



SMART JUNIORS 2

The Tug of Two Worlds: City or Countryside?

Lesson 27

Read for Detail

- Listen and review the essay.

The Tug of Two Worlds: City or Countryside?

- ▶ The question of whether people should leave the countryside for city life has brought a contentious debate, with valid arguments on both sides.
 - ▶ Supporters of leaving the countryside emphasize the advantages of city life. They think urban environments offer a wider range of job opportunities and higher salaries. Additionally, cities provide top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences. However, critics of leaving the countryside highlight the benefits of rural living. Rural areas often offer cleaner air, fresh foods, and lower crime rates, which are good for overall well-being. Moreover, living in the countryside brings more opportunities for individuals to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of landscapes and outdoor activities.



LISTEN AND REVIEW

▶ Despite the allure of city life, I firmly believe that people should not abandon the countryside. While urban environments may have more job opportunities and higher salaries, they often come with increased competition and high living expenses. In contrast, rural areas provide a slower pace of life and a lower cost of living, which can contribute to overall well-being and financial stability.



On the other hand, although cities may offer top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences, smaller towns can provide a better environment for personal growth and relationship building. People in rural areas often have stronger connections to their neighbors and local organizations, enabling them to build supportive networks.



LISTEN AND REVIEW

- ▶ In conclusion, the decision to leave the countryside for city life depends on individual preferences and priorities. It is important to consider what truly contributes to overall well-being and happiness. Whether one chooses the bustling streets of the city or the serene landscapes of the countryside, both environments have their unique merits that should be acknowledged and respected.



READ FOR DETAIL

- Read Paragraph 2 and identify the four advantages of city life mentioned in the passage.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 2

Supporters of leaving the countryside emphasize the advantages of city life. They think urban environments offer a wider range of job opportunities and higher salaries. Additionally, cities provide top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences.

Useful Expressions

They think urban environments offer **a wide range of job opportunities** and higher salaries.



Let Me Try!

I love shopping in this shoe shop because it offers a wide range of _____
_____.

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 2

Supporters of leaving the countryside emphasize the advantages of city life.

They think urban environments offer a wider range of job opportunities and higher salaries. Additionally, cities provide top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences.

READ FOR DETAIL

- **Read Paragraph 2 and pick the letter(s) for things that rural living cannot provide.**
- A** clean air and fresh foods
- B** lower crime rates
- C** more opportunities to connect with nature
- D** better educational institutions
- E** the chance to enjoy the landscapes and outdoor activities

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 2

However, critics of leaving the countryside highlight the benefits of rural living. Rural areas often offer cleaner air, fresh foods, and lower crime rates, which are good for overall well-being. Secondly, living in the countryside brings more opportunities for individuals to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of landscapes and outdoor activities.

Useful Expressions

Living in the countryside
brings more opportunities for...



Let Me Try!

_____ brings
more opportunities for students to get
a high-salary job after their graduation.

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 2

However, critics of leaving the countryside highlight the benefits of rural living. Rural areas often offer cleaner air, fresh foods, and lower crime rates, which are good for overall well-being. Secondly, living in the countryside brings more opportunities for individuals to connect with nature and enjoy the beauty of landscapes and outdoor activities.

- Read Paragraph 3 and complete the details below.

Author's Point of View:

The author believes that

Author's Response to the Counter-argument *(highlighted sentence)*:

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 3

Despite the allure of city life, I firmly believe that people should not abandon the countryside. While urban environments may have more job opportunities and higher salaries, they often come with increased competition and high living expenses. In contrast, rural areas provide a slower pace of life and a lower cost of living, which can contribute to overall well-being and financial stability.

Useful Expressions

While urban environments may have more..., they often come with increased competition.



Let Me Try!

While smartphones bring great convenience to our work and daily life, overusing them can _____.

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 3

Despite the allure of city life, I firmly believe that people should not abandon the countryside. While urban environments may have more job opportunities and higher salaries, they often come with increased competition and high living expenses. In contrast, rural areas provide a slower pace of life and a lower cost of living, which can contribute to overall well-being and financial stability.

- Read Paragraph 3 and complete the details below.

Counter-argument:

“Cities may offer top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences.”

Author’s Response:

The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 3

On the other hand, although cities may offer top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences, smaller towns can provide a better environment for personal growth and relationship building. People in rural areas often have stronger connections to their neighbors and local organizations, enabling them to build supportive networks.

Useful Expressions

People in rural areas often have stronger connections to their...,
enabling them to...



Let Me Try!

Students in first-tier cities often have more opportunities to make international friends, enabling them to _____

_____.

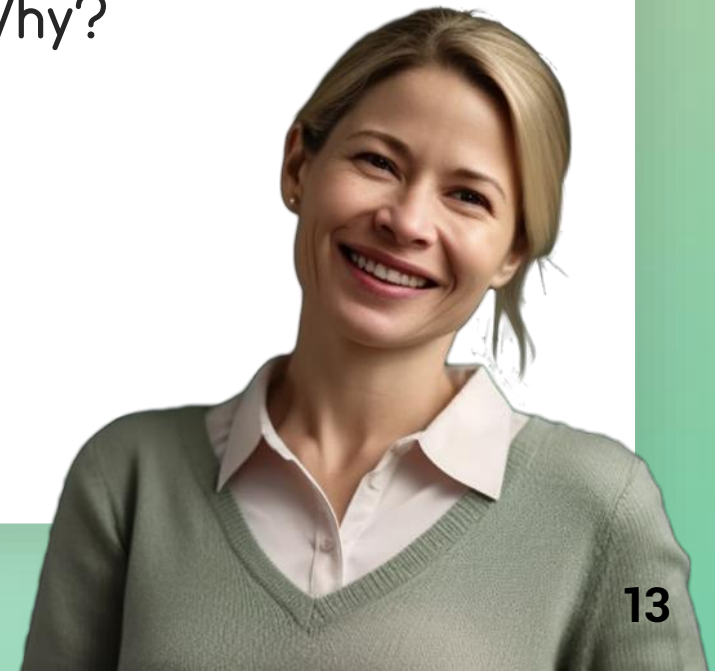
The Tug of Two Worlds | Paragraph 3

On the other hand, although cities may offer top-tier educational institutions and diverse cultural experiences, smaller towns can provide a better environment for personal growth and relationship building. People in rural areas often have stronger connections to their neighbors and local organizations, enabling them to build supportive networks.

- Discuss with your teacher.

City vs. Countryside

1. Do you like the idea of a small, close-knit community in the countryside, or the busy, diverse life of the city more? Why?
2. Imagine ten years later: where do you prefer to live
– the city or the countryside?





- **Complete the summary of the essay.**

The question of leaving the countryside for the city has sparked a debate. Some say cities offer more job o_____, higher s_____, good education, and d_____ cultures.

Others argue that rural living means cleaner air, fresh food, lower crime rates, and a c_____ with nature. I believe people shouldn't a_____ the countryside because it has a slower p_____ of life, lower c_____ rate, and better personal relationships. It's important to consider what makes us happy and choose accordingly. Both the city and the countryside have their own advantages, and we should respect both choices.



The background is a night-time cityscape with blurred light trails from a train and cars. A large green semi-transparent shape covers the right side of the image. Several colorful circles (orange, green, red) are scattered across the scene.

WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to learn the critical thinking skill "Evaluating Arguments." See you next time!