What is the ideal city?

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Goals

- Can identify different types of cities and compare and contrast their characteristics.

- Can discuss how it is to live alongside others and give my opinion on a range of aspects related to urban living.

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Are you satisfied with the **city** you live in?

What are some things that you would like to change if you were an **urban planner**?

Preview

- In this lesson, you will practise talking about **different types of cities.**

Because of my good sense of direction, we never got lost in the **concrete jungle** of Shanghai.

What does a city mean to you?

town

municipality

metropolis

urban area

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metropolis

grid plan

port city

central business district

rural area

commuter belt

urban city life

concrete jungle

My uncle moved to the countryside because the hustle and bustle of the metropolis was too much.

Because they grew up in a port city, they were used to fishing in the summer.

This rural area is located outside of the metropolis.

Urban city life is usually preferred by younger people since they will always have something to do.

The city was a **concrete jungle**.

The **grid plan** of the city was created to make finding places easier and logical.

Most of the businesses, restaurants and shops are located in the **central business district** of the city.

Many people located in the **commuter belt** are switching to electric powered bicycles as it is quicker than the bus.

Match the sentences

Complete the sentences by matching them with the correct answers.

1. You should leave 20 minutes earlier on rainy days	a. filled with skyscrapers, buildings and people.
2. By the 19th century, the small town grew into	b. a booming metropolis with a population of over 5 million people.
3. The city is made up of concentric rings with	c. if you live in the commuter belt since traffic into the city centre is usually heavier.
4. The city was a concrete jungle	d. the city centre in the middle and outlying regions towards the outer ring.

Types of cities

Can you specify characteristics of each type of city type below?
How can cities be divided?
Do they serve different functions?

metropolis

port city

medieval town

rural areas

Categorise

Below are the names of cities all over the world.
Put them in the correct type of category before you move on to the next slide.

Hong Kong	Toledo	Tokyo	Toronto
New York	Freiburg	Dubai	Marseille
York	Hamburg	San Francisco	Carcassonne

Medieval town	Metropolis	Port city

City type 1: Medieval town

- If something is **medieval**, it is related to the **style** of **the Middle Ages**.
- York, Freiburg, Toledo and Carcassonne are some famous **medieval cities**.

Characteristics
Around easily accessible areas
Supply of water was essential
Well-preserved from the Middle Ages
Ensured safety by building large fences and walls
Big cathedral cities

Medieval towns

**Describe the picture below of a medieval town.
Medieval towns are popular among many tourists.
What do you think are the reasons for this?**

City type 2: Metropolis

- **Metropolis** areas are very **large** and **busy**, usually because they are the **centre** of a **specified activity** or **important city** in a nation.
- Example cities are: New York, Tokyo, Dubai, Toronto.

| Characteristics |
| --- |
| **Densely populated** |
| **Many concrete buildings and very few parkland areas** |
| **Can comprise of multiple cities or districts** |
| **Central economic political regions** |
| **A labour market** |

Pros and cons

What are some pros and cons of living in a metropolitan city?
Decide whether the points below state positive or negative sides of living in a metropolitan city.

1. Transport of all types such as bus, train, taxi, etc.
2. High speed internet
3. Pollution and traffic congestion
4. Education and job opportunities
5. High cost of living
6. Lack of tradition and culture
7. Vibrant
8. Latest trends
9. Wide gap of communication between relatives or neighbours

City type 3: Port cities

- A **port city** is **located next to the coast.**
- It is usually **protected by a sea wall** and is where ships are able to anchor.
- Some famous **port cities** include: Hong Kong, Hamburg, San Francisco, Cartagena, Marseille, etc.

Characteristics
The sea wall provides protection from storms and high water
Usually has strategic naval and economic importance
Able to receive imports via sea – including cruise ships

City type 4 & 5: Residential areas and rural areas

- Something **residential** provides **accommodation** in addition to other services for local residents.
- **A rural area** is **countryside** that is **outside towns** and **cities**.

Residential areas	Rural areas
A district where people live	Population, housing, territory not included within an urban area
Public facilities such as schools, parks, healthcare centres, etc.	Low population density
Also known as suburbia	Agricultural areas
Located on the outskirts of a city	Small settlements
Easy access to the centre of towns and cities	More wildlife due to absence of people and buildings

Is it better to have more parks in the city centre or to have more shopping areas and business buildings to improve the economy?

Urban planning

- **Urban planning** organises streets into **different** yet **functional** structures to serve the purposes of **different cities**.
- See some examples of **city structures** below.

Concentric ring model	Multiple nuclei model	Grid plan	Linear city
Distribution of social groups	Shops and offices move to the outer parts of the city	**Streets run at right angles to each other**	**Elongated urban formation**
Central business district in the middle	Shorter commutes from the outskirts of the city	**Higher infrastructure cost**	**Consists of a series of specialised parallel sectors**
Paris, Chicago	Berlin, London	**New York, Barcelona**	**Madrid**

Where would you like to live?

**You have learnt the differences between five types of city.
If you could move to any city of your choice, where would you like to go and why?**

urban area

suburban area

rural area

medieval town

Urbanism

Urbanism is the development and planning of cities and towns. It also studies how inhabitants of urban areas interact with the built environment. What makes a place urban?

interconnected street grid network

diversity of shops and people

aesthetic and convenience

What do they have in common?

Have you heard of these three occupations?
What do they involve?
Do they have anything in common?

1 Architect

2 Urban planner

3 Sociologist

Public places

Installing surveillance cameras in public places such as parks, streets, or toilets is still controversial. This happens in every type of city we have discussed. What are your opinions on surveillance cameras in public places?

public safety	crime rate	privacy rights
costs of maintenance	convenience	providing evidence
gathering clues	catching criminals	efficiency

Many cities are now trying to encourage a community atmosphere, which you would normally experience in the suburbs or countryside, with shared gardens and facilities.

What are your thoughts on shared neighbourhood gardens and yards?

Do you think it improves life in a community?

Is it better to share resources?

What are your personal experiences on using public community facilities?

In Berlin there are many **shared gardens**. I like the idea of everyone working together and sharing what they grow. Some of the gardens even have little cafes!

Describe the city or town that you live in.

Give as many details as you can.

Compare and contrast

Medieval York!

What type of city is it?

How are streets organised?

Are the cost of living and housing prices reasonable?

How effective is the public transport?

Talk about how the city you live in is different from your teacher's.

The city I live in is...

The streets are organised in the....

Compared to other medieval cities in my country...

The public transportation system is...

Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check
if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes   no

Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?

+ _____
_____

+ _____
_____

— _____
_____

— _____
_____
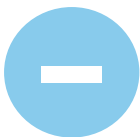
If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again

Homework

You want them to be …	You don't want them to be …

nosy

fascinating

jealous

generous

sociable

lazy

flexible

boastful

irresponsible
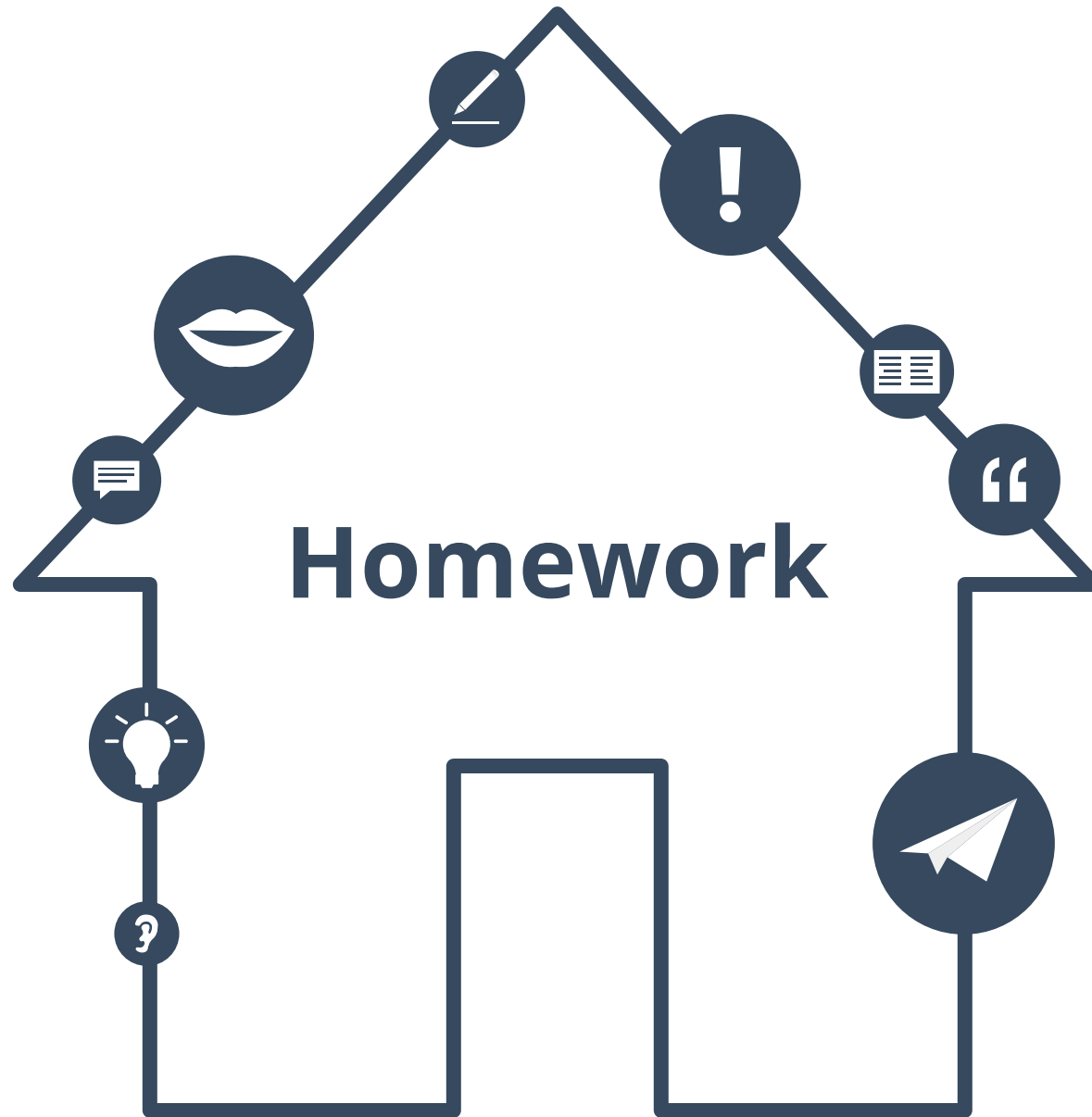
honest

Homemork: writing activity

If you could design your own city, what would it include? Which planning model would you follow (see slide 19) and why?
How is it different from the city you live in?

What makes a city perfect?

Exercise p. 31

You want them to be: fascinating, sociable, flexible, honest, generous
You don't want them to be: nosey, jealous, laxy, boastful, irresponsible

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