

# UNIT 2: CITY LIFE

## PART I. VOCABULARY

### a. Vocabulary

| Word                    | Part of speech | Pronunciation           | Meaning  |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. traffic congestion   | (n)            | /'træfɪk kən'dʒɛstʃən/  | xe điện  |
| 2. bustling             | (adj)          | /'bʌlɪŋ/                | hối hả, nhộn nhịp, náo nhiệt                     |
| 3. concrete jungle      | (n)            | /'kɒŋkri:t/ 'dʒʌŋɡl/    | khu vực bê tông hóa ( <i>hiều nhà cao tầng</i> ) |
| 4. construction site    | (n)            | /kən'strʌkʃn saɪt/      | công trường xây dựng                             |
| 5. congested            | (adj)          | /kən'dʒɛstɪd/           | tắc nghẽn (giao thông)                           |
| 6. downtown             | (n)            | /'daʊntaʊn/             | khu trung tâm thành phố, thị trấn                |
| 7. entertainment centre | (n)            | /,entə'teɪnmənt 'sentə/ | trung tâm giải trí                               |
| 8. hygiene              | (n)            | /'haɪdʒi:n/             | vệ sinh, vấn đề vệ sinh                          |
| 9. itchy                | (adj)          | /'ɪtʃi/                 | ngứa, gây ngứa                                   |
| 10. leftover            | (n)            | /'leftəʊvə/             | thức ăn thừa                                     |
| 11. liveable            | (adj)          | /'lɪvəbl/               | đáng sống  |
| 12. metro               | (n)            | /'metrəʊ/               | hệ thống tàu điện ngầm                           |
| 13. pricey              | (adj)          | /'praɪsi/               | đắt đỏ   |
| 14. process             | (v)            | /'prɒses/               | xử lý  |
| 15. public amenities    | (n)            | /'pʌblɪk ə'mɪ:nɪtɪz/    | những tiện ích công cộng                         |
| 16. rush hour           | (n)            | /'rʌʃ aʊər/             | giờ cao điểm                                     |
| 17. sky train           | (n)            | /skaɪ treɪn/            | tàu điện trên không                              |
| 18. traffic jam         | (n)            | /'træfɪk dʒæm/          | nạn kẹt xe                                       |
| 19. tram                | (n)            | /træm/                  | tàu điện ngầm                                    |

### b. Collocation/ phrase/ phrasal verb

| Collocations/ phrases | Meaning              |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. carry out          | tiến hành, thực hiện |
| 2. come down with     | bị ốm, mắc bệnh      |
| 3. cut down on        | cắt giảm             |
| 4. get around         | đi xung quanh        |
| 5. hang out with      | đi chơi (cùng ai)    |
| 6. packed with        | đông đúc             |

## PART II. GRAMMAR

### a. Double comparatives

Càng ....., thì càng.....

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Adj/Adv_ER              | Adj/Adv_ER             |
| The + LESS + Adj/Adv/N, | THE + LESS + Adj/Adv/N |
| MORE + Adj/Adv/N        | MORE + Adj/Adv/N       |

The darker it gets, the colder it is.

The less money you spent, the more you can save.

The more beautiful she is, the more miserable her husband is.

**PART III. PRACTICE**

**LISTENING**

**Exercise 1: Listen to the recording and choose the best answer A, B, C, or D for each question below:**

- 1. What is one of the benefits of living in a city?  
A. Access to a wide range of amenities  
B. Peaceful and quiet surroundings  
C. Limited job opportunities  
D. Lack of cultural activities
- 2. Why do cities provide better job opportunities?  
A. Due to fewer businesses and industries  
B. Because of convenient access to healthcare  
C. Presence of numerous businesses and industries  
D. Lack of cultural diversity
- 3. What do cities offer in terms of cultural activities?  
A. Theaters, museums, and concerts  
B. Only shopping malls  
C. Limited entertainment options  
D. No cultural diversions
- 4. How is public transportation in cities typically?  
A. Underdeveloped  
B. Non-existent  
C. More developed  
D. Inefficient
- 5. What social opportunities does living in a city provide?  
A. None  
B. Meeting new friends and participating in events  
C. Isolation  
D. Limited social interactions

**Exercise 2: Listen to the audio and decide whether those sentences are TRUE (T) or FALSE (F):**

|   | <b>True</b>              | <b>False</b>             |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. London is the smallest city in Britain.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The West End of London is known for historical places, parks, shops, and theatres. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The South End of London is where working people live and work.                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The "Odeon" is one of the most famous museums in London.                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Oxford Street is London's main shopping centre.                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**PHONETIC**

**Exercise 1: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word whose underlined part differs from the other three in pronunciation in each of the following questions.**

- 1. A. serious                      B. thousand                      C. found                      D. around
- 2. A. conflikt                      B. itchy                      C. reliable                      D. determine
- 3. A. hygiene                      B. heritage                      C. hotel                      D. hour
- 4. A. construction                      B. popopular                      C. regular                      D. fabulous
- 5. A. tram                      B. carry                      C. safe                      D. traffic

**Exercise 2: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word that differs from the other three in the position of primary stress in each of the following questions.**

- 1. A. locate                      B. mingle                      C. develop                      D. attract
- 2. A. populous                      B. determine                      C. forbidden                      D. delicious
- 3. A. bustling                      B. advance                      C. itchy                      D. pricey
- 4. A. capital                      B. gallery                      C. harbour                      D. museum
- 5. A. fascinate                      B. expensive                      C. restaurant                      D. difference

**VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR**

**Exercise 1: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.**

- 1. The construction \_\_\_\_\_ next door has been noisy all week.  
A. metro                      B. tram                      C. underground                      D. site

2. The theater in the \_\_\_\_\_ area hosts fantastic performances.  
A. downtown                      B. hygiene                      C. rural                      D. underground
3. The new \_\_\_\_\_ features a cinema, bowling alley, and arcade.  
A. traffic jam                      B. entertainment centre                      C. concrete jungle                      D. construction site
4. It's easy to \_\_\_\_\_ the city using public transportation.  
A. carry out                      B. find out                      C. get around                      D. come back
5. Good \_\_\_\_\_ practices are essential to prevent the spread of diseases.  
A. construction                      B. hygiene                      C. leftover                      D. downtown
6. My allergies cause \_\_\_\_\_ during springtime.  
A. road dust                      B. underground system                      C. congested road                      D. itchy eyes
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is a common issue in large cities.  
A. Traffic light                      B. Traffic flow                      C. Traffic safety                      D. Traffic congestion
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ streets of downtown are filled with people rushing to work.  
A. bustling                      B. special                      C. empty                      D. quiet
9. To save money, I try to \_\_\_\_\_ unnecessary expenses.  
A. come down with                      B. cut down on                      C. hang out with                      D. get on with
10. The old library was quite \_\_\_\_\_, but they recently renovated it.  
A. pricey                      B. reliable                      C. dusty                      D. quiet
11. Eating out in this city can be quite \_\_\_\_\_, especially at fancy restaurants.  
A. affordable                      B. pricey                      C. interesting                      D. reasonable
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ a fever last night.  
A. came down with                      B. cut down on                      C. got on with                      D. ran out of
13. The city government aims to \_\_\_\_\_ environmental initiatives.  
A. get around                      B. hand down                      C. carry out                      D. give up
14. Let's \_\_\_\_\_ at the local café this weekend!  
A. get on with                      B. hang out                      C. come down                      D. cut down on
15. The city offers a \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle with everything within reach.  
A. crowded                      B. noisy                      C. boring                      D. convenient
16. Unfortunately, I \_\_\_\_\_ a cold last week.  
A. handed down                      B. came down with                      C. ran out of                      D. gave up
17. During \_\_\_\_\_ hour, the subway is always packed with commuters.  
A. rush                      B. low                      C. crowded                      D. liveable
18. New York City is often referred to as a \_\_\_\_\_ due to its tall buildings and busy streets.  
A. public amenity                      B. entertainment center                      C. concrete jungle                      D. construction site
19. The city park feels like an oasis of \_\_\_\_\_ green space.  
A. noisy                      B. careful                      C. safe                      D. dangerous
20. The cityscape is a mix of historic and \_\_\_\_\_ architecture.  
A. crowded                      B. modern                      C. boring                      D. noisy
21. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ sugary snacks for better health.  
A. run out of                      B. cut down on                      C. get on with                      D. take care of
22. The city streets are often \_\_\_\_\_ during rush hour.  
A. itchy                      B. open                      C. congested                      D. pricey
23. My skin gets \_\_\_\_\_ when I'm stressed.  
A. itchy                      B. narrow                      C. perfect                      D. clear
24. Be cautious of \_\_\_\_\_ in crowded areas.  
A. pickpocketing                      B. crime-free                      C. safety                      D. security
25. Despite the noise, this neighborhood is quite \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. dangerous                      B. liveable                      C. silent                      D. careful
26. The \_\_\_\_\_ metro system is efficient for daily commuting.  
A. leftover                      B. construction                      C. underground                      D. traffic jam
27. Many families prefer to live in the quieter \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. suburbs                      B. centers                      C. amenities                      D. transportation
28. The \_\_\_\_\_ of having shops nearby makes life easier.  
A. inconvenient                      B. difficulty                      C. convenience                      D. unreliable
29. To stay healthy, I try to \_\_\_\_\_ processed foods.  
A. avoid                      B. transport                      C. widen                      D. complete
30. The city council plans to \_\_\_\_\_ infrastructure improvements.

- A. hand down                      B. carry out                      C. get around                      D. look after
31. Make sure to cook chicken \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid food poisoning.  
A. properly                      B. shortly                      C. narrowly                      D. especially
32. Unfortunately, this area has a \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. low noise level                      B. high crime rate                      C. clean environment                      D. high safety level
33. The better the weather is, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the most crowded the beaches get                      B. the most the beaches get crowded  
C. the more crowded the beaches get                      D. the more the beaches get crowded
34. The more invaluable world heritages are to humanity, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the more protected and preserving they are                      B. the more they are protected and preserved  
C. the more they have people protect and preserve                      D. the more people make them protect and preserve
35. \_\_\_\_\_ the temperature, \_\_\_\_\_ water turns into steam.  
A. Higher / faster the                      B. The higher / the faster  
C. The more higher / the faster                      D. The higher / the fast
36. The older you are, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the more you may become worried                      B. the more worried you may become  
C. the more worry you may become                      D. you may become more worried
37. The more challenging the exercises are, \_\_\_\_\_ we feel.  
A. the less bored                      B. the least bored                      C. the less boring                      D. the least boring
38. The better the weather is, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the beaches get the more crowded                      B. the beaches get the most crowded  
C. the most crowded the beaches get                      D. the more crowded the beaches get
39. The \_\_\_\_\_ you encounter failure, the more confident you are.  
A. more frequently                      B. as frequently                      C. most frequent                      D. more frequent
40. He spent a year in India and loves spicy food. \_\_\_\_\_ the food is, \_\_\_\_\_ he likes it.  
A. The hotter/the more and more                      B. The hotter/the more  
C. The more and more hot/the more                      D. The hottest/the most
41. \_\_\_\_\_ he drank, \_\_\_\_\_ he became.  
A. More/more violent                      B. The most/the most violent  
C. The more/the more violent                      D. The less/less violent
42. Earning money has always been the thing that pleases him most. \_\_\_\_\_ he becomes, he is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. The more rich/ the more happy                      B. The richest/ the happiest  
C. The richer/ the happier                      D. Richer and richer/  
happier and happier
43. \_\_\_\_\_ you study for these exams, \_\_\_\_\_ you will do.  
A. The harder/ the better                      B. The more/ the much  
C. The hardest/ the best                      D. The more hard/ the  
more good
44. My neighbor is driving me mad! It seems that \_\_\_\_\_ it is at night, \_\_\_\_\_ he plays his music!  
A. the less/ the more loud                      B. the less/less  
C. the more late/ the more loudly                      D. the later/the louder

**Exercise 2: Fill in each blank with one appropriate word or phrase from the box. (There are some extra words or phrases.)**

**bustling**  
**traffic jams**

**process**  
**itchy**

**pricey**  
**entertainment center**

**leftovers**  
**construction sites**

- \_\_\_\_\_ are a common sight in bustling cities, with cranes and workers building new skyscrapers.
- After a long day at work, people often unwind by visiting an \_\_\_\_\_, where they can enjoy movies, games, or live performances.
- Instead of wasting food, it's better to save \_\_\_\_\_ from meals and use them for another day.
- Dining out in the city can be \_\_\_\_\_, especially at upscale restaurants with gourmet cuisine.
- Rush hour brings heavy \_\_\_\_\_, causing delays for commuters trying to get home.

**Exercise 3: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word(s) CLOSEST in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.**

1. New York city was **founded** by the Dutch in 1624.  
A. demolished      B. destroyed      C. established      D. pointed
2. More and more city **dwellers** suffer from coughing or breathing problems.  
A. residents      B. roads      C. pollution      D. traffics
3. At weekends the city centre is always **packed** with people.  
A. empty      B. crowded      C. peaceful      D. convenient
4. Public transportation in the city is generally **reliable**, with frequent buses and trains.  
A. unsteady      B. broken      C. delayed      D. trustworthy
5. The city skyline, with its tall buildings and shimmering lights, is undeniably **attractive**.  
A. appealing      B. boring      C. ugly      D. unattractive

**Exercise 4: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the word(s) OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word(s) in each of the following questions.**

1. There is far too much pollution nowadays in **urban** areas.  
A. local      B. rural      C. nation      D. neighbour
2. Unfortunately, some neighborhoods in the city can be **dangerous** due to high crime rates.  
A. dull      B. special      C. safe      D. unsafe
3. Living in the city has a number of **drawbacks**.  
A. negatives      B. advantages      C. disadvantages      D. problems
4. The new road is very **wide**, which helps to reduce congestion and improve the flow of vehicles.  
A. narrow      B. broad      C. large      D. vast
5. Living in the city can be **pricey**; rent, dining out, and entertainment all come at a premium.  
A. cheap      B. expensive      C. costly      D. dear

**Exercise 5: Write the correct form of the word in brackets.**

1. Many city dwellers appreciate the convenience of public transportation, but sometimes crowded buses and trains lack the \_\_\_\_\_ of a private car. **(comfortable)**
2. The streets during rush hour can be incredibly \_\_\_\_\_, with people hurrying to work or school. **(crowd)**
3. Unfortunately, the city's public Wi-Fi network is quite \_\_\_\_\_; it frequently disconnects without warning. **(rely)**
4. The skyline is constantly changing due to ongoing \_\_\_\_\_ projects, as new buildings rise alongside older ones. **(construct)**
5. The city's parks are \_\_\_\_\_ landscaped, providing green spaces for residents to relax and unwind. **(attract)**
6. The nightlife in the city is incredibly \_\_\_\_\_, with bars, clubs, and live music venues open until the early hours. **(live)**
7. Despite the hustle and bustle, there are \_\_\_\_\_ corners in the city, like the serene botanical garden. **(peace)**
8. Air pollution from traffic is a major concern, and efforts are being made to reduce \_\_\_\_\_ in the city. **(pollutants)**
9. Living near grocery stores, pharmacies, and restaurants offers great \_\_\_\_\_ for city dwellers. **(convenient)**
10. Some neighborhoods can be \_\_\_\_\_, especially after dark, so it's essential to stay alert and take precautions. **(endanger)**

**SPEAKING**

**Exercise 1: Mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the option that best completes each of the following exchanges.**

1. **Ann:** "Alex, the traffic in this city is unbearable!" - **Alex:** "I know, Ann. \_\_\_\_\_."  
A. You are Welcome.      B. I think it's quite hard to do that.  
C. You are excellent.      D. It takes forever to get anywhere
2. **Ann:** " \_\_\_\_\_ " - **Alex:** "I love it! There are so many clubs and bars."

- A. Would you like to have dinner with me?"  
 B. Do you feel like going to the cinema this afternoon?  
 C. What do you think of the nightlife here?  
 D. What can I do for you?
3. **Ann:** "Alex, do you feel safe walking around at night?" - **Alex:** "Generally, yes. \_\_\_\_\_."  
 A. I haven't experienced it much  
 B. It's too noisy for me  
 C. But it's always good to be cautious  
 D. I prefer staying at home
4. **Ann:** "I enjoy spending time in the city parks." - **Alex:** "\_\_\_\_\_. They're a nice escape from the hustle and bustle."  
 A. No problem  
 B. It's on the wall  
 C. I'm glad you like it  
 D. Me too!
5. **Ann:** "Any good restaurant suggestions?" - **Alex:** "Definitely! \_\_\_\_\_."  
 A. Let's try that new sushi place.  
 B. Just round the corner over there.  
 C. Look it up in a dictionary!  
 D. There's no traffic near here.
6. **Ann:** "The air quality here isn't great, is it?" - **Alex:** "\_\_\_\_\_. We need more green spaces."  
 A. Not really  
 B. No way! It's useful  
 C. I'm of the opposite opinion  
 D. No, it's not
7. **Ann:** "\_\_\_\_\_" - **Alex:** "There are plenty of opportunities, but competition is fierce."  
 A. What do you think about job prospects?  
 B. Can I pay by credit card?  
 C. What do you have?  
 D. You're welcome.
8. **Ann:** "The noise level drives me crazy sometimes." - **Alex:** "\_\_\_\_\_. Earplugs are my best friends."  
 A. I don't agree  
 B. Absolutely  
 C. I doubt it  
 D. Not at all
9. **Ann:** "\_\_\_\_\_" - **Alex:** "Yes, the subway is convenient, but it gets crowded."  
 A. Do you mind if I sit here?  
 B. Do you use public transport?  
 C. It's a bit hot in here, isn't it?  
 D. Would you like a cup of coffee?
10. **Ann:** "Would you ever move to the countryside?" - **Alex:** "\_\_\_\_\_, but for now, I'm a city person."  
 A. It's too heavy.  
 B. Maybe someday  
 C. Thanks a lot, indeed.  
 D. Welcome back.
11. **Ann:** "I heard that the government will build a roof garden on top of this high-rise building. Do you think that will be possible?" - **Alex:** \_\_\_\_\_. They are now making a plan and it will be built soon.  
 A. I'm not sure this is true  
 B. You should give them some advice  
 C. There can't be any doubt about it  
 D. That's a great idea
- Jane is talking to her mother.
12. **Jane:** Mum, I think our city will become more modern. - **Mother:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 A. I'm absolutely sure about it.  
 B. You can't do anything.  
 C. I have some ideas for that.  
 D. We hope that.

## READING

**Exercise 1: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word that best fits each of the numbered blanks.**

⊙ It is reported that there is a rising (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of people living in urban areas. Big cities provide both a significant amount of (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and higher average salaries. With so many companies and factories, it is easy for city dwellers to find work. Statistics from New York City show that people here have ten times more job opportunities than those (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the neighboring suburbs and smaller towns. Additionally, greater earnings are also another reason why workers are attracted to large cities. High-skilled workers tend to concentrate in urban centers because they can (4) \_\_\_\_\_ valuable experiences that are not available in other places. This skilled workforce is, of course, hunted by companies which are often willing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ higher wages.

- |               |             |                 |               |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. A. amount  | B. number   | C. sum          | D. group      |
| 2. A. employ  | B. employed | C. unemployment | D. employment |
| 3. A. in      | B. on       | C. at           | D. by         |
| 4. A. achieve | B. make     | C. take         | D. gain       |
| 5. A. to pay  | B. pay      | C. paying       | D. to be paid |

② In spite of its many (1) \_\_\_\_\_, living in the city also brings lots of disadvantages. The first problem is that citizens have to deal with traffic congestions every day. This problem is even worse (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the rush hour when so many people run out to work and are stuck on streets for hours. Moreover, ambulance and fire engine sometimes can't get in time to complete duty, which makes a lot of serious loss. High cost of living is also a serious issue in the city, especially in metropolitan cities. More and more people find (3) difficult to live on their modest salaries when prices are going up all the time. Financial pressure makes city dwellers become constantly stressed and tired. Another drawback of the city life is the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ air caused by exhaust emissions from millions of vehicles, construction dust and the lack of green trees. This negatively affects residents' health. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ people suffer from respiratory problems such as lung cancer, sore throat or asthma.

- |                 |             |              |                 |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. profits   | B. benefits | C. drawbacks | D. difficulties |
| 2. A. on        | B. in       | C. at        | D. by           |
| 3. A. it        | B. them     | C. their     | D. they         |
| 4. A. pollutant | B. pollute  | C. polluted  | D. pollution    |
| 5. A. little    | B. A lot    | C. Few       | D. Many         |

③ There is a saying that big cities never sleep. This is true for some cities in which the nightlife begins just when people in other cities are ready to go to bed Big cities like New York, Madrid, London and Paris have vibrant nightlife. People can still find (1) \_\_\_\_\_, dine out or go shopping into the early hours.

City dwellers are usually more diverse and there are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ communities that hold social events or parties, which provide interesting opportunities for social interactions and social networking. The social interactions allow you to learn about other cultures and share interests (3) \_\_\_\_\_ people from different backgrounds, which make you more open minded and able to understand individuals. On the other hand, the social networking helps you to broaden not only personal but also professional relationships. All in all, living in big cities is more (4) \_\_\_\_\_ because of the complete facilities provided. The advanced transportation system enables the citizens (5) \_\_\_\_\_ public facilities easier, cheaper and faster. Big cities also provide better education and health service. In addition, city life is more fun and exciting because there is a wide range of entertainment to enjoy and a lot of social events to attend.

- |                  |                 |                  |                   |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A. entertain  | B. entertaining | C. entertainment | D. entertainingly |
| 2. A. little     | B. many         | C. most          | D. much           |
| 3. A. with       | B. to           | C. for           | D. by             |
| 4. A. convenient | B. affordable   | C. expensive     | D. suitable       |
| 5. A. accessed   | B. accessing    | C. to access     | D. access         |

④ Some people live in urban areas of dynamic cities, and some live in quiet countryside towns. Many argue that the hustle and bustle of urban sprawl result (36) \_\_\_\_\_ a stressful lifestyle. Also, a lot of people say that the (37) \_\_\_\_\_ the movement and the peacefulness of the countryside offers serenity. However, busy city life provides high-quality education, a sustainable career, better access to health facilities, etc. People choose to live in cities to have better standards of living. Therefore, (38) \_\_\_\_\_ people ask the following question: In order to make a lot of money, how to hustle in a big city? Those who are tired of (39) \_\_\_\_\_ in a noisy urban environment wish to move to the country, though. In-country life, there are not many career options and chances to build businesses with astonishingly huge profits. However, you can still create a company (40) \_\_\_\_\_ will generate a satisfactory level of income enough to live everyday life. As you can see, it is challenging to decide which one is better: noisy and dynamic city life or quiet and peaceful country life?

- |                  |             |               |           |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1. A. in         | B. from     | C. for        | D. to     |
| 2. A. simple     | B. simplify | C. simplicity | D. simply |
| 3. A. Many       | B. every    | C. another    | D. each   |
| 4. A. travelling | B. playing  | C. living     | D. going  |
| 5. A. where      | B. that     | C. when       | D. who    |

⑤

### TREES BRING HANOIANS CLOSER TO NATURE

City planners have claimed trees play an important role in an urban environment. Children growing up close to nature have better health, while walking in parks reduce blood pressure, stress and obesity. The problem is to select the right trees and (1) \_\_\_\_\_ them.



Ha Noi is considered one of the greenest cities in Viet Nam thanks to its beautiful and precious trees. Ancient trees in Ha Noi are frequently mentioned in poems. Each street can be represented by a tree. To local residents, the hundred-year old trees that line the streets are more than just beautiful, they are a part of the city's identity.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ the treasured place the trees have in the heart of the local resident, Hanoians seem to have a lot of concern when construction workers chop them down. Workers get away with digging around the trees without much care, and even leave the trees without enough earth to grow - making them vulnerable to storms.

To (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the problem, Ha Noi's authorities have started a project of replanting trees: each of the capital's streets (4) \_\_\_\_\_ with two or three sorts of trees. Moreover, more people should be made aware (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of protecting trees in communities.

- |                 |                    |                     |               |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. A. maintain  | B. service         | C. provide          | D. care       |
| 2. A. Because   | B. However         | C. Due to           | D. Although   |
| 3. A. deal with | B. cut down on     | C. come up with     | D. make up    |
| 4. A. planted   | B. will be planted | C. had been planted | D. will plant |
| 5. A. of        | B. in              | C. for              | D. with       |

**Exercise 2: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

① Do you live in a big city? It is said that living in big cities is expensive because of the high living cost. There are also pollution and traffic problems that make living in big cities unpleasant. However, many people enjoy living in big cities because they offer convenience and **countless** options for entertainment.

Many big cities already have good public transportation systems, which makes it easy for the citizens to go anywhere around the city. This also reduces and helps overcome the problem of traffic jams that often occur at peak times. With the convenience of public transportation, the citizens do not have to drive everywhere and can save money as they do not have to pay for parking charges.

Staying healthy is everybody's concern and in big cities you can find the best possible medical care for any diseases, especially the severe ones. Moreover, compared to rural areas, access to medical treatment is easier because there are always clinics or medical centers that open 24 hours in many parts of the city so

you can get medical help anytime, as soon as you need it. Reaching hospitals is also easier as public transport is usually available 24 hours a day.

1. What is the passage mainly about?  
A. Advantages of living in big cities  
B. Disadvantages of living in big cities  
C. Drawbacks of living rural areas  
D. Benefits of living rural areas
2. Which of the \_\_\_\_\_ following is closest in meaning to the word "**countless**" in paragraph 1?  
A. definite  
B. numberless  
C. measurable  
D. limited
3. What makes living in big cities costly?  
A. public transport  
B. healthcare  
C. high cost of living  
D. high parking charges
4. According to the passage, what is people's concern?  
A. traffic congestions  
B. air pollution  
C. medical centers  
D. good health
5. It can be inferred from the passage that in big cities  
A. no one cares about the high cost of living.  
B. it's impossible to get medical care for severe diseases.  
C. traffic jams are often seen during rush hours.  
D. city dwellers do not have to pay for parking.

② Magic city hustle attracts enormous crowds because of several advantages of living in dynamic cities. Many capital cities, huge metropolitans, and educational and financial centres of the countries are well known for their active urban life. The first **pro** of living in cities is that people can have access to great pre- school, school, and higher education institutions. Parents who live in cities conveniently leave their kids to the pre-school educational facilities. Pre-school education in cities features perfect quality, thanks to the highly skilled and educated teaching staff. Due to the high salaries, pre-school teachers prefer working in cities. Also, city life offers a vast variety of schools, among which the families choose the most affordable one. When the kids enjoy the busy, engaging, and interesting pre-school life, families are busy with hustling and working for

long hours. As a result, parents make more money and ensure better financial security for the family. Another huge advantage of living in cities is related to career and financial success. It is a worldwide trend that people move from country to urban areas in order to find better jobs. Cities are home to enormous marketplaces, companies, government institutions, banks, etc., that offer a myriad of jobs. Both high-skilled and low-skilled labour forces can find jobs very easily in urban areas. Workplaces continuously need new people to hire because the market forces change at a swift pace. Therefore, people usually move to cities confidently, believing that they will get jobs very conveniently.

1. What could be the best title for the passage?
  - A. Advantages of living in Cities
  - B. Features of Dynamic Cities
  - C. Education and Employment in Cities
  - D. High-skilled and Low-skilled Labour Forces in Cities
2. The word "**pro**" is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. disadvantage
  - B. advantage
  - C. trouble
  - D. feature
3. Why do pre-school teachers prefer working in cities?
  - A. Because parents leave their kids to the pre-school educational facilities.
  - B. Because they can earn high salaries.
  - C. Because can have access to great pre-school, school, and higher education institutions.
  - D. Because they can have more job opportunities.
4. How many advantages of living in cities are mentioned in the passage?
  - A. four
  - B. three
  - C. two
  - D. one
5. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
  - A. Cities offer various types of jobs suitable for people's abilities and skills.
  - B. Children spend all day at school as their parents are busy working.
  - C. Education in the cities features best quality thanks to the highly skilled and educated teachers.
  - D. Workplaces sack and hire employees at a swift pace.

③

### HO CHI MINH CITY'S COFFEE CULTURE

Ho Chi Minh City is a metropolis where life is very busy and hasty. The best way to enjoy the balance in your mind in such a busy city is to sit on the balcony of one of the numerous coffee houses scattered throughout the city. In this way you will be out of the crowd but able to look down on the street below. You will also be drinking the beverage that must be at least partly responsible for the kinetic energy that has transformed this city into one of the busiest commercial centres of Southeast Asia in just 20 years - it is coffee.

The classic Vietnamese coffee served in this city comprises strong coffee, dripped from a small metal filter into a cup containing a quarter as much sweetened condensed milk, then stirred and poured over ice in a glass.

Coffee was introduced to Viet Nam by the French in the late 19th century, but the country quickly became a big exporter.

At Trung Nguyen Coffee - the Vietnamese equivalent of Starbucks, with a chain of cafes across the city - the coffee menu stretches to five pages. The varieties of Vietnamese coffee produced by Trung Nguyen deserve exploration. They come with different bean combinations and recipes, and nice names such as "Success", "Creation", "Discover" and "Thought". The "Passiona", another brand of Trung Nguyen, has been promoted for women with the promise that drinking this type of coffee would maintain perfect skin and a life of "passion and success".

1. Coffee is considered \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the biggest part of Viet Nam's exports.
  - B. part of the kinetic energy of Ho Chi Minh City.
  - C. the symbol of the busy and hasty life
  - D. part of the French culture
2. When you sit on the balcony of a coffee shop enjoying a cup of coffee, you can \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. watch the busiest commercial centres of Southeast Asia
  - B. drink Starbucks coffee
  - C. taste all types of the classic Vietnamese coffee
  - D. relax for a while
3. We can infer from paragraph 2 that the classic Vietnamese coffee served in Ho Chi Minh City may be
  - A. sweet
  - B. light
  - C. colourless
  - D. often hot
4. All of the following are true about Trung Nguyen Coffee **EXCEPT** that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. ...
  - B. ...
  - C. ...
  - D. ...

- A. it is considered equivalent to Starbucks in Viet Nam  
 B. it offers several types of coffee for customers to enjoy  
 C. its recipes stretches to five pages  
 D. some types have impressive names
5. The "Passiona" for women promises that by drinking this type of coffee women may have all of the following **EXCEPT** that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. they will become more interested  
 B. they will be more successful in their life  
 C. they will have perfect skin  
 D. they will keep their skin lively

④ The majority of London's inhabitants live in its suburbs. Many of them travel to the city to work every day by train, bus, tube or car. These people are called "commuters". Commuters may spend as much as two hours every morning getting to work and another two hours getting home again. The cost of living in London is higher than that in most other parts of Britain. Millions of visitors come to London every year from all over the world to see the famous sights here such as Buckingham Palace and many other historic buildings. London is also very famous for its theaters, red buses and black taxis. Some people find it a noisy and dirty place but it has many large, pleasant parks. Here, everyone can enjoy some peaceful and quiet moments. London has many attractions both people from other parts of Britain and people from overseas.

1. In London \_\_\_\_\_
- A. more people live in the suburbs than in the city center.  
 B. most people live in the suburbs than in the city center.  
 C. less people live in the suburbs than in the city center.  
 D. many people live in the suburbs than in the city center.
2. Commuters \_\_\_\_\_
- A. live in the city center.  
 B. live in the suburbs and travel to work in the city.  
 C. live in the suburbs and work there.  
 D. live in the city center and work there.
3. Living in London is \_\_\_\_\_
- A. cheaper than in most other parts of Britain.  
 B. more expensive than in most other parts of Britain.  
 C. most expensive than in most other parts of Britain.  
 D. more cheap than in most other parts of Britain.
4. London is famous for \_\_\_\_\_
- A. its delicious food.  
 B. its theaters but not its red buses.  
 C. its theaters, red buses and black taxis.  
 D. its inhabitants.
5. The attractions of London are \_\_\_\_\_
- A. for the Londoners only.  
 B. only for people from other parts in Britain.  
 C. just for foreigners.  
 D. both for foreigners and for people from other parts in Britain.

## WRITING

### Exercise 1: Combine the sentences, using **DOUBLE COMPARATIVE**

1. She studies hard, she will get good grades.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
2. You rest much, you will feel better.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
3. The weather is warmer, I feel better.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
4. We leave early, we will arrive soon.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
5. We have much knowledge, we become wise.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
6. You are young, you learn easily.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_
7. The hotel is expensive, the services are good.  
 → \_\_\_\_\_



