

I can talk about life in the countryside.

1 Write the words using the first letter given.

LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Life in the countryside

VOCABULARY

Life in the countryside |
Children's games |
City life and country life |
London

GRAMMAR

Prepositions of time and place |
Comparative adverbs



1 h _____



2 h _____ buffalos



3 mi _____ the c _____



4 play h _____ and s _____



5 t _____



6 p _____ dy f _____ d

2 Complete the sentences with the words below.

herding buffaloes
hide and seek

paddy fields
dry the rice

harvest time
throwing cans

- 1 Seagrass fields are similar to _____.
- 2 The children are playing _____ in the school yard. One of the boys keeps his eyes closed.
- 3 He usually goes _____ with other boys in the village.
- 4 Farmers get very busy during the _____.
- 5 Do you like _____? You need to find cans to play first.
- 6 Farmers need to _____ after harvesting them from the field.

3 Complete the text by choosing the correct option.



It's 5.30 a.m. on a Tuesday morning. Aida rises from her bed and ¹ _____ the door of her bedroom. It's a normal day, like every day, and she has plenty of things to do to keep her busy.

Jumping into her truck, she heads to the farm and ² _____ at 6.30. This is the farm her family has run for generations. She knew she has to continue running it to keep the family's history alive. As soon as she is at the farm, she starts working. She ³ _____ her water jug and gets into a tractor and works on the field the entire morning. In the afternoon, she begins harvesting potatoes for the family. The harvest ⁴ _____ is one of the most ⁵ _____ time of the year.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1 a heads out | b heads off | c heads in |
| 2 a shows off | b shows up | c shows on |
| 3 a finds | b refills | c cleans |
| 4 a season | b day | c month |
| 5 a boring | b exciting | c hectic |

4 Answer the following questions.

1 Where do farmers grow rice?

_____.

2 Which games do you prefer, playing hide and seek or flying kites?

_____.

3 Which animals do children often herd in the countryside?

_____.

4 Which activities do you prefer, feeding the animals or milking the cows?

_____.



I can use prepositions of time and place to talk about activities in the countryside.

1 Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- When I was young, I always looked forward to the festival _____ the summer.
a in b on c at d over
- Life in New York City is busy and exciting _____ night since there are a lot of fun things to do.
a in b on c at d under
- In the past, children in our neighborhood gathered _____ the paddy field to fly kites every afternoon.
a in b at c on d over
- Students can take part in folk games like throwing cans and playing hide and seek _____ the spring festival.
a over b on c under d at
- _____ summer vacation, my grandfather usually takes me to the farm _____ Saturday afternoons.
a during - in b during - on
c on - in d at - on

2 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct phrases below.

in a faraway place on the first days
in the countryside on Sundays

- When my father was young, he helped my grandparents herd buffaloes _____.
- Children often hide behind a tree, in a box or _____ when they play hide and seek.
- Unlike the hustle and bustle in the city, life _____ is much more relaxing and peaceful.
- There are a lot of interesting fashion shows and musical performances _____ of Huế festival.

3 Fill in each blank with the correct preposition.

Tug of war is a popular game for both children and adults. People play this game ¹ _____ many traditional festivals, often ² _____ a large playground, or even ³ _____ the beach. There are two teams and they stand face-to-face along the rope. There is a red piece of cloth ⁴ _____ the middle of the rope. When two teams get ready, they start to pull the rope along with the players of the opposite team to their side. ⁵ _____ this time, viewers cheer for the players to pull the rope as hard as possible. The team with the red mark crossing over the center line is the winner.

4 Read the text. Find and correct 5 preposition mistakes in the text.

¹ I love spending my summer vacation on the countryside with my grandparents. ² I can do a lot of interesting things there. ³ My grandparents usually get up in 5 o'clock. ⁴ They are quite busy on the harvest time, so they go to the paddy field at the early morning. ⁵ Sometimes, my grandparents take me to the farm in the afternoon. ⁶ Over the farm, I can help them feed the chickens, take the eggs and water vegetables. ⁷ They work very hard till the evening. In night, my grandmother often tells me interesting folk tales before I go to bed.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1 <u>on (line 1) => in</u> | 2 _____ |
| 3 _____ | 4 _____ |
| 5 _____ | 6 _____ |

5 Read a conversation between Mai and her friend, Jack. Match the questions to the answers.

- Mai: This is my first time in London.
 Jack: Do you love food and festivals here?
 Mai: Yes. Everything is amazing. London is always busy and exciting during the daytime.
 Jack: The nightlife is lively, too. You can have a cocktail at Riverside pub or enjoy live music at Flat Iron Square.
 Mai: Wow! It's wonderful.
 Jack: Yeah. Is it the same as your hometown?
 Mai: Oh, it's totally different. I was born in Cù Lao Chàm, a small island in the middle of Việt Nam. It's quieter and more peaceful. But it's also a famous tourist attraction.
 Jack: Are there a lot of interesting places to hang out there?
 Mai: Yeah. You can take a trip to my hometown at festival time in August. I'll show you around.
 Jack: Really. That's very nice!
 Mai: I'm sure you'll have a lot of fun.

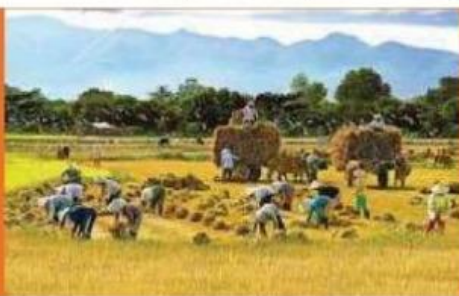
- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 What time of the day is London exciting? | a At Flat Iron Square |
| 2 Where can Mai enjoy a cup of cocktail? | b In the middle of Việt Nam |
| 3 Where can Mai watch live music performances? | c At festival time in August |
| 4 Where is Mai's hometown? | d During the daytime |
| 5 When should Jack visit Mai's hometown? | e At Riverside pub |



5.3

READING and VOCABULARY

I can identify the main points and organisation of an article about countryside life and city life.



- 1 _____
Many people enjoy living in the countryside because it is very peaceful and relaxing. People in the countryside also lead a healthy life and seem to be friendly to their neighbours. Moreover, there is less traffic, so it is safe for children.
- 2 _____
Most people in the countryside are farmers. At harvest time, they work hard on the paddy fields, then they dry the rice. Besides, they feed animals, milk cows, and herd buffalos. Children help their parents with the housework before they go outside to play with their friends. They love playing hide and seek or flying kites.
- 3 _____
Living in the city is crowded, noisy and stressful. Traffic jams are popular when more people drive motorbikes and cars. In addition, smoke from factories causes air pollution. Finally, the cost of living in big cities is higher than in the countryside.
- 4 _____
In big cities, many people work in tall buildings with modern computers. At weekends, they often go to the supermarket with their family to buy food and drink. Kids can play video games there, while parents go shopping.

1 Read the text. Match paragraphs (1-4) with headings (a-e). There is one extra heading.

- a City life
- b Games for children
- c Living in the countryside
- d What people do in the countryside
- e Activities in the city

2 Choose the best title for the text.

- a Differences between countryside and city
- b Reasons for living in the city
- c Children's traditional games
- d Life in the countryside

3 Read the text again. Mark the sentences T (TRUE), F (FALSE), or not given (NG).

- 1 Only a small number of people like living in the countryside. ☐
- 2 Farmers are involved in different tasks during harvest time. ☐
- 3 In big cities, there are many non-smoking areas. ☐
- 4 Parents go shopping when their children play video games at the supermarket. ☐

4 Complete the sentences with the correct words below.

noisy safer stressful relaxing

- 1 I'm going to spend my summer holidays in the countryside since it is quiet and _____.
- 2 You can see many vehicles on the road during rush hours. They all make loud sounds, so it is very _____.
- 3 Despite the _____ city life, many young people want to work here as there are more employment opportunities.
- 4 The countryside is _____ for children than the city because it has less traffic.



I can use comparatives of adverbs to talk about living in a big city.

1 Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words.

Adverbs	Comparatives	Superlatives
1 quietly	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	most carefully
3 _____	harder	the hardest
4 quickly	_____	_____
5 _____	more easily	_____

2 Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- People can find places of entertainment _____ in big cities than in the countryside.
a more easily b most easily c easier d easily
- Since there are a lot of traffic jams in Hà Nội, people use skytrains to travel around _____.
a quicker b most quickly c quickly d more quickly
- You should drive _____, otherwise an accident may happen next time.
a carefully b more carefully c fast d faster
- I think children in the countryside have to work _____ than those in big cities.
a hard b harder c hardest d hardly
- It is better to travel by plane because it goes _____ than by train.
a more slowly b slowly c faster d quicker

3 Find and correct one mistake in each of the following sentences.

- My elder brother can milk the cows by hand easier than me. _____
- People in the hometown usually go to bed early, so if you still want to talk, do it quiet. _____
- Farmers work very hardly during harvest time. _____
- In the 21st century, the cities grow quickly than in the past. _____
- After the accident in the past, he now drives carefully than before. _____

4 Fill in the blanks of this paragraph by choosing the correct phrases in the box.

happily faster more slowly more easily more quickly

Living in the countryside

In my opinion, living in the countryside is much more comfortable than in big cities. The pace of life in rural areas moves ¹ _____ than in the urban ones, so people can fully enjoy the peace and quietness while living there. In small towns, people can also find houses with lower cost ² _____, which can save them a lot of money. Moreover, although many vehicles such as trains and planes in big cities go ³ _____ than other means of transport, they cause a lot of pollution. In some European cities, many citizens choose to cycle to stay healthy and protect the environment when living in big cities. The countryside now grows ⁴ _____ than in the past with better facilities, so for many people it is still convenient living in the countryside. Many people live ⁵ _____ in the countryside instead of choosing crowded and busy cities.



5.5

LISTENING and VOCABULARY

Cost of living

I can identify specific details in a radio program about teenagers' lives.

- 1 5.01 Fill in the blanks with the given expressions. There is one extra expression. Listen and check.

What do you mean (by) ...?
Do you mean (that) ...?
What exactly does that mean?
Could you explain ...?
Can you tell me more about ...?

1 _____ the word "urbanization", please?

2 A: In the past, there were only a few computers and people hardly knew how to use them properly.

B: _____ now people are better at using computers?

3 A: Do you need any further information?

B: Yes. _____ the benefits of staying in cities, please?

4 You have said living in the countryside helps people reduce the risks of health problems. _____?

- 2 5.02 Match words in column A to words in column B to make right collocations. Listen and check.

A	B
1 urban	a congestion
2 public	b jobs
3 traffic	c quality
4 life	d areas
5 high-paid	e service

- 3 Write the expressions from Exercise 2 next to the pictures.



1 _____



2 _____



3 _____



4 _____

- 4 5.03 You will listen to a school reporter. Listen and choose the correct answer.

1 Who is the reporter?

- a A student
- b A headmaster
- c A teacher

2 What is urbanization?

- a People live in the countryside.
- b More people move to cities.
- c The countryside becomes bigger.

3 According to the report, why does urbanization happen?

- a People want to live in cities.
- b Jobs in the countryside are difficult to get.
- c Public services in cities are excellent.

4 Why does the report mention Hà Nội?

- a It has environmental problems.
- b It has many beautiful scenery spots.
- c It has the worst traffic congestion in Việt Nam.

5 In the next part of the radio, what will the reporter talk about?

- a Urbanization problems
- b Solutions to urbanization
- c The future of cities

- 5 5.04 Listen again. Tick (✓) the problems of living in the city mentioned in the radio.

- ☐ Overcrowdedness
- ☐ Safety
- ☐ Traffic congestion
- ☐ Housing quality
- ☐ Environmental issues

Unit 5

51



I can check for understanding in a dialogue between two friends describing how people live in hometowns.

1 Complete the dialogues with one word below.

see (x2) get mean right

- 1 A: I visited Phú Thọ last year. I really love the people there.
B: What are they like?
A: They are very nice and friendly. I mean they are willing to help you. ¹ Get it so far?
B: Oh, I ² _____ it now.
- 2 A: Do you like life in the countryside?
B: No, I don't. I think the pace of life is too slow for me.
A: Why?
B: I love the hustle and bustle of city life. You know, you can go out for movies and shopping malls. ³ _____?
A: Oh yes.
- 3 A: This weekend my family are going to the countryside.
B: Really?
A: Yes, we love the nature and fresh air there.
B: I ⁴ _____.
- 4 A: Do you enjoy living in the countryside?
B: Yes, of course. It's quiet and peaceful here.
A: Isn't it boring sometimes?
B: Well, I often hang out with my cousins.
A: What do you often do?
B: We fly kites in the paddy fields. Do you see what I ⁵ _____?

2 Reorder the lines of this dialogue. The first line is given.

- ☒ 1 Jane: What's your hometown like?
☐ Jane: Oh I see it now. Are there paddy fields in Tuyên Quang?
☐ Jane: Oh, is it like Hà Nội?
☐ Jane: I get it now. So I guess it's very quiet there. There aren't traffic jams and noisy streets. Right?
☐ Minh: I grew up in Tuyên Quang province. It's a small city.
☐ Minh: Oh yes. It's very peaceful there.
☐ Minh: Actually, it's much smaller than Hà Nội.
☐ Minh: Yes, of course. There are many paddy fields there. At harvest time, farmers work in the fields and dry the rice.

3 How would you respond to each of the situations? Write your answer next to each sentence.

- 1 I grew up in Hải Dương. It's a small city. Actually, it's much smaller than Hà Nội. Do you see what I mean?
Oh I see it now. / I get it now.
- 2 I like Sa Pa because it has fresh air and beautiful landscapes. You want to visit Sa Pa someday. Right?
- 3 Tuyên Quang has many paddy fields. At harvest time, my parents work in the paddy fields and dry the rice. Got it?
- 4 My hometown is in Thái Bình. It's a quieter city. It does not have a fast pace of life. Do you see what I mean?
- 5 I visited Phú Thọ last year. The people here are very nice and friendly. I mean they are willing to help you. Get it?

4 Imagine you're a tour guide. You're talking to Jack, a foreigner, about how people live in Thái Bình. Complete the dialogue with suitable phrases.

- Jack: What is Thái Bình province like?
You: It's quiet and peaceful.
Jack: ¹ Oh I get it now / I see it now . Is it a big city like Hà Nội?
You: No, it isn't. It is much smaller.
Jack: ² _____ . What do people here do for a living?
You: Most of them are farmers or fishermen.
Jack: Hm ...
You: Well, they grow rice, raise animals, or fish to earn a living. ³ _____ ?
Jack: ⁴ _____ . Are they friendly?
You: Of course, they are. Everyone is friendly and helps each other out in times of need.
Jack: That's great. And, what about the cost of living? It is not high. ⁵ _____ ?
You: Oh yes.

I can write a paragraph about how people live in the countryside or in the city.

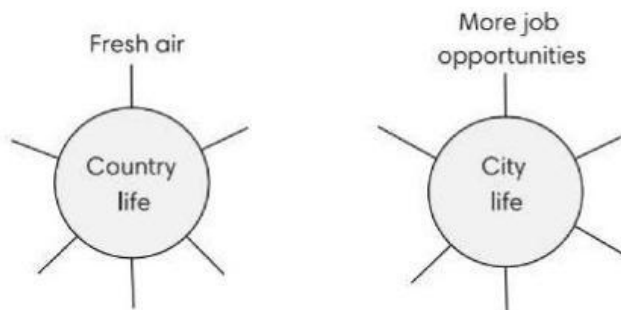
1 Put the phrases in the correct category.

peaceful and quiet life
more open spaces

good health care
helpful neighbours

modern public transport
easy access to services

relaxing and healthy lifestyle
plenty of entertainment



2 Which of the following examples best supports the idea given? Circle the better option.

- 1 Bus is a common means of public transport in my hometown.
 - a There are nearly 130 bus routes and 4,000 bus stops around the city.
 - b There will be 28 new bus routes in Hà Nội this year.
- 2 There is plenty of entertainment in the city, particularly in the evening.
 - a Aeon mall Hà Đông and Royal City are two examples of the biggest malls in Hà Nội capital.
 - b For example, you can hang out with your family and friends at shopping malls, movie theatres, and coffee houses.
- 3 Introverts tend to avoid the hustle and bustle of city life.
 - a They like outdoor activities more than indoor activities.
 - b They like indoor activities more than outdoor activities.
- 4 In Việt Nam, Hồ Chí Minh city has the highest cost of living.
 - a A person can live comfortably with 11 million VND monthly.
 - b Besides, Hà Nội capital is in the top two of the most expensive cities in Việt Nam.

3 Put the sentences below in the correct places in the text.

In my opinion, there are three major reasons that make living in the countryside the most comfortable. First of all, rural people are friendly and helpful towards each other. ¹ _____. Therefore, you can live peacefully in a safe environment. Besides, there is little loud traffic in the evening. ² _____. This helps you practise some good habits, such as going to bed more early. What is more, the cost of living in the countryside is not expensive. ³ _____. Because of this, not only can you live a more relaxed life but also eat more healthily. In conclusion, I believe that the countryside is a good place to live.

- a For example, you can grow and produce vegetables and meat at home to save money.
- b They are willing to welcome and help each other in time of need.
- c Instead, people in rural areas often have a quiet nightlife.

4 Write a paragraph (80–100 words) describing your ideal living place. Include at least one example for each idea.