

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	
Watch and listen	Watch and understand a video about places
Reading skills	Scan for numbers
Academic writing skills	Use capital letters and full stops correctly
Writing task	Write descriptive sentences



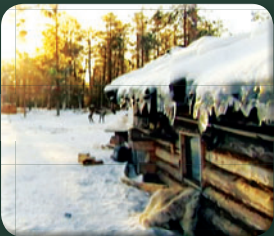
PLACES UNIT 1

UNLOCK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Look at the photograph and answer the questions below.

- 1 Where is the place in the photograph?
- 2 Is the city the same or different to the place where you live? How?
- 3 Would you like to live here? Why / Why not?

WATCH AND LISTEN



UNDERSTANDING
KEY VOCABULARY

PREPARING TO WATCH

- 1 Match the words (1–3) to their opposites (a–c). Use the glossary on page 194 to help you.
- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| 1 city | a rural |
| 2 modern | b village |
| 3 urban | c traditional |

UNDERSTANDING
MAIN IDEAS

WHILE WATCHING

- 2 Watch the video. Circle the correct words to complete the sentences.
- The Khanty village in Siberia is in *Russia* / *Egypt*.
 - The Khanty village is very *cold* / *hot*.
 - Siwa is in *Russia* / *Egypt*.
 - Siwa is a *village* / *town*.
 - Siwa is very *cold* / *hot*.

UNDERSTANDING
DETAIL

- 3 Watch again. Write true (T) or false (F) next to the statements below.
- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 The Khanty village is in Moscow. | _____ |
| 2 Temperatures in Siberia can reach -53°C. | _____ |
| 3 People in the Khanty village travel on skis. | _____ |
| 4 The Khanty village is very modern. | _____ |
| 5 Siwa is in the Sahara desert. | _____ |
| 6 Temperatures in the Sahara desert can reach 68°C. | _____ |
| 7 Many people in Siwa use donkeys instead of cars. | _____ |
| 8 There is a new road in Siwa. | _____ |
| 9 People think that life in Siwa will change. | _____ |

4 Look at the underlined word from the video. What do you think *remote* means?

In the far north of Russia, thousands of miles from the capital Moscow, Siberia is one of the most remote places in the world.

- a far away from other places
- b close to other places

5 How did you find the answer to Exercise 4?

- 1 from the photographs in the video
- 2 from the other words in the sentence
- 3 from the way the speaker talks

6 Watch the video. Listen for the words (1–3) below. Circle the words and phrases that have the same meaning.

- 1 isolated (adj) *not remote / remote*
- 2 block (v) *close a space / open a space*
- 3 oasis (n) *mountains in a desert / lakes or rivers in a desert*

DISCUSSION

7 Work with a partner. Discuss the questions below.

- 1 Where would you prefer to live: Siwa or Siberia? Why?
- 2 In the video, it says that people in Siwa think that the new road will change their town. What changes do you think they will see? Think about the following:
 - a language
 - b jobs
 - c transport

8 Look at your answers. Are the changes mainly good or bad?

READING 1

PREPARING TO READ

- 1 Match the words (1–4) to their definitions (a–d).
- 1 population

2 pollution

3 housing

4 traffic

a houses for people to live in

b the number of cars on a road

c when the air, water or earth is dirty and bad for people, plants and animals

d the number of people living in a place
- 2 Read the title of the article opposite. What do you think *mega* means?
- a very busy

b very good

c very big
- 3 Read the article and check your answer.

WHILE READING

- 4 Write true (T) or false (F) next to the statements below.
- 1 There are more megacities now than in 1950.

2 There are many opportunities to study in megacities.

3 Many people leave the countryside and move to a city.

4 Most megacities are in Europe.

5 Megacities can be very interesting places to live.

6 Many megacities have problems with housing.
- 5 Read the article again and write the words from the box in the correct place in the table below.

mix of different people interesting places to visit lots of jobs
traffic jams good place to study housing problem
important industries busy trains

Tokyo	
Delhi	
Cairo	

Rise of the MEGACITIES

Megacity: a city with more than 10 million inhabitants

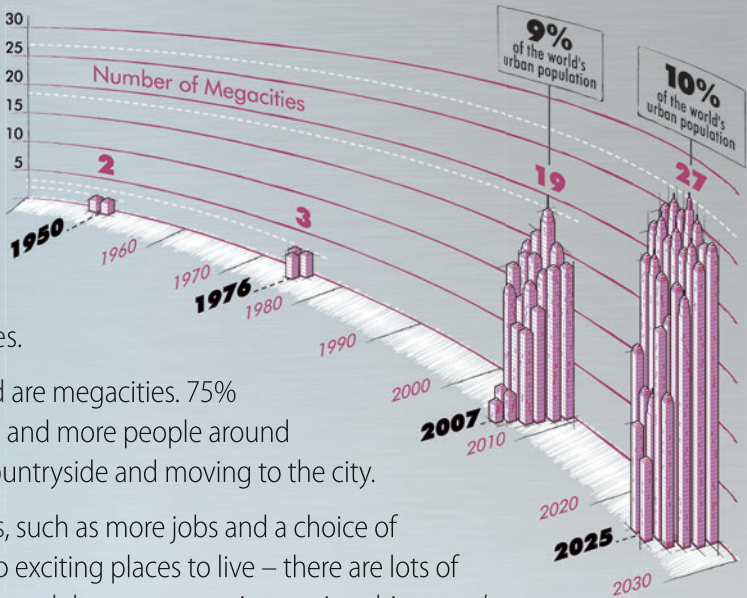
The number of megacities is growing very quickly. In the 1950s, there were only two megacities in the world.

Today, 4 percent of the world's urban population live in a megacity. Studies show that there will be 8 billion people in the world in 2025. Experts say that there will be 27 megacities.

Today, more than twenty cities in the world are megacities. 75% are in Asia, South America and Africa. More and more people around the world are leaving their homes in the countryside and moving to the city.

Many megacities have better opportunities, such as more jobs and a choice of schools and universities. Megacities are also exciting places to live – there are lots of different people, languages and restaurants and there are many interesting things to do.

However, megacities have problems, too. The cities are very big and this can cause problems like pollution or poor housing.



TOKYO, JAPAN

36.4 MILLION

Tokyo is an exciting, modern city in the east of Japan. There are lots of jobs because most big companies in Japan are in Tokyo. It is also an excellent place to study – 20% of Japan's universities are in the city. However, Tokyo is very busy and the traffic is very bad. More than 6.3 million people use the trains every day.

DELHI, INDIA

22.5 MILLION

Delhi is in the north of India. It has many beautiful monuments, interesting museums and modern restaurants. There is an exciting mix of different cultures in the city, and there are four official languages: Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and English. However, there are not enough houses in some parts of Delhi. This means that many people live in large slums in the city.

CAIRO, EGYPT

16.9 MILLION

Cairo is the capital of Egypt and it is the largest city in Africa. Cairo has important car and film industries. The city is the centre of many government offices and has many universities, one of which is over 1,200 years old.

SCANNING TO
FIND INFORMATION

- 6 Find and circle all the numbers in the article (page 19).
- 7 Write a number from the article in each gap to complete the notes.
- 1 number of megacities in 1950 = _____
 - 2 number of megacities in 2025 = _____
 - 3 percent of people in the world that live in a megacity = _____ %
 - 4 global population in 2025 = _____ billion
 - 5 number of people who use the trains in Tokyo = _____ million
 - 6 percent of Japanese universities in Tokyo = _____ %
 - 7 number of people living in Delhi = _____ million
 - 8 number of official languages spoken in Delhi = _____
 - 9 age of Cairo's oldest university = _____ years old

Scanning for numbers

Scanning helps you find specific information or details in a text. We often scan a text for numbers to find important facts and figures about a topic.

WORKING OUT
MEANING

READING BETWEEN THE LINES

- 8 Look at the word *slums* underlined in the article. What do you think it means?
- a a very poor and crowded area in a city
 - b a very untidy house
 - c a very expensive area in the centre of a city

DISCUSSION

- 9 Work with a partner. Discuss the questions below.
- 1 Are there any megacities in or near your country?
 - 2 What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in the city?
 - 3 Why are modern cities growing so quickly?
 - 4 What are the best solutions to the problems of pollution and poor housing?

READING 2

PREPARING TO READ

- 1 Read the title of the article on page 22. What general topic do you think the article is about?
 - a geography
 - b tourism
 - c history
- 2 Read the introduction and check your answer.
- 3 Circle the word or words in the introduction that tell you the answer.

WHILE READING

- 4 Match the headings (1–3) to the paragraphs in the article (a–c).
 - 1 A big city
 - 2 A mountain village
 - 3 A house by the beach
- 5 Look at the summaries of the paragraphs. Cross out the incorrect words in bold and write the correct words. The first one has been done for you as an example.
 - 1 The Atal family live in a ^{village}~~city~~. It is a **busy** place. The mountains are very **cold**.
 - 2 Kate and Julian Foxton live in the **north** of England. The area is great for **theatres**. The houses are quite **cheap**.
 - 3 Chafic and Aline Halwany live in a **small** city. People learn **English** and French in the town centre. There is quite a lot of traffic **at night**.

READING BETWEEN THE LINES

- 6 Work with a partner. Discuss your ideas about the questions below.
 - 1 Why are homestays cheap places to stay?
 - 2 How many languages do the Halwanys speak?
 - 3 Do Kate and Julian have children?

DISCUSSION

- 7 Work with a partner. Discuss the questions below.
 - 1 Why do people like to go to villages or the countryside on holiday?
 - 2 What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in the countryside?
 - 3 Why do young people leave the countryside to live in the city?

SCANNING TO
PREDICT CONTENT

READING FOR
MAIN IDEAS

READING FOR
DETAIL



MAKING
INFERENCES

A photograph of an older couple standing in front of a stone house. The man is wearing a teal sweater and grey trousers, and the woman is wearing a blue top and light-colored trousers. The house has a stone wall and a window with white flowers hanging from it.

HOMESTAY HOLIDAYS:

a home away from home

Homestays are becoming more and more popular, and people around the world are offering their homes as hotels. Homestays offer cheap places to stay, and the chance for guests to see the area like a local. They are very popular with students who want to stay in another country and learn a language. We asked three families who run homestays to tell us about where they live.

a _____

The Atal family

Our family home is in the north of Nepal, in the Himalayan mountains, in the village of Manang. The village is quite small and very quiet. It is a very friendly place. The mountains are extremely beautiful. You can go for long walks and swim in the rivers but there are no shops, cinemas or cafés.



b _____

Kate and Julian Foxton

Our two-bed house is by the sea in the south-west of England. It is 15 minutes' drive to the nearest village of Portreath. There are lots of beaches, rivers and forests and it is very quiet. We spend a lot of time reading books, watching films and going for walks. Our area is great for sports like surfing, kayaking and mountain biking. However, the houses here are expensive, which can be a problem for local people. There are no buses or trains here, so it can be difficult to get around without a car.

c _____

Chafic and Aline Halwany

Our home is near the centre of Beirut, Lebanon, one of the largest cities in the Middle East. There are lots of cafés and restaurants, which open late at night. We love it here because it's so friendly and you can always find what you need – lots of people come to stay to learn Arabic and French. However, it can be noisy at night, and there is quite a lot of traffic during the day.

NOUNS, VERBS AND ADJECTIVES

- 

2 Match the sentence halves.

- 3** Write the words from the box in the correct place in the table below.

noun	verb	adjective

Adjectives

We use *adjectives* to describe nouns. We use the structure *adjective + noun*.

	adjective	+ noun
Beirut is an	interesting	city.
There are many	excellent	restaurants.

Adjectives are never plural.

a different place \rightarrow ~~some different places~~ \rightarrow some different places