

SPEAKING

Let's talk about urbanisation!

LEVEL

Upper-Intermediate
(B2)

NUMBER

EN_B2_2044S

LANGUAGE

English

Learning outcomes

- I can discuss how urbanisation affects the lives of people.
- I can give my opinions on urban growth and support my views.



Warm-up

Pedestrianisation

What does this word make you think of?

Share your ideas with the rest of the class!



Pedestrianisation

In urban design, **pedestrianisation** is the planning of bicycle commuting and pedestrian-friendly areas. What benefits does a pedestrian-friendly city provide? Use the topics below to help you formulate your answer.

tourism

health

the
environment

the economy



In my opinion, a pedestrian-friendly city is beneficial for tourism because...



I believe the environment benefits from a pedestrian-friendly city because...



Find out more

1. **Find out** more about a classmate.
2. **Share** what you've learned about your classmate with the rest of the class.

1 Are they happy where they live?

2 Is there a city they dream of living in one day?

3 Have they ever lived in a city/town that made them unhappy?

4 What is their definition of happiness?





Categorise

1. **Categorise** the synonyms into one of the pink boxes below.
2. Then **answer** the questions below.

1

expand

2

revitalise

3

renew

4

preserve

5

spread

6

develop

7

regenerate

8

protect

9

renovate

10

support

Sustain

Grow

Revive

Is your city **expanding** or **shrinking**?

Is there a neighbourhood in your city that has been **revitalised** in the last 10-20 years?



'The goal of neighbourhood revitalisation is to improve communities in a way that has a lasting impact on the quality of life of its residents.'

Do you agree or disagree with the statement above? Why?

In what ways can the goal of neighbourhood revitalisation be achieved?

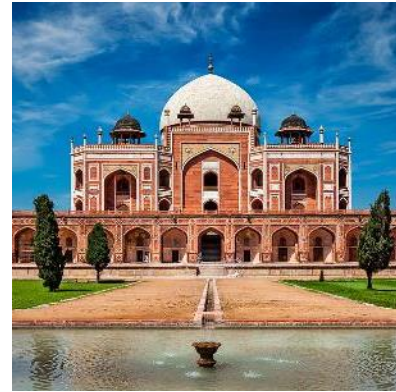


Discuss

In breakout rooms or together as a class, **answer** the questions in the yellow box.

Can you tell your classmates about a historical building in your country?

How are historical buildings protected/preserved in your country?



The Sydney Opera House is a historical building in my country...



In South Korea, the Gyeongbokgung Palace is a well-known historical building...

What's your opinion?

When it comes to the growth of a city, which do you think is better in terms of **quality of life**, **congestion**, and **the environment** – *compact growth* or *urban sprawl*?

Share your reasons with supporting details. Use the **phrases** below to help you!



Compact growth

- shorter commutes
- existing suburbs are made denser
- reduced dependency on cars
- 'living over the shop' projects are complex and hard to scale
- apartments cost more to develop than houses



Urban sprawl

- more people are able to afford larger houses on larger plots
- cars are more of a necessity
- the more houses that are built, the fewer natural habitats for flora and fauna



*In my opinion..., I believe...,
I think..., From my point of
view..., My impression is
that...*



Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**How has the population
of your country changed
over the last three
decades?**

**How do you think this has
impacted the environment?
The economy?**





Describe the pictures

Answer the questions in the yellow box.



1. Which of these two places is more densely populated?
2. How do you think the quality of life is in these two places?
3. Where would you rather live? Why?

Discuss

Answer the questions below.

Do you like walking around your neighbourhood? Why or why not?



What do you like most about your neighbourhood? What do you like least?

Are cars necessary to have where you live?



End of the lesson

Idiom

to paint the town red

Meaning: to go out and enjoy yourself

Example: I'm going to paint the town red this weekend!

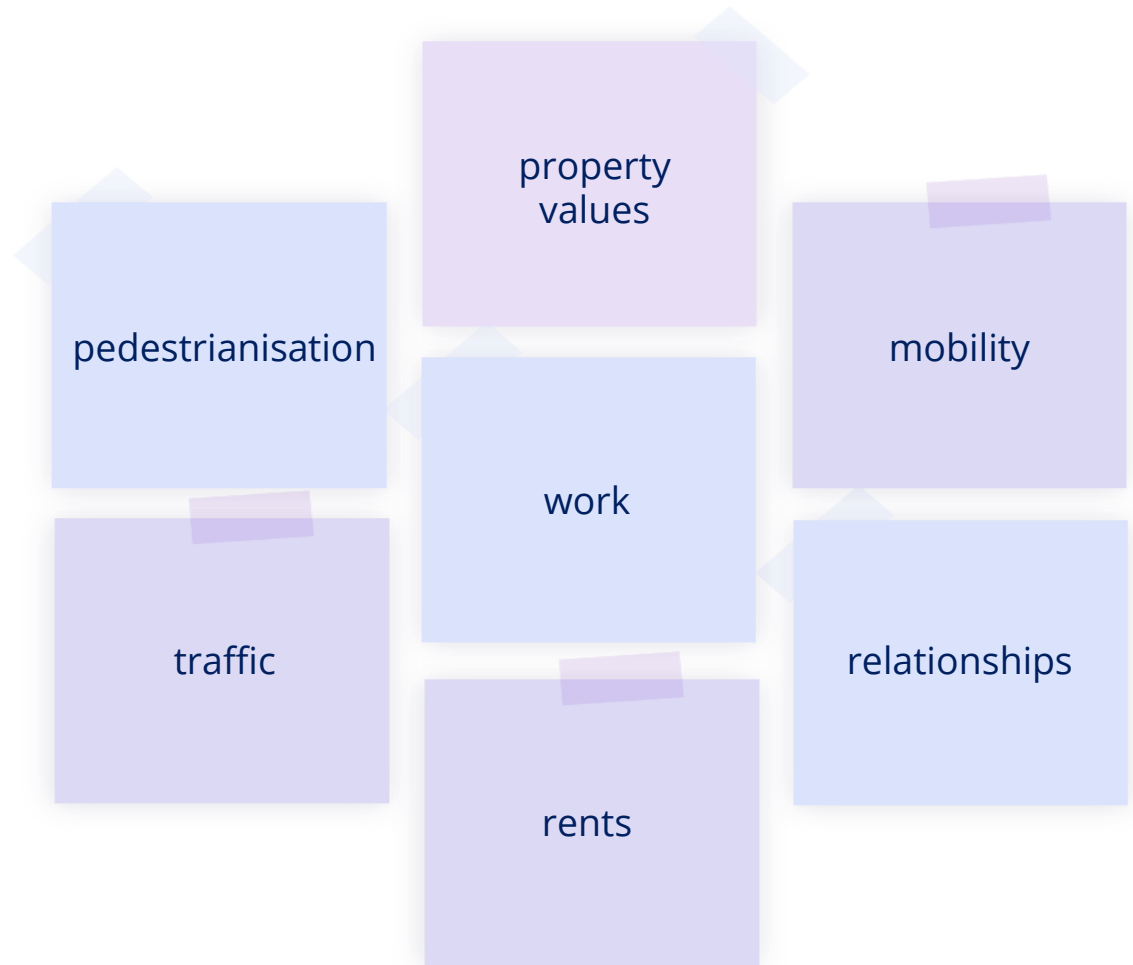


Additional practice



Effects of urbanisation

How does urbanisation benefit residents, businesses, and the economy?





Push and pull factors

Answer the questions below.

Pull factors attract people to new areas. Can you think of some examples of *pull factors*?



Push factors drive people away from their homes. Can you think of some examples of *push factors*?



Discuss

Answer the question below.

Name some cities or countries that are sparsely populated.

What do these places look like?



Discuss



In breakout rooms or together as a class, **answer** the questions below.



The American or British accent—which do you find easier to understand?

Would you like your accent to be American or British English?

Do you use American or British spelling?

Are you more in contact with American or British English (TV, music, books, podcasts)?



Answer key

P.6: *Suggested answers:*

Sustain:

preserve, protect, support

Grow:

expand, spread, develop

Revive:

revitalise, renew, regenerate, renovate



Summary

Urbanisation

- *pedestrianisation; to revitalise; a lasting impact; compact growth; urban sprawl*
- **Pedestrianisation** *is the planning of bicycle commuting and pedestrian-friendly areas.*
- *Neighbourhood revitalisation should have **a lasting impact** on the quality of life of residents.*



Vocabulary

pedestrianisation

to revitalise

a lasting impact

compact growth

urban sprawl

