

Key

Exercise 3

Match words with their definitions

congested

overcrowded

utopia

an imaginary place where everything is perfect

smog

air pollution

urban sprawl

the way a city spreads into undeveloped land around it, often without planning permission

migrate

move from one place to another

shanty towns

poor communities where the houses are built out of cheap materials like corrugated iron and plastic sheeting

off the grid

without facilities such as an electricity or water supply

infrastructure

the basic facilities a town or city needs, for example: communication, transport, water, and electricity

ubiquitous

everywhere

game changer

significantly affecting the result of something

Exercise 4

Fill in the gaps

- 1) If people could get around easily on foot, or by bike, or by public transport, roads would be less ____ **congested** – or overcrowded – and less polluted. That sounds rather utopian to me though.
- 2) That sounds fantastic, but what about somewhere like Beijing with its constant ____ **smog** – or air pollution – hanging over the city? A lot of people ride bikes there too. So which city is going to be the model for the future?
- 3) Well, today's Los Angeles has terrible urban sprawl and traffic problems.
- 4) ____ **Urban sprawl** is the way a city spreads into undeveloped land around it, often without planning permission.
- 5) People ____ **migrate** – or move – from the countryside to the city to get better opportunities, but end up with nowhere to live.
- 6) So they build their own housing on unoccupied land. These ____ **shanty towns** – poor communities where the houses are built out of cheap materials like corrugated iron and plastic sheeting – are often ____ **off the grid**...
- 7) Which means they don't have an electricity or water supply – or access to healthcare and education. And these ____ **communities** are growing, so the problem is getting bigger. So are there any solutions?

8) Well, it's all about improving the ____ **infrastructure**. That's the basic facilities a town or city needs, for example: communication, transport, water, and electricity. But this shouldn't only mean improving housing conditions, but also promoting education and employment among the inhabitants, and building better communities.

9) - What's ____ **ubiquitous**?

- It means available everywhere. So, the idea behind smart cities is to use technology to collect large amounts of data about how a city is performing.

10) - And that will be a ____ **game changer** – significantly affecting the way our cities function. Hope for the future?

- Fingers crossed.

Exercise 5

Choose the right answer

1) Using this approach shows a large ____ of housing supply, in contrast with the Inspector's finding of a small shortfall.

a) degree

b) surplus

c) income

2) For the area, this will ensure the continuation of a ____ supply of quality employment opportunities.

a) steady

b) still

c) level

3) His large-scale color photographs illustrate the unbelievable ____ of Hong Kong's residential high-rises.

a) semi-permanence

b) density

c) scale

4) But he knew the power of words and ideas and he ____ them to great effect.

a) sought

b) employed

c) deployed

5) Recognizing the limitations of art education in the United States, Coleman ____ training in Paris.

a) looked

b) sought

c) grid

6) Seeds and tools can be given, which allow families to grow food and become ____.

a) self-sufficient

b) semi-permanent

c) agricultural

7) Most people who are ____ (at least those living in the United States), rely on some combination of alternative energy such as wind, photovoltaic or hydro.

a) off the hook

b) off the grid

c) off the table