## Goin' to the Country?

### Go with a new set of spectacles

#### by Marlin Nissen

#### Translation

1. Of course some would say that money could help fix most of the negative impacts. But what if the money's not there -- or you would prefer to spend it in other ways?

**当然，有人会说钱可以弥补多数负面影响。但如果手里没有钱，或是想把钱花在其它方面，那我们又该怎么处理这个问题呢？**

1. Many people have moved to the country only to return again, sobered by unforeseen harsh realities. Though romantic notions of country living may not always play out, an analytical way to look at any situation is to maximize the advantages and turn each disadvantage over to utilize its silver lining.

**很多搬到乡村的人被没有预见到的艰难生活所警醒，他们没想到自己最终又回到了城市。虽然我们对乡村生活浪漫梦想的实施不总是以失败而告终，但我们还是应该对各种情况都采取分析的方法，最大限度地发挥优势，而且只要有一线生机，还要尽力把劣势转化成优势。**

**Questions and answers:**

1. Why Christina wants to live in the country?

**Caught in a seemingly endless cycle of day-care and unsatisfying work, barely making ends meet in unhealthy, unnatural living conditions, she dreams of a better existence for herself and her daughter.**

1. What does the writer suggest you to do if you want to try to live in the country?

**Make some plans, but make sure you talk with someone who might know the route you want to take, a consultant of sorts or a friend with a clue about the details of country living. And remember, everything is a trade-off.**

**Odd Group of Friends**

**Questions:**

1. How is the “urban tribes” members’ relationship like?

**The members develop broad but tightknit friendships. They live together, eat together and socialize together.**

2. What is the emptiness that the youth in early 20s face according to scholars?

**These young people leave the family but not yet commit themselves to one of their own.**

3. What kind of support system these urban tribes provide?

**These urban tribes have social capital; they make use of friend-of-a-friend connections to grease others’ way through life; helping others locate a good doctor, get an interview for a higher-paying job; or finding someone to adopt one’s cat when he moves.**

**Translation:**

Many have an enviable sense of freedom and seemingly endless time to make and then correct life choices, including jobs and partners, just like the people on the popular TV sitcom “Friends”.

**很多人的自由让人嫉妒，他们好像有着用不完的时间去选择改善自己的生活，比如选择工作，选择伴侣等。他们就像是走红电视连续剧«老友记»中的人物。**