywhere they want.

**Tom:** So they won't hang out with their friends after school? That's too bad. I enjoyed meeting our friends at that burger place after class.

**Mia:** Seriously? That's a thing of the past! Nowadays, kids only meet online.

### B Listen to the rest of the conversation. What else has changed in their neighborhood?