



VOCABULARY BANK

Home and Local Area

Home and Local Area | Bank 2: city life and countryside | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
city centre	☐	☐	☐
countryside	☐	☐	☐
quiet area	☐	☐	☐
busy street	☐	☐	☐
peaceful place	☐	☐	☐
convenient location	☐	☐	☐
public services	☐	☐	☐
quality of life	☐	☐	☐
city vs countryside	☐	☐	☐
put up with noise	☐	☐	☐
look around the area	☐	☐	☐
local problem	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Places	city centre, countryside, quiet area, busy street, peaceful place, convenient location
Services	public services, shopping area, public transport links, local park, sports centre, community facilities
Advantages and problems	quality of life, noise pollution, local problem, put up with noise, safe environment, city vs countryside
Opinion chunks	I would rather live in..., One advantage is..., The main drawback is..., It is convenient because..., Quality of life depends on...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. city centre	a. a place that is easy and useful to live in or visit
2. countryside	b. accept noise even though it is annoying
3. convenient location	c. the main busy part of a city
4. quality of life	d. services provided for people in a community
5. put up with noise	e. land outside towns and cities
6. public services	f. how comfortable, healthy or happy life is

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

live in the city centre	move to the countryside	look around the area
convenient location	public services	quality of life
put up with noise	peaceful place	busy street

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

City or Countryside?

Some people prefer living in the **city centre** because shops, schools, hospitals and public transport are usually nearby. A **convenient location** can save time every day.

However, city life can also be stressful. People may have to **put up with noise**, traffic and crowded streets. For some families, this can affect their **quality of life**.

The **countryside** is often quieter and may offer more open space. People who enjoy nature may prefer a peaceful place with cleaner air and fewer crowds.

There is no perfect place to live. Some people need the services of a city, while others value space and quiet. The best choice depends on a person's routine, family and priorities.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. Why do some people prefer living in the city centre?

2. What problems can city life have?

3. Why might some people prefer the countryside?

4. What does the best place to live depend on?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'quality of life' mean in the text?

- A. How comfortable or happy life is
- B. The price of a bus ticket
- C. The number of shops only
- D. A type of building

What is the writer's main view?

- A. The best place depends on personal needs.
- B. Everyone should live in the city.
- C. The countryside has no advantages.
- D. Public services are not useful.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe whether you would prefer to live in a city or the countryside.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: Is convenience more important than peace and quiet?
Writing	Write a short paragraph comparing city life and countryside life.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What are the advantages of city life?
- Why do some people prefer quiet areas?
- Which public services are most important?
- Could you live somewhere with a lot of noise?
- How can a local area improve quality of life?

**ANSWER KEY**

Home and Local Area

3. Match the meaning

1. c = the main busy part of a city
2. e = land outside towns and cities
3. a = a place that is easy and useful to live in or visit
4. f = how comfortable, healthy or happy life is
5. b = accept noise even though it is annoying
6. d = services provided for people in a community

6. Check your understanding

1. Shops, schools, hospitals and public transport are usually nearby.
2. People may have to deal with noise, traffic and crowded streets.
3. It may be quieter, with open space, cleaner air and fewer crowds.
4. It depends on a person's routine, family and priorities.

MCQ 1: A. How comfortable or happy life is.

MCQ 2: A. The best place depends on personal needs.