

## Big City Life

### You can live:

*on the outskirts of the city* – на окраине города

*in the suburbs* – в пригороде

*in the countryside* – в деревенской местности

*in a small town* – в маленьком городке

*in the heart of a big city* – в центре большого города

### Realities of towns

*car park* – парковка

*pedestrian block* – пешеходная зона

*pedestrian crossing* – пешеходный переход

**road works** – дорожные работы

**garbage AM (rubbish BR) dump** – мусорная свалка

**corner shop** – магазинчик на углу

**parking lot (meter)** – счётчик платы за парковку

**road sign** – дорожный знак

**housing estate** – жилой район

**shopping mall** – торговый центр

**bus stop** – автобусная остановка

### Useful phrases

**advantages and disadvantages** – преимущества и недостатки

**to be a hard-line metropolitan** – быть убежденным городским жителем

**hustle and bustle** – суета

**noise** – шум // **to make noise** - шуметь

**the lack of isolation** – нехватка уединения

**to suffer from stress** – быть в стрессе

**to change for the better/to change for the worse** – меняться к лучшему или к худшему

**to preserve nature** – сохранять природу

### Questions for discussion

1. Do you prefer to live in the city or in the country? Why?
2. What advantages or disadvantages do both places have?

\*Compare in terms of:

Basic amenities, Quality of life, Quality of health, Raising kids, Healthcare, Career opportunities, Education, Entertainment, Socializing, Looking for a partner, Mental development, Open-mindedness, Trust, Safety, Communication and Social problems.

3. Is Moscow a suitable place to live in? Name the main advantages and disadvantages.
4. In which place is it better:

to live now. And why? What factor would affect your decision?

to live when you become older and leave your work (retire). Why?

to bring up children.

to build a successful career?

5. Do you change places easily? For example move to a new flat, a new city, a new country?
6. Would you like to have many flats in different countries?
7. Do you have any dream-place in the world?
8. Will you let your child leave home and move to another city or country?
9. Opinions on suburban living?

#### **Global issues:**

10. Is the countryside in Russia changing for the better or for the worse?
11. What could be done to preserve the countryside?
12. How do you think metropolitans care about their health in general?
13. How is the quality of water in Moscow?
14. How to keep the water we drink clean?
15. How is the quality of air in Moscow?
16. Global warming. Is it a crisis? How does it affect you?

#### **EXPAND YOUR LANGUAGE!**

##### **Idioms**

1. **To have ants in your pants** - To be nervous or anxious or jumpy; to be unable to sit still
2. **Bad to the bone** - Bad through-and-through. Those who are bad to the bone are born that way. They make rich women beg and good women steal. Everyone fears those who are bad to the bone.
3. **To bark up the wrong tree** - Make a mistake or a false assumption in something you are trying to achieve.
4. **To build a Better mousetrap** - to develop or invent something superior to a device that is widely used. (From the old saying, "If you build a better mousetrap, the world will beat a path to your door.")
5. **Bored to tears** and **bored to distraction; bored stiff; bored to death; bored to tears** - very bored; extremely dull and uninteresting (Usually an exaggeration.)

6. **Brain drain** - The loss of skilled intellectual and technical labor through the movement of such labor to more favorable geographic, economic, or professional environments.
7. **Cleanliness is next to godliness** - *Prov.* It is very important to keep yourself clean
8. **Couldn't care less** - it is impossible for me to have less interest in it
9. **Drive you up a wall** - *Fig.* to annoy or irritate someone. *Stop whistling that tune. You're driving me up the wall. All his talk about moving to California nearly drove me up the wall.*
10. **Eat humble pie** - To be forced to apologize abjectly or admit one's faults in humiliating circumstances.
11. **Gives me the creeps** – gives me a feeling of fear and revulsion; "he gives me the creeps"
12. **Jump the gun** - to start before the proper time *We shouldn't be going on holiday till tomorrow, but we jumped the gun and caught today's last flight.*
13. **Keep your cards close to chest** - play one's cards close to one's chest and **play one's cards close to one's vest; keep one's cards close to one's chest; keep one's cards close to one's vest** *Fig.* to keep to oneself or be very cautious in one's dealing with people. (As if one were playing cards and not permitting anyone to see any of the cards.)
14. **Mark my words** - something that you say when you tell someone about something that you are certain will happen in the future *That girl's going to cause trouble, you mark my words.*

### Quotes

1. Birds of the same feather flock together.
2. Just living is not good enough. One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower ~ Hand Christian Anderson
3. In spite of the cost of living, it's still popular. ~ Kathy Norris
4. There are too many people, but too few human beings. ~ Robert Zend
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public. ~ Bryan White
6. Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated. ~ Confucius
7. We shall require a substantially new manner of thinking if mankind is to survive. ~ Albert Einstein
8. The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows. ~ Sydney J. Harris
9. Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one. ~ Malcolm S. Forbes
10. There is sufficiency in the world for man's need, but not for man's greed. ~ M. Gandhi
11. We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. ~ Native American proverb
12. You take my life when you do take the means whereby I live. ~ W. Shakespeare