



Future cities



What do you imagine cities will be like in the future? Will we have smart buildings and flying cars? Or robots that will pick up our rubbish? What about schools? Will we still travel to school or will we study online from home? Perhaps all the buildings and roads will be underground and we'll just have parks and cycle lanes above.

Maybe ... or maybe not, but what we do know is that in the future, cities are going to have more and more people living in them. More than half the world's people already live in cities, and by 2050, cities will become home to about 6.5 billion people. That's a lot of people and very little space! More people means that we're going to have more pollution, traffic and noise. It also means that we'll need more homes, schools, hospitals, jobs and transport. We'll need more resources, like water and energy, and more ways to grow food too. Oh, and more parks to play in!

Many cities are already planning for the future. For example, Bristol is a cycling city in England. You can hire a bike (instead of taking a car or bus) and ride in cycle lanes which are separated from the traffic. In Singapore, to save space, they grow vegetables in lots of layers in special tall buildings, called 'vertical farms'. And in Amsterdam in the Netherlands, there are 'floating houses' built on water instead of on land!

What do you think city life will be like in the future?

I. State whether True or False for the following sentences.

1. Most people live in cities today. _____
2. Singapore's vertical farms grow food in parks. _____
3. Cities will need fewer buildings in the future. _____
4. You can live in a house on water in Amsterdam. _____

II. Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences.

1. Cities are now homes to more than _____ of the world's people.
2. We will need more water and _____ in the future.
3. In some places you can ride your bike in cycle _____.
4. More people means that we are going to have more pollution, _____ and _____.

III. What are vertical farms? Where can you find them?

IV. Write a word from the passage for the given meanings.

1. to pay to use something for a short time - _____
2. going in a straight up or down direction - _____
3. damage to air or water - _____

V. Pick out two Proper Nouns and Common Nouns.

1. **Proper Nouns:** _____, _____
2. **Common Nouns:** _____, _____