

1

Cities

Urban growth, urban living

Urban growth

1.1 Think of a city you know well.

Which of these phrases do you associate with it? Put a ✓.

- an important commercial centre _____
- a vibrant, cultural centre _____
- a major tourist attraction _____
- a sprawling metropolis _____
- gridlocked rush-hour traffic _____
- accessible open spaces _____
- run-down estates _____
- affluent suburbs _____
- steeped in history _____
- seriously polluted _____
- densely populated _____
- friendly and welcoming _____



1.2 Choose the best words to complete the text.

Urban sprawl is the unchecked spreading of a city or its ¹*suburbs / residences*. It often involves the ²*demolition / construction* of residential or commercial buildings in ³*rural / environmental* areas or otherwise undeveloped land on the ⁴*outskirts / neighbourhoods* of a city. Typical ⁵*residents / commuters* of these areas live in single-family homes and travel by car to their jobs in the city. Concerns over urban sprawl largely focus on negative ⁶*costs / consequences* for residents and the local ⁷*environment / space*. The tendency of people living in these neighbourhoods to commute to work means that urban sprawl is sometimes associated with increased air ⁸*pollution / pollutant* from car exhaust fumes.

1.3 Find words in the text which match these definitions.

- 1 related to towns and cities _____
- 2 related to trade or business _____
- 3 particular part of a place _____
- 4 not previously built on _____
- 5 people who live in a place _____

Vocabulary note

This book draws attention to language chunks of the following types:

COLLOCATIONS = words frequently used together, e.g.

densely populated, leafy suburbs, open spaces, violent crime

COMPOUND NOUNS = nouns made up of two or more words, e.g.

tourist attraction, skyscraper, cost of living

DEPENDENT PREPOSITIONS = some adjectives, nouns and verbs are followed by particular prepositions, e.g.

steeped in history, plagued by crime

PHRASAL VERBS = two- or three-part verbs with idiomatic meanings, e.g.

break down, get around, look forward to

IDIOMS = phrases with special meaning that cannot be understood from the individual words, e.g.

go to town on something, hit the road, cut and dried

1.4 WORD BUILDING Complete the table with words which have related meanings.

Noun	Verb	Adjective
demolition	_____	_____
_____ (place, activity)	_____	_____
_____ (company, person)	_____	undeveloped
resident (person)	_____	_____
_____ (place)	_____	_____
sprawl	_____	_____
environment	x	_____
_____ (person, activist)	_____	_____
pollution (problem)	_____	_____
_____ (substance)	_____	_____

1.5 Complete the compound nouns in these sentences with words from the box.

area attractions city commuter fumes jams pollution rush traffic transport

- The Eiffel Tower is one of the most popular tourist _____ in the world.
- Our council is doing everything it can to combat _____ congestion, including charging drivers every time they drive into the _____ centre.
- The underground is an integral part of the public _____ system in many large cities.
- Since the town centre became a traffic-free pedestrian _____, shopping has been a more pleasant experience.
- Exhaust _____ from cars, buses and lorries are the main cause of air _____ in cities.
- There are frequent traffic _____ during the morning and evening _____ hours in many towns and cities.
- House prices in the _____ belt are more affordable than in central London.

1.6 Some adjectives have a special meaning as noun suffixes.

-free = without an undesirable thing, e.g.

I always buy fat-free yoghurt.

-friendly = suitable for, or, welcoming of, e.g.

Child-friendly software comes pre-installed.

-mad = liking or doing something obsessively, e.g.

My husband is football-mad.

Rewrite the following sentences using the suffixes.

- We live in a neighbourhood which doesn't have any crime.
- They've created a zone around the school where cars cannot go.
- I wish the council would make the city centre more suitable for bikes.
- I want to find accommodation where they allow pets.
- The young people around here are all obsessed with their cars.
- Many of my colleagues prioritise their work too highly.



Error warning



In everyday speech and writing we use *people* as the plural form of *person*.
There were a lot of people on the station, but only one person got on the train.

The plural form *persons* is rarely used in speech, but is used in certain formal contexts, e.g.

The crime was committed by person or persons unknown.

1 Cities

Urban living

2.1 **02** Listen to two people talking about living in a city. Complete these sentences with words used by the speakers.

- I just love all the _____ and bustle.
- In my work and my _____ life, I come into regular _____ with people from all over the world.
- You just take for granted the incredible _____ of entertainment on offer.
- The only downside is the _____ of living.
- Her parents own a flat in the _____ of London.
- It was really convenient, just being able to _____ on a bus or take the _____.
- Crime _____ are higher in cities than in _____ areas.

2.2 What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of city life? Make two lists. Use expressions from 2.1 and add your own ideas.

ADVANTAGES	<i>convenient public transport,</i>
DISADVANTAGES	<i>crime,</i>

2.3 Match the two-part expressions in italics with their definitions.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 I love the <i>hustle and bustle</i> of life in the city. | a good times and bad times |
| 2 Some people move to the country for the <i>peace and quiet</i> . | b busy, noisy activity |
| 3 We've been weighing up the <i>pros and cons</i> of commuting. | c willingness to compromise |
| 4 Most people have <i>ups and downs</i> at work. | d calm atmosphere |
| 5 We need some <i>give and take</i> between residents and developers. | e advantages and disadvantages |

2.4 **WORD TRANSFORMATION** Complete the text with the correct forms of the words in capitals at the ends of the lines.

The ⁰ *explosive* growth in the number of closed-circuit television (CCTV) ¹ _____ systems in recent years is transforming city centres in some countries. For some people, the cameras have a ² _____ benefit, taking comfort in the ³ _____ that they are being watched and protected. In some neighbourhoods, there are even socially ⁴ _____ CCTV systems, which allow local ⁵ _____ to tune in to community TV and watch what is happening outside their front doors. People know the cameras can be ⁶ _____ in solving crimes, but are they right to believe that cameras are keeping them safer? According to one university professor of ⁷ _____, they are not. He conducted a study of 14 CCTV systems and found that, in general, the ⁸ _____ of cameras has ⁹ _____ little impact on crime. In only one of the 14 areas could a ¹⁰ _____ drop in crime levels be linked to CCTV.

EXPLODE
 SURVEY
 PSYCHOLOGY
 BELIEVE

 INCLUDE / RESIDE

 HELP

 CRIME
 INSTALL
 SURPRISE
 SIGNIFY

Exam practice

Cities

1

Reading Part 3

You are going to read a magazine article. For questions 1–5, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which you think fits best according to the text.



Exam tip

There are often questions which relate to the main idea of the text as well as questions about detail. In this practice task, question 1 relates to the main idea.

Wanted in Africa

Life in Cairo is both daunting and exhilarating. With a population of more than 17 million, Egypt's capital city is one of the most vibrant and complex cities in the world. Skyscrapers and five-star hotels loom over the River Nile, ancient mosques fill even the most westernised neighbourhoods and a millennium of Islamic architecture competes for space with 4,000-year-old Pharaonic monuments.

Downtown living has its ups and downs and it is more affordable than many of the more westernised areas of Cairo. However, central Cairo isn't ideal for kids: good secondary schools are expensive and will involve a lengthy commute. In addition, food must be bought in grocery stores and a few overpriced vegetable markets, rather than supermarkets. Good nightclubs are also scarce. Possibly the best nightlife is the streets themselves, which bustle with life until the early hours of the morning. For expats who want to immerse themselves in an Arabic-speaking world, Islamic Cairo is only a ten-minute drive east of the city centre.

The traffic, and therefore pollution, in this area is a major drawback: don't live here if you have allergies. Still, it's as central as you can get with great public transport. Driving in Cairo is an interesting experience. Travelling even short journeys can take a long time simply because there are so many vehicles competing for road space. Taxis are cheap and plentiful but get bogged down in the heavy traffic. Unexpectedly, there are relatively few collisions. Regular Cairo drivers will explain that they are expert when it comes to reaching their destination safely.

For those who decide to relocate here, accommodation is easy to find and cheap by western standards, ranging from nineteenth-century colonial opulence to seventies tower blocks. Islam remains the main cultural influence and the numerous religious festivals are major events for Cairo residents. Dress is modest, even in the blistering summer heat, and you will be expected to follow suit by covering up in public.

- 1 Who is this article aimed at?
 - A native residents of Cairo
 - B expatriates currently living in Cairo
 - C people who want to see the real Cairo
 - D foreigners considering living in Cairo's centre
- 2 The writer contrasts
 - A Cairo with Western cities.
 - B the styles of buildings in Cairo.
 - C Cairo in past times with Cairo today.
 - D the cultures and lifestyles across Cairo.
- 3 The writer warns parents about a lack of
 - A shops selling fruit and vegetables.
 - B safe places for children to play.
 - C child-friendly accommodation.
 - D suitable schools nearby.
- 4 The writer is surprised by
 - A the efficiency of public transport.
 - B the driving skills of local people.
 - C the number of road accidents.
 - D the amount of congestion.
- 5 The writer advises visitors to dress
 - A according to local conventions.
 - B appropriately for the weather.
 - C as they would at home.
 - D in formal clothes.

2

Personal history

Ancestry, autobiography

Ancestry

1.1 Where could you find out more about your ancestors? Put a ✓.

official records _____ older relatives _____ old family photo albums _____
 websites _____ family diaries _____ local newspaper archives _____

1.2 Read the introduction to a talk about investigating your family history. Choose the best words to complete the text.

There is nothing more exciting than ¹*opening / unlocking* the mysteries of your own past. With each additional clue, your ²*ancestors / associates* will become more than just names or dates on a ³*genealogical / geological* form. In this ⁴*process / progress* you will realise that most of them were just ordinary people, just like you and me.

In genealogy you always start from the present and work ⁵*backwards / forwards*. You should approach the search as if you were a detective ⁶*conducting / concluding* an investigation; looking for clues, interviewing ⁷*resources / sources* and carefully ⁸*documenting / disclosing* your facts. This is important because you need to be able to prove that your line of ⁹*ascent / descent* is correct. Anyone can claim that they are a ¹⁰*descendant / successor* of George Washington, but proving it is another thing altogether.

1.3 03 Listen to the talk and answer these questions.

- Who is this advice aimed at? _____
- What does the speaker warn listeners about?



Error warning



information is an uncountable noun and cannot be made plural, e.g.
 I'd like ~~some informations~~ information about my family.

1.4 03 Listen to the talk again. Find words and phrases which match these definitions. Use the recording script on page 106 to help you.

- check your information is correct _____ *verify your facts* _____ (3 words)
- enjoy talking about memories _____ (1 word)
- the most difficult problem to overcome _____ (3 words)
- a small proportion of correct information _____ (4 words)
- shocking personal secrets from the past _____ (4 words)
- set a limit for something _____ (3 words)
- separate line of your ancestry _____ (4 words)
- collect a lot of data _____ (5 words)

1.5 WORD BUILDING Complete the table with words which have related meanings.

Noun	Verb	Adjective
_____	accumulate	_____
_____ (positive)	x	accurate (positive)
_____ (negative)		_____ (negative)
ancestor (person)	x	_____
_____ (general topic)		
_____	embellish	_____
_____	reminisce	_____
_____ (process)	verify	verified
_____ (person)		_____ (possible to do)

1.6 Complete these sentences with words and phrases from 1.4 and 1.5.

- Of the difficulties we faced when we moved to America, overcoming culture shock was the biggest _____.
- Convincing liars usually include a few _____ of truth in their stories.
- Researching my family tree is just a hobby and I _____ at spending any money on it.
- Every time my father tells a story he adds some _____ to make them funnier or more dramatic.
- Historians have accused a new 'biographical' film about the king's personal life of being wildly _____.
- There's an animal living in the woods that makes a sound eerily _____ of a crying baby.

1.7 When we talk about secrets we often use the idea that there is something unseen or hidden, e.g. *skeletons in the cupboard*. Underline the language of secrets in these sentences.

- A recently published history of the local area exposes long-buried secrets of the family and their influence.
- It's not fair to keep residents in the dark about development plans for the local area.
- Journalists shouldn't spend their time digging up dirt on celebrities. It's not in the public interest.
- The government seem to think that they can just sweep recent statistics on inner-city crime under the carpet.
- Although he had tried hard to cover his tracks, all investigators had to do was follow the money.
- The councillor tried to muddy the waters over the scrapped housing development, when he raised the issue of anti-social behaviour.

1.8 Match the expressions you underlined in 1.7 with their definitions.

- investigate to find unpleasant or damaging information _____
- make evidence more difficult or impossible to find _____
- confuse an issue under discussion _____
- not share information with people who are interested _____
- make information public which was unknown for many years _____
- ignore or avoid discussion of an issue _____

2 Personal history

Autobiography

2.1 How is an *autobiography* different from a *biography*?

2.2 Complete the text with words from the box.

accurate appointments blank confront feelings forget hoarded myths reports traces

Autobiography is a curiously naked business. It requires intimacy with your own ¹ _____ which you might have been avoiding for years. You have to ² _____ your guilts and fears, dredging from deep down things you might rather ³ _____. Then you must *weigh up* whether they are ⁴ _____ in any objective sense, or simply memories *formulated* from family ⁵ _____.

Any life as long as mine has left *a multitude of* ⁶ _____. The most *valuable* proved to be those nearest home. Ever since I was a child, I have ⁷ _____: *scraps* of paper, childish sketches, sappy poems, notes from girls in my class at school, exam papers, school ⁸ _____ and boxes and boxes of letters.

Then there are the diaries: the daily record of events and ⁹ _____. The casual entries in numerous little pocket diaries, thrown casually into a big box at each New Year, allowed me to pinpoint, though only roughly – there are many ¹⁰ _____ pages – what I was doing in any particular year of my life.

2.3 Write one word from 2.2 which can be used in all three sentences.

- The world _____ for the 100 metres has been broken twice in the last year.
Speaking off the _____, the politician admitted he had made a mistake.
If you are found guilty of shoplifting, you will end up with a criminal _____.
- Thieves gained _____ to the building through an upstairs window.
Adults accompanying small children are eligible for half-price _____.
The last _____ in the diary describes the danger they were in.
- I left my parents a _____ saying I'd be late home.
If you ask a friend for advice, you should take _____ of what they say.
Sorry, I haven't got any change. I'll have to give you a ten-pound _____.

2.4 Which words are possible replacements for the words in italics in 2.2?

word in 2.2	possible replacements
1 <i>weigh up</i>	consider decide regard think about
2 <i>formulated</i>	created originating put together prepared
3 <i>a multitude of</i>	a crowd of countless many numerous
4 <i>valuable</i>	expensive important precious useful
5 <i>scraps</i>	bits crumbs fragments small pieces

Exam practice

Personal history

2

Writing Part 1

You are staying in the UK and have just returned from a trip to a museum. You were given a leaflet as you left which asks for your opinion about the visit.

Read the leaflet and some notes you have made on the advertisement. Then, **using the information appropriately**, write a letter to the museum director explaining what you thought about the museum and suggesting ways of attracting more visitors.

We want to know what you think!

Every year over 100,000 people visit our museum. But we'd like even more visitors to enjoy the experience. Please send us comments about your visit. What did you enjoy? What could have been better? Please write to us now.



Exam tip

Make sure you read the question very carefully and follow all the instructions. You must cover all the input material by writing about each point. However, don't copy sections of text from the exam paper into your answer. Use the key words as starting points to display your own language knowledge.

Want to see how your ancestors lived?

Come to the East of England Museum of Everyday Life

Open 10.00 am – 5.00 pm daily *great exhibits*

Didn't open till 10.15

Café serving snacks and drinks *good choice of snacks – not expensive*

Guide spoke too quickly for students of English Hourly guided tours

Entry £5.00 / £2.50 (students and children under 16) *had to pay full price – wouldn't accept my student card*

Write your letter in **180–220** words in an appropriate style. You should use your own words as far as possible. You do not need to include postal addresses.

3

The arts

Arts events, reviews

Arts events

1.1 Which of these events would you enjoy? Which would you choose not to go to? Put a ✓ or a ✗.

- 1 an exhibition of work by a contemporary sculptor ____
- 2 classical music played by an orchestra and a celebrity soloist ____
- 3 a gig by a stand-up comic ____
- 4 a star-studded performance of a popular Shakespeare play ____
- 5 the première of the latest Hollywood blockbuster ____
- 6 a legendary jazz musician in concert ____
- 7 an exhibition of historical artefacts ____
- 8 a new piece by a touring ballet company ____
- 9 a three-day festival headlined by international rock stars ____
- 10 a collection of portraits by a photographer-to-the-stars ____
- 11 the televised auditions for a TV talent show ____
- 12 a collection of jewellery belonging to the Royal family ____

1.2 Where would you see each of the events listed in 1.1? Write the numbers (1–12) next to the venues (a–h). Some events could be seen at more than one venue.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a an open-air stadium _____ | e a prestigious museum _____ |
| b a historic concert hall _____ | f a theatre _____ |
| c a public art gallery _____ | g a comedy club _____ |
| d a multiplex cinema _____ | h a city park _____ |

1.3 Add your own words to these lists.

visual arts	<i>sculpture</i>
styles of music	<i>soul</i>
types of literature	<i>novel</i>
types of dance	<i>ballet</i>
genres of film	<i>thriller</i>
artists	<i>composer, dancer</i>



Error warning



In 1.1 there are two adjectives which are often confused with similar words.

classical = traditional in style or form; of the ancient civilisations of Greece and Rome, e.g.

Classical literature usually makes heavy reading.

classic = established over time as popular, the best or most typical of its kind, e.g.

The little black dress is a classic look.

historical = connected with or based on past times, e.g.

It's a historical novel about the Tudors.

historic = very important in history, e.g.
These historic events will shape the nation's future.



Vocabulary note

Notice that we use the definite article *the* with the names of most entertainment venues, e.g.

the Sydney Opera House, *the* British Museum, *the* O2 Arena.

1.4 COLLOCATION Match each list of verbs with a noun.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 play, hear, write, read | a art |
| 2 shoot, watch, produce, show | b a venue |
| 3 appreciate, buy, create, view | c a film |
| 4 lead, conduct, join, hear | d music |
| 5 go on, take to, leave, appear on | e an orchestra |
| 6 book, fill, headline, choose | f the stage |

1.5 Complete these sentences using an adjective from box A and a noun from box B.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| A academic medical musical scientific surgical
match-winning opening third-quarter | B instrument performance |
|---|--------------------------|

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 A stethoscope is a _____. | 5 The saxophone is a _____. |
| 2 A scalpel is a sharp _____. | 6 The _____ was sold out. |
| 3 The striker gave a _____. | 7 The telescope was an early _____. |
| 4 The company delivered a good
_____. | 8 University entry depends upon
_____. |

Reviews

2.1 04 Listen to three people talking about arts events.

Match the speakers with the events they describe (a–d).

One of the events is not described.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Speaker 1 ___ | a a comedy night at an unimpressive venue |
| Speaker 2 ___ | b a bizarre event at a modern art gallery |
| Speaker 3 ___ | c an outdoor art installation |
| | d a memorable concert by a new group |

2.2 04 Listen again and complete the sentences with words and phrases used by the speakers.

- It was one of the best _____ I've ever been to.
- The venue was pretty ordinary – a _____.
- They play their rather eclectic mix of material without _____.
- They're gaining a devoted _____.
- I've never been _____ stand-up.
- He had the whole audience _____.
- I'm not even sure 'exhibition' _____.
- The figures are all _____ of the sculptor's own body.

