

English Exam
Grade 7 / 60 minutes
February 18th, 2014

I. Reading Comprehension: (31 pts)

Country Life v/s City Life

City living and country living have a wide range of differences and similarities. Every day new people enter each and call it their home. When living in the city, you are an on-the-go kind of person and enjoy the world at a fast rhythm. In contrast, a country living style is slow and calm.

Today we make important decisions when deciding where to live. This is not a decision that is always easy to make. There are many things that you need to take into consideration. Like do you want your neighbors to be close, do you like to listen to the noise and traffic of the city? Don't forget to consider your job, drive time and pets if you have or want them. For many people, this is one of the many important decisions they will ever have to make.

While living in the city, you have numerous things to do: the opportunities are endless. On any given night, you can walk around and enjoy the wonders of the city: the sights and the sounds *take your breath away* at all times. Nothing is more entertaining than walking on the pavement with other pedestrians, reading billboards or checking road signs, and watching cars pour from all corners and stop at traffic lights.

The city also has many different places to go to. Nice and expensive shops attract many tourists. There are a lot of restaurants too where you can get a casual or formal dinner; any way to enjoy yourself. If you are a city-dweller, you are always around much excitement. *As far as I'm concerned*, living in the city gives people a special feeling of superiority because of the nice shops, centers and modern architecture.

Although the city seems to have a lot of great things, the country can offer as much satisfaction as well. The country is a marvelous place to live in. It offers a very relaxing feeling, and it is filled with magnificent views and scenery. Rural towns offer more open space than cities and aren't overcrowded.

The country can also maybe help you become a more independent and active person. You can buy a small piece of land, plough it and put some seeds in order to grow your own vegetables. This way you collect your own crops, and eat and live in a very healthy way. In addition, being in the countryside makes you more of an outdoor person often enjoying the voices and wild places of nature.

Not everyone is suited to the city life and not everyone has the desire to live permanently in the countryside. It is a matter of perspective and personal point of view.

a- Find in the text a word that means the same as: (8 pts)

- Common points of comparison: **similarities**
- Outgoing: **on-the-go**
- A lot, many: **numerous / endless**
- Have fun doing: **enjoy**
- Fun, enjoyable: **entertaining**
- Wonderful: **marvelous**
- Filled, cramped: **overcrowded**
- What we produce or harvest: **crops**

b- Explain the following expressions in your own words. (3 pts)

- “Country Life v/s City Life”:

The similarities and difference between country life and city life.

- “Take your breath away”:
Amazing, beautiful, or very nice
- “As far as I am concerned”:
In my opinion

c- What is the difference between a “house” and a “home”? (3 pts)

A home is the place where we live and feel that we belong. It brings happiness, comfort, as well as moral and physical well-being. However, a house is a particular type of building, it is the place where we live whether we like it or not.

d- What can people who live in the city do? Mention at least 2 different activities or attractions. Use your own words. (3 pts)

People who live in the city can visit different places like shops, restaurants... In addition, they can walk around the city with other pedestrians, check advertisement, or watch cars drive.

e- In your own words, explain how living in the country is better than living in the city. Include at least two reasons in your answer. (3 pts)

Living in the country is better than living in the city because in the country, one can enjoy a calmer life. For example, we can be surrounded

by natural breathtaking views, and we can enjoy outdoor pursuits. Adding to that, we can be more independent in the country and more active. Finally, it is possible to have pets and to be closer to animals.

f- What kind of person likes living in the city? What kind of person enjoys the countryside more? (4 pts)

The person that likes living in the city is usually an outgoing, sociable person. He likes to interact with others and doesn't mind the noise. He also goes out more and has a busy life. However, the person that enjoys the countryside is calmer and more adventurous. He likes the land and is fond of animals.

g- Does the writer prefer to live in rural towns? Justify by quoting the text. (2 pts)

No, the writer prefers to live in the city; "As far as I am concerned, living in the city gives people a special feeling of superiority..."

h- What about you? Where do you prefer to live? Explain why. (60 words) (5 pts)

Students' answer

II. Grammar and Vocabulary: (29 pts)

1- Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the Past Simple or Past Continuous. (10 pts)

Levi Strauss comes from a small town in the south of Germany. When he **was** (be) a young man, he **fell** (fall) in love with the mayor's daughter. But the mayor and Levi's parents **didn't want** (not want) them to get married. At the age of 18, Levi's parents **sent** (send) him away to New York where his brothers **lived** (live). They **were** (be) tailors and they **taught** (teach) him to sew.

In 1850, Levi **took** (take) some cloth from New York to San Francisco where he **met / was meeting** (meet) some men. The weather was bad on that day. It **was raining** (rain) and the wind **was blowing** (blow) all day long. The men **were** (be) cold because they **were wearing** (wear) thin cotton trousers. Suddenly, Levi **had** (have) an idea. He **used** (use) the cloth which he **carried / was carrying** (carry) to make the pants stronger. The men **loved** (love) the new trousers but they **didn't like** (not like) the colour. So when Levi Strauss **opened** (open) a shop in San Francisco, he imported a special blue material from France. That's how jeans **became** (become) blue.

2- Circle the correct answer. (3.5 pts)

A- Mr Bell doesn't enjoy formal clothes.

a) **Wearing** b- To wear

B- I don't feel like home.

- a) **Going** b- To go
 C- We decided lunch in a café.
 a) Having b- **To have**
 D- He refused me the whole truth.
 a) Telling b- **To tell**
 E- She expects..... in 3 weeks when she finishes the project.
 a) Traveling b- **To travel**
 F- He carries on about personal subjects.
 a) **Talking** b- To talk
 G- You never promised..... us. Why did you change your mind?
 a) Helping b- **To help**

3- Complete the sentences with much, many, a lot of, a few, a little, some OR any. Use every word only ONCE: (3.5 pts)

- a- You cannot borrow money from your brother. He only has **a little** left.
 b- Please don't put **any** milk in my coffee.
 c- You should buy a new car. Your old car has **a lot of** problems.
 d- Only **a few** of the computers in the writing center are broken.
 e- There isn't **much** time left.
 f- How **many** questions did you answer correctly?
 g- Please get me **some** cold water.

4- Join the sentences adding commas where necessary: (5 pts)

- 1- I like surfing on the ocean. My brother hates it. (but)
I like surfing, but my brother hates it.
- 2- Amy has a computer. She has a cell phone. She has a television in her room. (and)
Amy has a computer, a cell phone(,) and a television in her room.
- 3- I was travelling to Tokyo. A great storm started. (when)
When I was travelling to Tokyo, a great storm started.
- 4- Last Sunday, I was jogging outdoor. My sister went to see her friends. (while)
While I was jogging outdoor, my sister went to see her friends.
- 5- I always watch a movie on Sundays. I ride my bike on Sundays too. (and)
I always watch a movie and ride my bike on Sunday. (, and ride my bike on Sunday)

5- Complete with the correct form of the words in brackets. (7 pts)

- a- I was impressed because my uncle is so **generous** (generosity); he bought me a new laptop.
 b- Scientists are very **creative** (create) because they come up with great inventions.

- c- The high waves **violently** (violence) hit the shores in winter.
- d- **Pollution** (pollute) is very dangerous and might have a lot of negative **disadvantages** (advantage).
- e- It is **illegal** (legal) to hunt whales and pandas.
- f- Computer games are addictive and lead to **laziness** (laze).

GOOD LUCK

