Towns

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

INTERMEDIATE | B1-B2

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each urban term with its precise meaning.

1 suburb	____	a area mainly containing homes
2 outskirts	____	b deliberate destruction of property
3 residential district	____	c edge areas furthest from the centre
4 industrial estate	____	d period when most commuters travel
5 one-way system	____	e planned area containing factories and warehouses
6 rush hour	____	f too many people in a limited space
7 vandalism	____	g built-up area outside a city centre
8 overcrowding	____	h streets where traffic may move in only one direction

2 Complete the urban collocations.

advice | **education** | **estate** | **facilities** | **jam** | **meters** | **pitch** | **station**

1 sports and arts _____

2 an adult _____ centre

3 a citizens' _____ bureau

4 a football _____

5 parking _____

6 a housing _____

7 a police _____

8 a severe traffic _____

3 Correct one mistake in each sentence.

1 The new flats are on the **outskirt** of town. _____

2 Our hotel is **in walking distance from** the centre. _____

3 The gallery regularly **makes** exhibitions. _____

4 The buses are badly **overcrowd** at rush hour. _____

5 The fashionable district **looks over** the harbour. _____

6 This office **caters especially to** tourists. _____

7 The museum is well worth **to visit**. _____

8 Traffic becomes very slow in **the rush hours**. _____

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4 Complete the city profile with words from the box.

facilities | industrial estate | one-way system | outskirts | overcrowding | residential district | rush hour | suburbs | traffic jams | vandalism

Most people live in the **1** _____ or in a quiet **2** _____. A large **3** _____ on the eastern **4** _____ provides many jobs. The centre has excellent cultural **5** _____, but its complicated **6** _____ confuses drivers. During the **7** _____, serious **8** _____ occur. Affordable housing shortages have caused **9** _____, while neglected spaces sometimes experience **10** _____.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Reviving Market Street

Market Street once had busy shops, but a new retail park drew customers to the outskirts. Empty buildings became run-down and the evening streets felt deserted. The council improved pavements, reduced through-traffic and offered small grants to independent businesses. A former warehouse became a library and adult education centre. Footfall has increased, although rents are rising and some long-established shops fear they may be forced to leave.

1 Why did Market Street lose customers? _____

2 What happened to empty buildings? _____

3 Name two council measures. _____

4 How was the warehouse reused? _____

5 What evidence suggests recovery? _____

6 What concern remains? _____

6 Rewrite using the word in capitals.

1 The district is mainly used for housing. **RESIDENTIAL** _____

2 Factories are grouped together outside town. **ESTATE** _____

3 There are too many residents for the available space. **OVERCROWDING** ___

4 Cars barely move during the morning commute. **JAM** _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **100-120 word** profile of a town or city. Describe its districts, facilities, transport, atmosphere, two problems and one current improvement.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Explain cause and effect. [ ] Distinguish suburbs from outskirts.

ANSWER KEY

1 Urban terms

1 **g** 2 **c** 3 **a** 4 **e** 5 **h** 6 **d** 7 **b** 8 **f**

2 Urban collocations

1 **facilities** 2 **education** 3 **advice** 4 **pitch** 5 **meters** 6 **estate** 7 **station** 8 **jam**

3 Corrections

1 on the **outskirts** 2 **within walking distance of** 3 **puts on** exhibitions 4 badly **overcrowded**
5 **overlooks** the harbour 6 **caters specifically for** 7 worth **visiting** 8 during **the rush hour**

4 City profile

1 **suburbs** 2 **residential district** 3 **industrial estate** 4 **outskirts** 5 **facilities** 6 **one-way system** 7 **rush hour** 8 **traffic jams** 9 **overcrowding** 10 **vandalism**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 A retail park drew shoppers away. 2 They became run-down. 3 Any two: improved pavements, reduced traffic, offered grants.
4 As a library and education centre. 5 Footfall increased. 6 Rising rents may force older shops out.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 It is a **residential district**. 2 They are on an industrial **estate**. 3 The area suffers from **overcrowding**. 4 There is a traffic **jam**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check urban distinctions, causal links and a coherent profile.