

City or Countryside? Where Do You Want to Live?

A Vocabulary Lesson

Our Method

Step 1

Listen to a real Conversation



Step 2

Focus on New Vocabulary Words



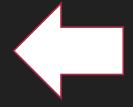
Step 3

Listen to a dialogue



Step 6

Practice with a native speaker



Step 5

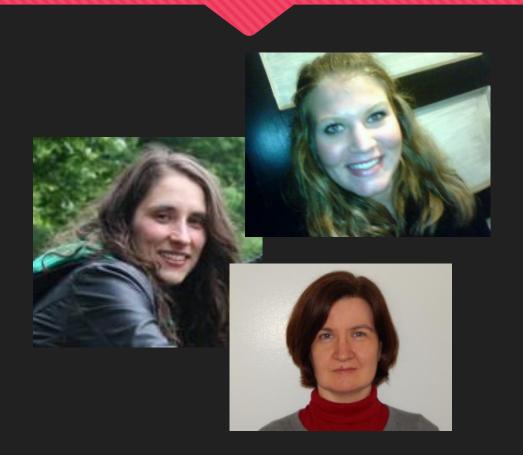
Use Your New Skills



Step 4

Focus on phrases

Step 1: Urban or Rural?



Please listen to Audio Step 1-Urban or Rural?

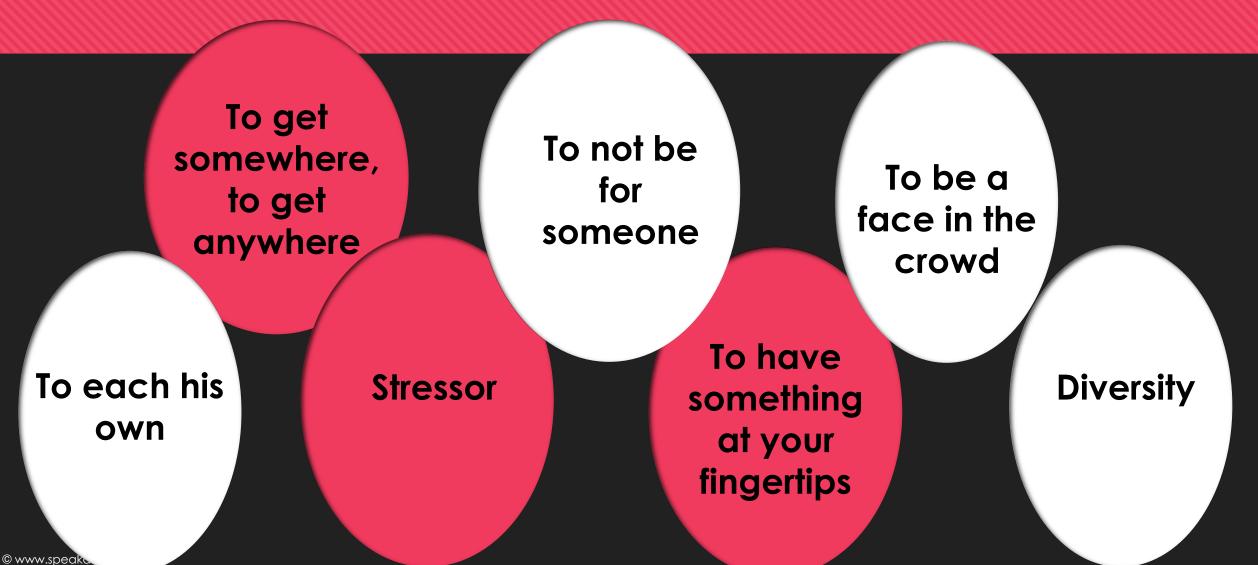
What is your idea of the perfect place to live?

Everyone has a different opinion on this.

Listen to the conversation between Keriann and Francis about the pros and cons of urban and rural living.

Please view Transcript Step 1- Urban or Rural?

Step 2: Focus on New Vocabulary Expressions



To each his own (expression)



Everyone can make their own decisions, even if their decisions are strange

I would never breakdance in the subway, but to each his own.

To get somewhere, to get anywhere

(Common phrase)



To accomplish something, to make progress (in life or to make physical progress)

If you have a flat tire you won't get anywhere.

To not be for someone

(expression)

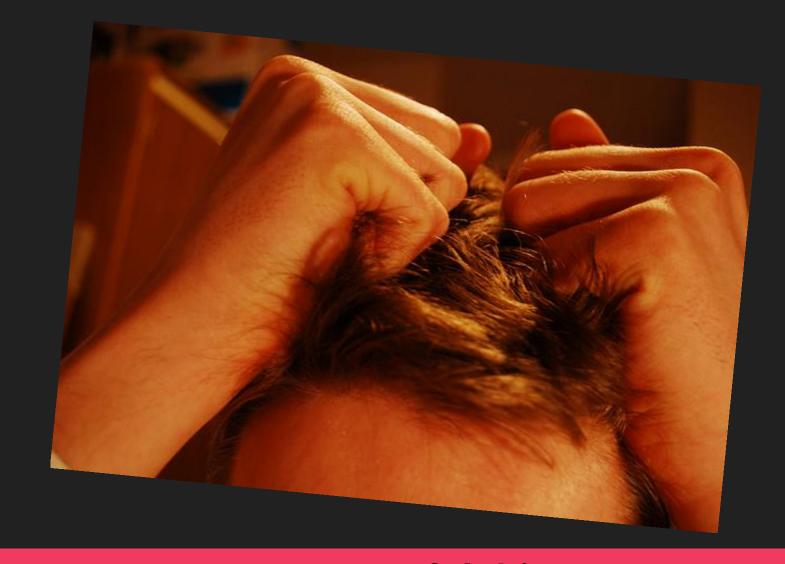


To not like something

A lot of people love sushi, but it's not for me.

Stressor

(noun)

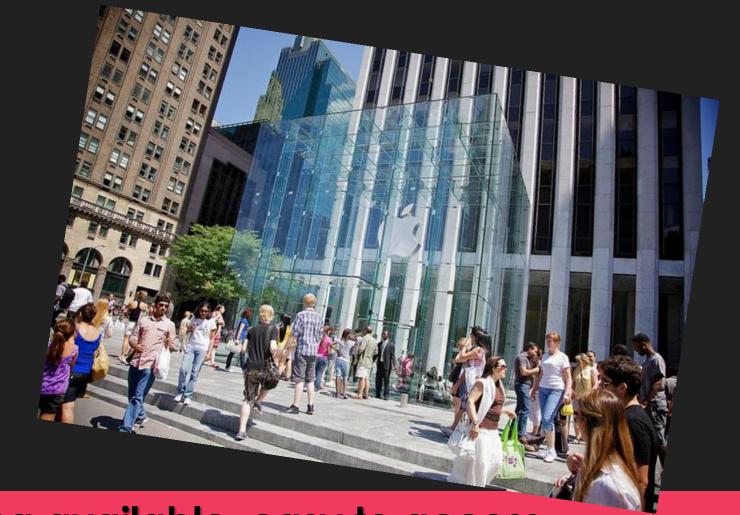


Something that causes stress, a stressful thing

There are a lot of stressors when you live in a city.

To have something at your fingertips

(expression)



To have something available, easy to access

If you live in New York, you have everything you need right at your fingertips.

To be a face in the crowd

(expression)



To be one of many people, to be anonymous, to not have an important role

If you live in a big, cosmopolitan city you will be a face in the crowd and you might be lonely.



(noun)



The state of being diverse, having a lot of variety (gender, race, class, religion, sexual orientation)

I have to live in a city with a lot of diversity or I'll get bored.

Step 3: We're Moving to New Jersey

A lot of people move out of the city and into the suburbs when they start a family.

Listen to this conversation between two friends to learn more.

Listen to Audio Steps 3 and 4-We're Moving to New Jersey



Step 4: Focus on the Vocabulary Phrases

Learn the new vocabulary in context!

Please open Transcript
Steps 3 and 4 – We're
Moving to New Jersey

- "There are too many stressors here..."
- "...taking the subway to get everywhere..."
- O "Don't you want your kids to understand why diversity is so important?"
- O ... "You have everything at your fingertips here..."
- "He is just a face in the crowd..."
- "...it's just not for us anymore"
- "Well to each his own I guess"

Bonus! Say It Another Way!

Learn how to say the phrases in a different way!

Click on the file "Say It Another Way"

Step 5: Use **Your New Skills**

To each his own

stressor

diversity

To not be for someone

To get somewhere, anywhere

> To have everything at your fingertips

To be a face in the crowd

A: Do you think there are a lot of __1_ (stressful thing) in the city?

B: Yes, but there is also a lot of 2 (variety)

A: That's true and you do __3__(have everything available).

B: The only problem is, you have to take the train to ___4__ (get around) so I don't like city life.

A: Well I like it, but __5__ (you have to form your own opinion).

Step 5 Answers

- 1-stressors
- O 2- diversity
- 3- have everything at your fingertips
- 4- to get anywhere
- 5- to each his own

To get somewhere, anywhere

Prepare Your Vocabulary Cards

To each his own





diversity

To have everything at your fingertips







To be a face in the crowd





stressor

Step 6: Practice with a Native Conversation 1

O What are the things that you look for when you consider a new place to live. Do you look for diversity? Why or why not? Do you want to have everything at your fingertips? Do you mind being a face in the crowd?

Bonus Conversation 1: Please use the phrases from Say It Another Way (A= friend, B= friend)

A: (student)Hey guess what? I'm moving to Chicago for a new job!

B: Oh wow, congratulations but Chicago is such a big city and you'll be _____ (a face in the crowd)

A: True, but I'll _____ (have everything at my fingertips) and plus, there is so much _____ (diversity) that it'll be a great place to raise kids and to teach them some important lessons.

B: I guess so, just remember to come back to your hometown to visit once in a while. We want to hear your stories of life in the big city!

Answers to Conversation Step 1

Bonus Conversation 1: Please use the phrases from Say It Another Way (A= friend, B= friend)

A: (student)Hey guess what? I'm moving to Chicago for a new job!

B: Oh wow, congratulations but Chicago is such a big city and no one will know you.

A: True, but I'll have everything available to me and plus, there is so much variety that it'll be a great place to raise kids and to teach them some important lessons.

B: I guess so, just remember to come back to your hometown to visit once in a while. We want to hear your stories of life in the big city!

Step 6: Practice with a Native Conversation 2

Describe the city or town that you currently live in. Are there a lot of stressors? Is it for you? Why or why not? What advice would you give someone who is moving to your current hometown/city?

Bonus Conversation 2: Please use the phrases from Say It Another Way (A= friend, B= friend)

A: (student) Could you ever move to a relaxing place like Bali? I mean there would be no ____ (stressors) there. I think it would be perfect.

B: I am not sure if Bali _____ (is for me). I mean, how could I get any work done there? I would be tempted to be at the beach every day.

A: True, that's why I would like it.

B: Well, ____ (to each his own) I suppose.

Answers to Conversation Step 2

Bonus Conversation 2: Please use the phrases from Say It Another Way (A= friend, B= friend)

A: (student) Could you ever move to a relaxing place like Bali? I mean there would be no sources of stress there. I think it would be perfect.

B: I am not sure if Bali is a good fit for me. I mean, how could I get any work done there? I would be tempted to be at the beach every day.

A: True, that's why I would like it.

B: Well, everyone should make their own decisions I suppose.

More Conversation Practice

- What kind of place did you grow up in? Was it a city or a town in the countryside? How did that influence your upbringing and the person you are today?
- O Do you think it's better to raise kids in a city, suburb, or a rural area? Why?
- Which would be harder for you- being completely anonymous in a huge city or having no privacy in a small town?
- In your current hometown, do you take public transportation or do you drive? Are you happy with the transportation system in your town? How could it be improved?
- Name one place you have always wanted to live. Why have you always wanted to live there? When do you plan to act on your dream?

More Conversation Practice

Which of these things define quality of life for you and why:

- Peace and quiet
- O Clean air, clean streets
- Access to art museums, literature, fashion (different forms of culture), intellectual stimulation
- Diversity (race, class, sexual orientation, religion)
- Good transportation
- Safety, lack of violence and street crime
- Short commute time
- Access to nature, mountains, lakes, ocean
- A sense of community, knowing your neighbors

More Conversation Practice

- Do you think that living in a small town or in the countryside can cause people to become less open-minded about diversity, different lifestyles, and points of view?
- For people who live in the countryside, do you think it's important for them to visit a large urban area once in a while to be exposed to new things?
- For people who live in a city, do you think it's important to visit the countryside to relax the mind and body once in a while?
- O How do you usually feel when you return to your hometown from a trip somewhere else? Are you happy to come home to where you live or not? Why or why not?

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