

TOWN & COUNTRY

“No city should be too large for a man to walk out of it in a morning”. Discuss.

If you were mayor of a Prague / Brno, what would you change and what parts would you preserve?
How would you design the ideal city?

Do the advantages of cars outweigh the disadvantages? Should they be banned in towns, or their owners obliged to pay extra taxes? Would you be prepared to pay a little extra tax to make all public transport free?

Although building regulations specify that adequate fire escapes should exist in all public buildings, blocks of flats, and hotels, many people still die in fires. Why? How can such regulations be checked, and what should be the penalties for neglecting them?

To what extent should ambulance crews be trained – should they be simply high-speed chauffeurs with a little first aid training, or fully qualified paramedical staff, with equipment to match?

Our society is generating unprecedented amounts of rubbish. What about manufacturers' responsibility?

Do we have enough respect for water, or are we taking a finite resource for granted?

Village life seems very attractive to many city dwellers; on the other hand, many villagers leave for the city. Explain.

Rich people from the city – or from other countries – like to buy village houses and prices get so high that local working people cannot afford them. What can be done about this? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of life in a rural community (a village, for example) compared with a large town – draw on your own experiences and those of your classmates.

“To plough and to sow, to reap and to mow, and to be a farmer's boy” runs the chorus of an English song praising the simple, healthy life of the farmer. How true is this stereotype? Has country life ever been that easy?