

# VENICE: A CHANGING CITY

NAME

NO.

CLASS



## VENICE



Many people think Venice is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. This unique city is in the north of Italy. It is really a group of 118 small islands. These islands have canals to separate them and 400 bridges to join them. There are no cars in Venice—just boats. Everything must come to the city by boat and then be carried over the bridges to people's homes and shops.

Venice is a city on the water, but it has a problem with high tide. This is not a new problem. For about 60 days a year, parts of the city are covered in water. Residents know this well. As soon as they hear the sound of the emergency alarm, they put on their boats or walk on special platforms.

Venice is beautiful, old, and romantic. But it is changing. Just 30 years ago, 120,000 people lived there. Today, Venice has half that number. The residents are moving out, but more tourists are visiting all the time.

Venice has over 20 million tourists every year! That is both good and bad. Tourists bring money. But they also bring change. The old shops that sold products like fruit and vegetables to the residents are changing to souvenir shops because the rent on the old shops is too high. Old houses in the center of the city are changing to hotels. The residents of Venice are moving out because there are few houses, and they are too expensive. Only rich people, mainly from other countries, or elderly people who own houses passed down from their family can live in Venice.

In the past, Venice's biggest problem was the high water. Now it is the number of tourists. The city is working on both of these problems. They want residents and tourists to enjoy this beautiful, old, and romantic city for all time.

### Error Correction Exercise

Instructions: Each sentence has one mistake. Find and correct it.

Venice is in the ~~south~~ of Italy. >>> Venice is in the   of Italy.

There are ~~cars~~ in Venice for transportation. ➡ There are   in Venice for transportation.

The city has ~~118~~ big islands. >>> The city has 118   islands.

Residents put on ~~gloves~~ when there's a flood. ➡ Residents put on   when there's a flood.

Venice had 120,000 people ~~today~~. >>> Venice had 120,000 people  

Tourists bring ~~only~~ bad effects to Venice. ➡ Tourists bring   bad effects to Venice.

The emergency alarm tells ~~tourists~~ to leave. >>> The emergency alarm tells   to leave.

~~Souvenir~~ shops are changing to ~~fruit~~ shops. ➡   shops are changing to   shops.

Houses in the city center are becoming ~~schools~~. >>> Houses in the city center are becoming  .

Only ~~young~~ people can afford to live in Venice. ➡ Only   people can afford to live in Venic

### True-False Quiz

Instructions: Choose the correct answer or write T (True) or F (False).

1. Venice is made up of over 100 small islands.
2. Cars are the main form of transportation in Venice.
3. Venice experiences flooding for around 60 days each year.
4. Venice is located in the south of Italy.
5. Tourists bring both positive and negative changes to Venice.
6. All the old houses in Venice are now used as museums.
7. Venice's population has decreased by half over the past 30 years.
8. The canals in Venice are used for fishing boats only.
9. When the emergency alarm sounds, residents stay indoors.
10. One of Venice's current problems is having too many tourists.

### Match the words with the meanings.

- 1. unique
- 2. bridges
- 3. residents
- 4. an alarm
- 5. boots
- 6. romantic
- 7. rent
- 8. elderly

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