

## UNIT 8

# COUNTRY LIFE AND CITY LIFE

### GETTING STARTED.

*Work with a partner. Make a list of the differences between the countryside and the city. The words in the box may help you.*

noisy	fresh air	friendly
tall buildings	kinds of goods	fresh foods
beautiful views	entertainments	traffic jam



### LISTEN AND READ.

**Hoa:** Hi, Na. Have you been away?

**Na:** Yes. I went to the countryside for the weekend.

**Hoa:** Where did you go?

**Na:** I went to Kim Lien. It's a village. Some of my relatives live there.

**Hoa:** I've heard it's a beautiful place.

**Na:** It is. And it's very quiet and peaceful. I had a really nice weekend, but I don't want to live there permanently.

**Hoa:** Why not?

**Na:** It's too quiet. There is nothing to do.

**Hoa:** Yes, but things are changing in the countryside.

**Na:** Such as?

**Hoa:** Many remote areas are getting electricity. People can now have things like refrigerators and .....

**Na:** And TV.

**Hoa:** That too. TV is bringing not only information but also entertainment. And medical facilities are more easily accessible too. Life in the provinces is definitely changing for the better.



**Na:** But the city has so much more to offer.

**Hoa:** In many ways, I prefer the countryside. Life is simple, people are friendly and the air is clean.

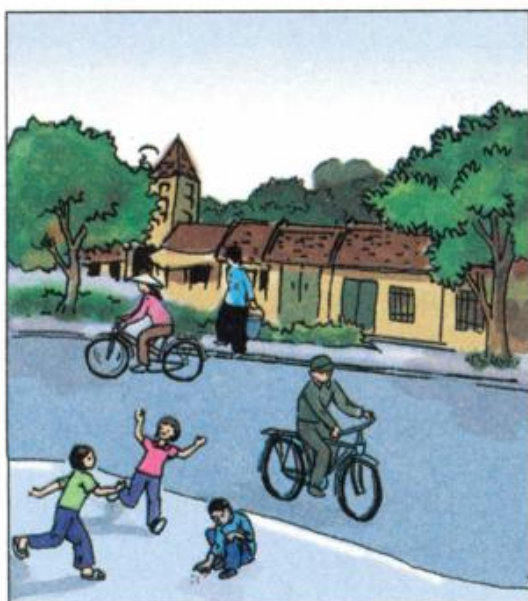
**1. Practice the dialogue with a partner.**

**2. Answer the questions.**

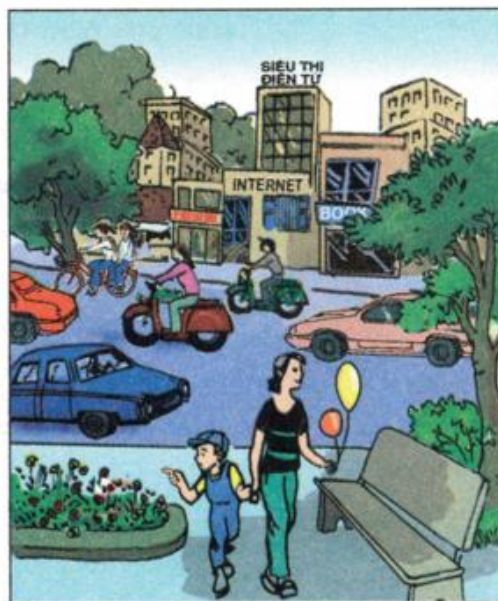
- a) Where has Na been?
- b) How long was she there?
- c) What is her opinion of the countryside?
- d) Na says, 'There is nothing to do.' What does she mean by this?
- e) What are some of the changes that Hoa mentions?
- f) Do you prefer the city or the countryside? Why?

**SPEAK.**

- 1. Work with a partner. Look at the two pictures and talk about the changes of the town. The word prompts in the box may help you.**



5 years ago



now

busy   tall   beautiful   modern   noisy   dirty   expensive

*Example : The town is becoming busier.*



2. Work with a partner. Talk about changes in your hometown.

**LISTEN.**

*Fill in the missing words.*



**Lan:** Hello.

**Aunt Hang:** Hello. Is (1)\_\_\_\_\_ Lan?

**Lan:** Yes. Who is (2)\_\_\_\_\_?

**Aunt Hang:** (3)\_\_\_\_\_ Aunt Hang. How are you?

**Lan:** I'm fine. (4)\_\_\_\_\_ are you phoning (5)\_\_\_\_\_?

**Aunt Hang:** Hue. I'm calling to tell you Uncle Chi and I are (6)\_\_\_\_\_ to visit you next (7)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Lan:** Great! When are you (8)\_\_\_\_\_?

**Aunt Hang:** On (9)\_\_\_\_\_. We're arriving in Ha Noi in the (10)\_\_\_\_\_ (11)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Lan:** OK. Do you want to (12)\_\_\_\_\_ to (13)\_\_\_\_\_ mom?

**Aunt Hang:** Yes, please.

**Lan:** Hold on a moment and I'll (14)\_\_\_\_\_ her.



**READ.**

Many people from rural areas are leaving behind their traditional way of life and moving to the city. They believe that well-paying jobs are plentiful in the city.

At home on the farm, life is always a struggle with nature. Typhoons, floods or droughts can easily destroy a harvest and leave the farmer with little or no money until the following year. Often farmers look for other work when they need more money for their family.

The increase in population, however, has led to overcrowding in many cities. This puts a strain on schools and hospitals, as well as water and electricity supplies. Increased pollution is another unpleasant result.

There is also a human side to this tragedy. Families sometimes have to live apart. In these cases, children may live at home with relatives, while their parents go and live in an urban area.

Governments all over the world are trying to provide facilities for these migrants, but it can be quite a problem.

**1. Complete the summary. Use information from the passage.**


People from the countryside are (1)\_\_\_\_\_ their (2)\_\_\_\_\_ to go and live in the (3)\_\_\_\_\_. Farming can sometimes be a difficult life and these people from (4)\_\_\_\_\_ areas feel the (5)\_\_\_\_\_ offers more opportunities. However, many people coming to the city create (6)\_\_\_\_\_. There may not be enough (7)\_\_\_\_\_ or (8)\_\_\_\_\_, while water and electricity supplies may not be adequate. This is a (9)\_\_\_\_\_ facing governments around the (10)\_\_\_\_\_.

**2. Find the word in the passage that means:**

- a) of the countryside .....
- b) as many as needed .....
- c) become greater or larger .....
- d) a great pressure .....
- e) a terrible event .....
- f) of the city or city life .....

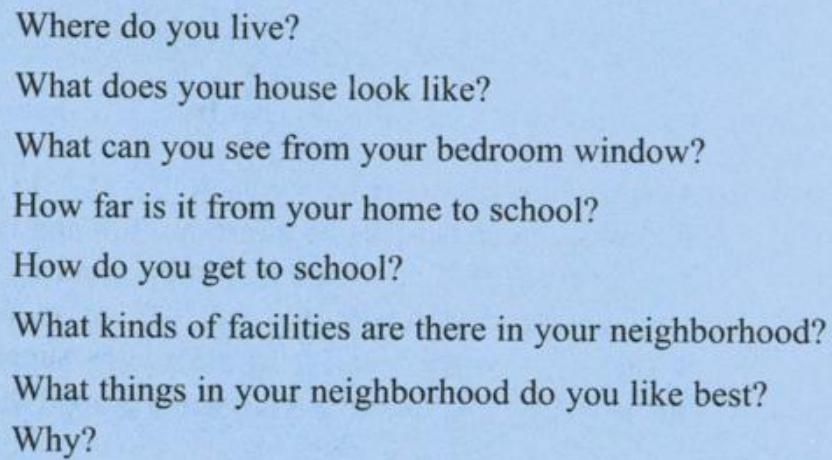
## WRITE.

1. Put the outline for an informal letter in the correct order. If you don't remember, refer to the writing exercises in Unit 5.



Opening  
Date  
Closing  
Heading  
Writer's address  
Body of letter

2. Write a letter to a friend about your neighborhood. These questions may help you.



Where do you live?  
What does your house look like?  
What can you see from your bedroom window?  
How far is it from your home to school?  
How do you get to school?  
What kinds of facilities are there in your neighborhood?  
What things in your neighborhood do you like best?  
Why?



## Language focus

- Present progressive - to talk about the future  
- to show changes with *get* and *become*
- Comparative and superlative adjectives

### 1. Read the dialogues.

- a) **Mrs. Vui:** Is the boat to Dong Hoi leaving at 10.25?  
**Clerk:** Is that *Lady of the Lake*?  
**Mrs. Vui:** That's right.  
**Clerk:** I'm very sorry, madam, but it's been delayed.  
**Mrs. Vui:** Oh, no!  
**Clerk:** Now, it's leaving at 10.40.
- b) **Mr. Hung:** Is the boat from Hai Phong arriving at 10.30?  
**Clerk:** Are you talking about *Bright Sky*?  
**Mr. Hung:** Yes.  
**Clerk:** It's arriving on time, sir.

Now make similar dialogues. Use the shipping information.

### Shipping information

Ship Name	Destination	Time of Departure	Status	Revised Time
Lady of the Lake	Dong Hoi	10.25	delayed	10.40
Good Fortune	Quy Nhon	11.30	delayed	13.55
City of Hue	Nha Trang	11.40	—	—
Golden Trail	Ho Chi Minh City	11.55	delayed	16.20

Ship Name	Origin	Time of Arrival	Status	Revised Time
Bright Sky	Hai Phong	10.30	—	—
Speed of Light	Ho Chi Minh City	10.40	delayed	12.30
Diamond Eyes	Ca Mau	11.00	—	—
Stars Above	Phu Quoc	12.00	delayed	18.15

**2. Complete the dialogues. Use the verbs in the present progressive tense.**

- a) **Nam:** What are you doing tonight?  
**Bao:** I'm *playing* (0) table tennis.
- b) **Uncle Thach:** Would you and Lan like to go to the movies?  
**Hoa:** Sorry, we can't. We (1)\_\_\_\_\_ homework.
- c) **Mrs. Vui:** Are you watching the seven o'clock news?  
**Mr. Nhat:** No, I (2)\_\_\_\_\_ a program on rainforests.
- d) **Hoa:** I'm going to the beach on Saturday.  
**Lan:** Lucky you! I (3)\_\_\_\_\_ to my violin lesson.
- e) **Mrs. Thoa:** Are you free on Sunday afternoon?  
**Na:** No, Mom and I (4)\_\_\_\_\_ the house.
- f) **Nga:** Can you fix my computer on Friday afternoon?  
**Mr. Lam:** I'm afraid not. I (5)\_\_\_\_\_ a meeting that afternoon.

**3. Complete the sentences. Use the verbs and adjectives in the boxes.**

get  
become

better  
cleaner  
cold  
dark  
tall  
weak

- a) *The boys are getting taller.*
- b) The old men \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) We should go home. It \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) The weather \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) The students \_\_\_\_\_.
- f) The school yard \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Make comparisons between the city and the country about these things. The adjectives in the box will help you.

busy	easy	expensive	cheap	good
bad	poor	big	accessible	fresh

food

entertainments

traffic

medical facilities

transport

schools

air

electricity

5. Look at the advertisements. Compare the house, the villa and the apartment. Use the adjectives in the box.

*The house is more expensive than the apartment.*

*The apartment is smaller than the villa.*

*The villa is the oldest home.*

expensive	old	small	beautiful	big	hot
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**FOR RENT**

Beautiful apartment with balcony, only 2 years old, 30m<sup>2</sup>, 900,000 dong per month  
Tel: 8 420 197



**FOR RENT**

Modern air-conditioned house with garden, new, 1,000m<sup>2</sup>, 6.6 million dong per month  
Tel: 8 362 314

**FOR RENT**

Lovely villa, five years old, 150m<sup>2</sup>, 7.8 million dong per month  
Tel: 8 293 640