

WRITING

For and against

- 1 Do you live and/or work in a city? Is it very big?
How many advantages and disadvantages of city life can you think of?
Write them down and compare them with a partner.
- 2 Read the text on the next page about the advantages and disadvantages of living in a city.
- 3 Answer the questions about the text.
 - a There are three paragraphs. What is the purpose of each one?
 - b Replace the words underlined with one of the following.

in spite of	pros and cons
another point is that	one advantage is that
all things considered	for instance
to sum up	in my opinion
one disadvantage is that	especially
moreover	finally

Living in the City

Living in a city has both advantages and disadvantages. On the plus side, it is often easier to find work, and there is usually a choice of public transport, so you don't need to own a car. Also, there are a lot of interesting things to do and places to see. For example, you can eat in good restaurants, visit museums, and go to the theatre and to concerts. What is more, when you want to relax, you can usually find a park where you can feed the ducks or just sit on a park bench and read a book. All in all, city life is full of bustle and variety and you need never feel bored.

However, for every plus there is a minus. For one thing, you might have a job, but unless it is very well-paid, you will not be able to afford many of the things that there are to do, because living in a city is often very expensive. It is particularly difficult to find good, cheap accommodation. What is more, public transport is sometimes crowded and dirty, particularly in the rush hour, and even the parks can become very crowded, especially on Sundays when it seems that every city-dweller is looking for some open space and green grass. Last of all, despite all the crowds, it is still possible to feel very lonely in a city.

In conclusion, I think that city life can be particularly appealing to young people, who like the excitement of the city and don't mind the noise and pollution. However, many people, when they get older, and particularly when they have young children, often prefer the peace and fresh air of the countryside.