

Super English



Intermediate
Speaking
Unit 1 - Lesson 1
Living in a Big City
vs. Small Town



The Energy of the City

Read the text and discuss the words in bold.

For many people, living in a big city feels like being at the center of the universe. There is a constant **buzz** in the air — restaurants stay open late, public transportation runs all night, and there is always something happening. This **fast-paced lifestyle** can be exciting and inspiring. However, some people eventually feel **burned out** by the pressure to keep up.



1. Have you ever felt burned out? What caused it?
2. What are the biggest advantages of city life?
3. Do you think people in big cities are more ambitious?



The Charm of Small Towns



Read the text and discuss the words in bold.



In contrast, small towns often move at a slower pace. Life there can feel more manageable and less overwhelming. People tend to greet each other on the street, and a strong sense of community is common. However, some residents feel that small towns lack opportunities and excitement. It can sometimes feel like everyone knows your business.



1. What are the benefits of a strong sense of community?
2. Would you like everyone to know your business? Why or why not?
3. Do small towns offer enough opportunities for young people?

Career and Opportunity

Read the text and discuss the words in bold.

Big cities are often seen as places of opportunity. Major companies, universities, and cultural institutions are usually located there. For ambitious professionals, the sky's the limit. On the other hand, competition can be fierce, and the cost of living may be sky-high. In smaller towns, job options may be limited, but the work-life balance can be better.



1. Do you think career success depends on location?
2. Is fierce competition motivating or stressful?
3. How important is work-life balance to you?
4. Would you accept a lower salary for a better lifestyle?



Dialogue 1: The Noise Problem



Practice the dialogue and answer the question.

Jake: So, how's city life treating you?

Laura: Honestly? I haven't slept properly in three weeks.

Jake: That bad?

Laura: Sirens, traffic, someone arguing at 2 a.m. It's a full soundtrack.

Jake: That's city living for you.

Laura: Ugh, I had no idea it would be so exhausting.

Question: How much does your environment affect your mood and energy levels?

Dialogue 2: The “Nothing to Do” Debate



Practice the dialogue and answer the question.

Sophie: I could never live in a small town. There's nothing to do.

Matt: That's not true. You just have to create your own fun.

Sophie: Like what? Counting cows?

Matt: Wow. Rude. Some of us enjoy peaceful evenings.

Sophie: I need concerts, restaurants, options.

Matt: Too many options can be paralyzing, you know.

Question: Do you think entertainment options influence where people choose to live?

See you next time!



