

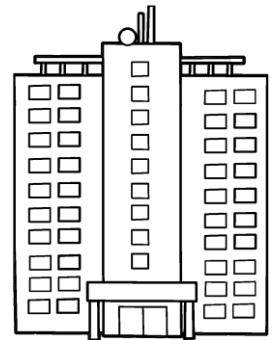
# City Life

Level 5

Do you live in a city? More and more people are now choosing to live in cities, or urban areas, than ever before. Just over half of the world's population live in urban areas. By 2050, that figure is predicted to jump to almost 70 percent. One hundred years ago, more people lived in the country than in the city. Why do so many people nowadays choose to live in cities?

For many, it is simply the lack of employment opportunities in the country, or rural areas. There are many more jobs in the city. This wasn't always the case. In the 1700s, the Industrial Revolution brought an end to many agricultural jobs and introduced many new jobs based around manufacturing goods in factories. Because the manufacturing factories were all located in cities, many people were forced to leave the country for the city. To this day, jobs in cities tend to be better paying. People believe that a higher paying job will lead to a higher standard of living. Farming jobs are often poorly paid for the long hours worked.

Another reason people to choose city life over country life is better access to basic services such as hospitals and schools. People living in the rural areas have access to education, however the choices are much greater for people living in cities. As a result, people in cities have more choice regarding education. This can become particularly important as students progress through their schooling. Health care is another consideration. The closest doctor in rural areas may be an hour or more drive away. Being close to hospitals and other health care providers is a convenience many people won't do without. Hospitals in cities provide care for a much larger number of people than hospitals in urban areas and are therefore better funded. This means they have technology that smaller rural hospitals often don't.



City life is fast paced and for many, exciting; there is so much to see and do. People can easily visit museums, theme parks, theatres, attend sporting matches, see their favourite band play, or have a night at the theatre. These facilities appeal to many people, therefore drawing them away from rural areas and into cities.



# Questions

City Life – Level 5

1. What caused many agricultural jobs to end? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do rural or city hospitals have access to better technology? Why?

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3. Give 3 reasons people choose to live in cities. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Why do you think proximity to medical facilities is an important consideration for many people?

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5. List three reasons why people might choose to live in a rural area.

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6. Give a brief overview of the kind of person who might choose to live in a rural area. Consider age, family, job, hobbies, likes and dislikes.

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7. The text mentions choice in education becoming more important as students get older. Explain why this might be the case.

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# Answers

City Life – Level 5

1. What caused many agricultural jobs to end? **The Industrial Revolution.**

2. Do rural or city hospitals have access to better technology? Why?

**City hospitals have better access to technology because they are better funded.**

3. Give 3 reasons people choose to live in cities.

**Access to entertainment (eg. museums, parks), closer to hospitals, schooling opportunities, jobs (especially higher paying jobs)**

4. Why do you think proximity to medical facilities is an important consideration for many people?

**Some people have medical conditions which mean they need to regularly attend the doctor or hospitals.**

5. List three reasons why people might choose to live in a rural area.

**Answers will vary. Less traffic on the roads, less air pollution, more relaxed life, more space to run around, less crime.**

6. Give a brief overview of the kind of person who might choose to live in a rural area. Consider age, family, job, hobbies, likes and dislikes.

**Answers will vary.**

**Answers may include: retirees, family with young children who want space.**

**People who like peace and quiet. Farmers.**

7. The text mentions choice in education becoming more important as students get older. Explain why this might be the case.

**As students get older, they begin thinking about what career they would like. Having a range of schools or universities to choose from is important so students can study the subjects they want.**

