Unit 1 Great places to be



Reading 1

Table completion

1 You are going to read a passage about some of the cities above. Read the passage quickly and answer these questions.

1 Which of the cities above are mentioned?
.....

2 How many advantages are given for each city? .....

2 Find words or phrases in the passage which have a similar meaning to the underlined words and phrases in the table below.

well-known: famous... quality of life: .....
excellent: ..... most pleasant: .....
very: ..... not many: .....
residents: ..... a lot: .....

3 Now complete the table. Choose ONE word from the passage for each answer.

The best cities in the world

In a recent internet survey, tourists and business travellers were asked to rate 50 cities around the world, from the best to the worst. Of the top three cities, two were in Europe and one was in Australia.

In third place was London, scoring highly mainly because it was the most famous city on the list of 50 surveyed. It was also seen as a very good place to do business, and was an important cultural centre. However, it lost points because people believed it was an extremely expensive place to live.

Sydney was also a very popular destination, achieving second place on the list because people believed it had the friendliest inhabitants, as well as the best standard of living and the nicest climate. It failed to make the top spot, however, because people thought there were very few things to see there, and many also thought it was too far away from other business and cultural centres.

At the top of the list was Paris. Despite problems such as the large amount of traffic, it beat other cities to first place because people considered it to be the most interesting city, with more museums, art galleries and places of interest than anywhere else. People also thought it was the best city to take a holiday in.

City	Overall position in survey	Perceived advantages	Perceived disadvantages
London	**1**	• Is more well-known than the other cities. • Has excellent **2** ..... opportunities.	Is very **3** ..... .
Sydney	Second	• Residents are the **4** ..... . • Has the best quality of life. • Has the most pleasant **5**	Not many things to see.
Paris	**6**	• Is more **7** ..... than other cities.	Has a lot of **8** ..... .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading 2

Note completion

4 You are going to read a passage about a type of city survey. Read the passage quickly and answer these questions.

1 What do 'best city' websites usually show?

.....

2 What does the CBI ask people to do?

.....

A city survey with a difference

There are many websites on the Internet which provide lists of the world's best cities to visit, live or work in. These lists usually grade the cities in order, from 'best' to 'worst', and are based on facts and figures provided by local or national organisations.

The City Brands Index (CBI) also provides a list of best and worst cities. However, unlike other surveys, it is based on the idea that cities are similar to products in shops. It asks ordinary people in other countries to grade cities in the same way that they would grade a product, like a soft drink or a car. What is particularly different about the CBI is that the people who take part in the survey may not have ever visited the cities. Instead, they are asked to say what they think the cities are like, basing their opinions on things like news stories, magazine articles or television programmes they have heard or seen.

Each year, about 10,000 people in 20 countries take part in the CBI survey, and they grade a total of 50 cities. They do this by filling in an online questionnaire. There are several categories in the survey. These include things like the economy, education, the environment, local culture, climate and what the city's residents are like.

The CBI list is useful because it helps people choose a good place to live, find work or take a holiday. It also helps regional governments to understand why people and businesses are, or are not, coming to their cities, and so shows them areas which they could develop or improve.



5 Match the words or phrases (1–7), which are underlined in the passage, with the words or phrases (a–g) which have a similar meaning.

1 similar to	a a number of
2 each	b every
3 total	c get a job
4 several	d helpful
5 useful	e like
6 find work	f local
7 regional	g maximum

6 Now complete the notes below. Choose ONE WORD OR A NUMBER from the passage for each answer.

The City Brands Index

The CBI believes that cities are like **1** ..... which people can buy when they go shopping.

Surveys take place every **2** ..... .

A maximum of **3** ..... cities are included in the survey.

A number of different **4** ..... are included in the survey.

The CBI list is helpful for:

- people who are trying to decide where to **5** ..... or get a job.
- people who are looking for a good **6** ..... destination.
- local **7** ..... who want to make their city a better place.

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Listening

Form completion

1 02 **Listen to four short conversations, and complete these sentences by choosing the correct word and/or number.**

1 The man is moving house on Friday *3rd / 13th / 30th*.
2 The man has come from *Crawford / Crauford / Crawsord*.
3 The man's mobile number is *0780 29227 / 0872 92702 / 0870 292720*.
4 Sue lives at *70 Sydney / 70 Sidney / 17 Sydney* Avenue.

2 03 **Now listen to these short conversations, and complete the sentences with no more than TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER.**

1 The woman's name is ..... .
2 The woman's mobile number is ..... .
3 The man's address is ..... , Fenton.
4 The woman arrived on ..... April.

3 **You are going to hear a woman calling an accommodation agency about an apartment she wants to rent. Before you listen, look at the form on the right and answer the following questions.**



In which gaps do you think you will need to write:

a a word (or words) only? .....
b a number only? .....
c a word (or words) and a number? .....

4 04 **Now listen and complete the form. Write no more than TWO WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.**

Good Moves Accommodation Agency

Call taken by: Ben

Name: 1 .....

Telephone: 2 .....

Heard about us from: 3 .....

Type of accommodation preferred:
4 ..... .

Number of people: 5 ..... .

Preferred location: Wants to be close to
6 .....

Price: maximum 7 £ ..... per person (including 8 .....)

Additional notes:

I suggested Flat 3 at 9 ..... Road in Bampton.
I will send further details to customer by
10 ..... .

Vocabulary

Collocations and prepositional phrases



1 **Which of these words are adjectives, and which are nouns? Write the words in the box in the correct columns.**

~~festivals~~ ~~friendly~~ food tasty inhabitants lively pretty scenery spectacular villages

Adjectives	Nouns
friendly	festivals

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❷ Complete the gaps in this passage with an adjective and noun pair from Exercise 1.

My home city (Part 1)

What can I tell you about my home city? First of all, I must mention its **1** friendly inhabitants. Everyone smiles and says hello when you meet them. Then there's the **2** ..... which you can get everywhere. It's delicious, and really cheap. Four or five times a year there are **3** ..... where people celebrate important events with street parties and other fun events. And if you get fed up with the city, you can get a bus into the countryside, where there are lots of **4** ..... . The hills and mountains there also provide some really **5** ..... .

❸ Which of these words are adjectives, and which are nouns? Write the words in the box in the correct columns.

~~apartments~~ ~~crowded~~ city industrial lifestyle relaxed streets tiny

Adjectives	Nouns
crowded	apartments

❹ Complete each gap in the passage below with TWO words from Exercise 3.

My home city (Part 2)

It has its bad points as well. It's an **1** ..... , which means that there is a lot of pollution, and there are also lots of ugly factories everywhere. Most people live in **2** ..... because houses are too expensive. They work really hard, and they can't afford to enjoy the sort of **3** ..... that many people associate with my country. And it can take ages to walk along the **4** ..... in the city centre because there are so many people and so much traffic.

❺ Complete these sentences by choosing the best preposition.

1 My house is *by* / *in* the sea. You walk out of the front door straight onto the beach.
2 I live in a two-room flat *in* / *on* the outskirts of the city.
3 We spent two weeks in a small village *in* / *on* the mountains.
4 Property prices *by* / *in* the city centre are so expensive that only a few people can afford them.
5 The town of Wadi Musa is *near* / *on* the desert. It's only an hour's drive away.
6 I would hate to live *by* / *in* the country. It must be so quiet and boring there.
7 When I was a growing up in the UK, I lived *in* / *on* the suburbs.
8 Our house was right *by* / *near* a river. There was even a place at the end of garden where you could leave your boat.

Key vocabulary

❻ Complete the passage with words from the box.

conclude crime diverse impact industrial influence lifestyle locals ranks reaction ~~reputation~~ surround

The city where I live has a bad **1** reputation because of its high **2** ..... rate. If you believe everything you read in the newspapers, you might **3** ..... that everyone who visits the city has their wallet stolen or gets attacked in the street the moment they arrive. In recent years this has had a negative **4** ..... on the number of tourists who come to the city, since news stories can really **5** ..... people when they are thinking of visiting a place. I won't pretend that my city is the best place in the world. It's noisy and crowded, and ugly **6** ..... estates **7** ..... it on all sides. In fact, it **8** ..... as sixth on a national list of the country's worst places to live, and for most visitors, their first **9** ..... is 'Oh no, what a horrible place!' However, I think this is unfair. There are some attractive old buildings in the city, the **10** ..... population gives the place a colourful, international feel, most of the **11** ..... are friendly and welcoming, and because prices are low, people can afford to enjoy a **12** ..... that is considerably better than in many other cities.

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