



Village and City Life

Task: The pros and cons of living in a city

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 7.

You are going to hear a talk about **the pros and cons of living in a city**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

Audio Script

Even though cities have their cons, they also have their pros. They are great places to find a variety of options for anybody's needs. When is the last time you were in a city?

You ought to realize that one really fun thing about living in a city is all the new and interesting people that you can meet. You can have the opportunity to talk to somebody new almost every day. Furthermore, there is always something new to discover in a city, be it a museum, a new café, landmarks, festivals throughout the year and so on. Another advantage is that in the city you can use the public transportation, which is cheap to use and you don't have to worry about parking. You may be aware that there are all sources of entertainment in a city, and even some that are free. For instance, window shopping, going to the park and seeing street entertainers. Another very good reason that somebody might want to be in the city is because finding employment is easier than out of the city.

Not everything in a city is an advantage though. There are some negative aspects that a person must be aware of. When considering moving to the city, you should keep in mind that cities have more crime than towns do. So, it can be more dangerous. It can be more expensive because usually the rent, food, gasoline, amongst other things, cost more money within the city. In addition, cities tend to have a lot of noise and people that are coming from small towns aren't used to the twenty-four hour hustle and bustle of a city. Also, if you drive a car, you are likely to have trouble finding parking. You may also find that in city apartments, there tends to be a lack of space. For this reason, city dwellers are taught to use their space wisely.

On the whole, nobody can deny all the opportunities a city has available. The city lifestyle isn't for everybody, but it does have some really great benefits. If I were you, I would take all the advantages a city has to offer, even if you don't live in one!

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me **the pros and cons of living in a city**.

Now tell me **the pros and cons of living in a city**. You have one minute to talk.



This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

Pros of living in a city	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet interesting people• New things to discover: museum, a new café, landmarks, festivals• Public transportation: cheap• Entertainment: window shopping, going to the park and seeing street entertainers• Finding employment
Cons of living in a city	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More crime / More dangerous• More expensive: rent, food, gasoline• Noise: twenty-four hustle and bustle• Trouble finding parking• Lack of space

Marks: +_ / +10