

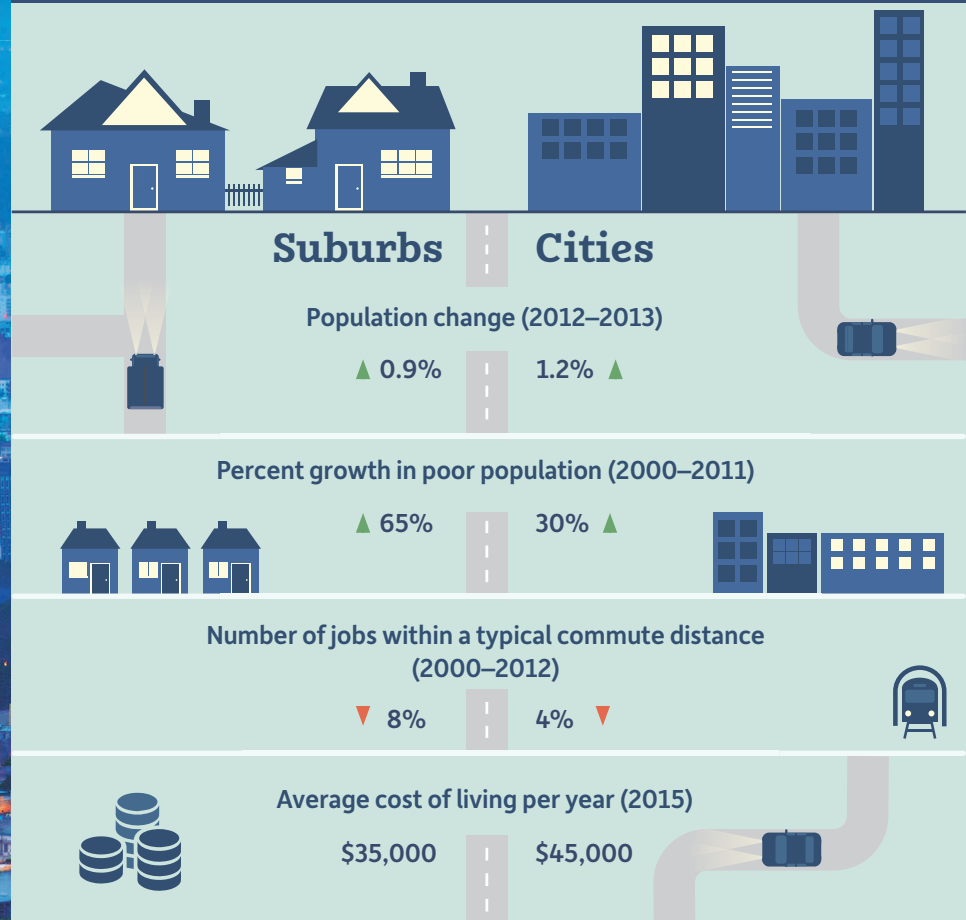
5 Sprawl

DISCUSSION POINT

Discuss with a partner.

- 1 Why do you think cities have expanded at a faster rate than the suburbs?
- 2 Why might poverty be a greater issue in suburbs?
- 3 Why might the number of jobs within a typical commute distance be decreasing in both suburbs and cities?

A comparison of US suburbs and cities



VIDEO

URBAN REGENERATION

BEFORE YOU WATCH

Match the words in bold with the correct definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1 hold sway (v) | a have control |
| 2 initiative (n) | b a new plan or process started in order to solve a problem |
| 3 consultation (v) | c part of a city with improvised housing and poor sanitation |
| 4 regeneration (n) | d the process of rebuilding in order to improve an area |
| 5 slum (n) | e a discussion between people before making a decision |



Modern office buildings in Mexico City

WHILE YOU WATCH

▶ Watch the video and choose *T* (True) or *F* (False).

- 1 Both local residents and city authorities are helping to transform parts of the city. T / F
- 2 Prisoners were involved in the decision-making process. T / F
- 3 Ease of movement was made a predominant feature in the project. T / F
- 4 Following the project, there has been no noticeable improvement in community relations. T / F
- 5 The problem of organized crime has not completely gone away. T / F

AFTER YOU WATCH

Work in a group. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What aspects of the regeneration of Medellin do you think are the most important? Why?
- 2 How can governments and local authorities decide which areas would benefit most from regeneration projects?
- 3 To what extent do you agree with the statement: "What most influences the way we feel about where we live is the people from that community, and not how nice it looks or the facilities it has."?

IS SUBURBAN LIFE GOOD FOR OUR HEALTH?

A VOCABULARY PREVIEW

1 Match the words in bold (1–8) with the definitions (a–h).

¹**Booming** cities have attracted large populations over the last century. The ²**fallout** of rising urban populations has been urban sprawl. The jobs market has changed, with manufacturers using more ³**automation**. Importing ⁴**coal** from other countries has ⁵**impacted** towns and cities ⁶**domestically**. The suburbs are much ⁷**desired**, but planners need to ⁸**restructure** them.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| a a fuel that provides heat | e organize differently |
| b in the country being talked about | f affected |
| c use of machines for work | g wanted |
| d having a period of economic success | h unpleasant effect(s) |

2 Work with a partner. Are the statements in Exercise 1 true for your region? Why / why not?

B BEFORE YOU READ

Look at *Is suburban life good for our health?* Read the title, introduction, and subheadings and answer the questions.

- 1 What information do you think you will find in the report? Why?
- 2 What do you already know or can you guess about this topic?

C GLOBAL READING

1 Before you read *Is suburban life good for our health?* think about the topic. Use this table to write down three questions you have about the topic. Then read the report and try to answer your questions.

Questions	Answers
1	
2	
3	

2 Work with a partner. Did you find answers to your questions in the text?


Activating prior knowledge

Identifying research questions



Is suburban life good for our health?

People move out of the cities and into the suburbs in order to achieve a healthier lifestyle, but do they actually achieve it?



These suburban homes were built for workers at the Bournville factory in the UK in the 19th century.

1 Perceptions of the suburbs

The concept of “the suburbs” developed in England in the late 1800s. Industry was booming due to the Industrial Revolution, and cities were overpopulated and polluted as a result, prompting dwellers to move to the city outskirts. Relocation to the suburbs has remained popular since, creating suburban sprawl in many areas as populations grow. The prevailing stereotype is of the affluent family who moves out to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life, enjoying the benefits of living in a more spacious, greener, and ultimately healthier area. However, it appears that this image is incorrect in several ways. First, gentrification has priced many urban dwellers out of the city, with their move to the suburbs forced rather than desired. Second, this has impacted the level of diversity in suburbs, with not only affluent families living there, but people of different ages, and different marital and economic statuses. Third, despite there being more space and greener areas, living in suburban areas does not necessarily mean better health.

2 Physical health

Studies into the physical health of suburbanites do not paint the picture of perfect health our stereotype assumes either. A 2004 study by Sturm and Cohen found that research subjects in suburban areas were more likely to self-report high blood pressure, breathing difficulties, headaches, or arthritis than people in urban areas. This increased according to the size of urban sprawl the 8,600 respondents were living in across 36 metropolitan areas in the USA. The increase was significant even when other factors, such as the age, ethnicity, and economic status of respondents, were taken into account. Experts have cited the layout of suburbs as the cause. Low-density areas mean that employment, schools, stores, and other amenities are not usually within a reasonable walking distance. Combined with a lack of sidewalks or bike lanes, people become vehicle-reliant, reducing opportunities for physical exercise. Obesity in the suburbs is considered to be a public health issue in many countries, with at least one study concluding that the higher the density of an area, the less obese its dwellers are (Sarkar et al., 2017).

3 Mental health

Mental health must also be considered. While Sturm and Cohen’s study found no association between suburban living and mental health, more recent studies have shown a correlation. One study in China found that suburban sprawl has a negative impact on

the mental health of women (Yan et al., 2021). Another study in Dubai found that older people in suburbs were less socially functional than those living in traditional neighborhoods; something that impacted negatively on their psychological health (Irvani et al., 2021). A study in the USA also concluded that urban areas offer more opportunities to curtail depression in residents than areas that are less built-up (Stier et al., 2021). The likely cause of diminished mental health in suburban areas is the decreased ability to socialize, as it is both more challenging to befriend new people and spontaneously meet existing friends and acquaintances. It is known from many studies that social contact is vital for good mental health.

4 Access to healthcare

As mentioned above, suburbanites are not always as affluent as they are imagined to be. Some have been forced to relocate and must then pay high commuting costs. Others may have moved into the suburbs with good jobs but then been disposed of by their companies due to changing labor-market needs. Examples of this include coal mines, which exhaust natural resources; and manufacturers, which adopt further automation or move production domestically to reduce costs. The fallout of job losses is a resulting reduction in income. Suburban areas can therefore experience poverty. In the USA, 40% of people without medical insurance live in suburbs (Schnake-Mahl, 2017). Suburban living does not automatically mean access to good healthcare either, and without it, health issues arise.

5 Conclusions

It is clear that suburban living has an impact on people’s physical health, and for some, their mental health. The density of an area affects the amount of activity and social connectivity a resident experiences, with low density causing more issues. While not easy to restructure existing areas, it is imperative that suburban planners and public health officials take a proactive approach to plan new areas that are in the pipeline. First, they must provide opportunities for people to walk to amenities by providing safe sidewalks and bike lanes, and ensuring they are within walking distance from homes. These amenities should also include places for people to meet and socialize, so there is no need to travel far. Second, access to good healthcare must be an integral part of development, so that the health of suburbanites can be maintained. The importance of good health cannot be disregarded and public health policy makers must take note.

Questioning while reading

D CLOSE READING

Asking questions while reading a text can help you better process the information and reflect on the content. Answering these questions as you go will help you to adjust your understanding as you read. Questions might relate to:

- the meaning of certain terms or concepts
- reasons or principles behind a concept mentioned
- what is missing from the text
- the validity of claims or arguments that the writer is making.

- 1 Read *Is suburban life good for our health?* again. Stop after each section and note down any questions you have. Use the ideas in the box to help you.**
- 2 Work with a partner. Try to answer the questions you listed in Exercise 1 using information from the text or your own knowledge. Research anything you cannot find.**
- 3 Complete the sentences with no more than two words from the report.**
 - 1 Rising prices caused by the _____ of urban areas has led to people moving to the suburbs.
 - 2 The reason for poor physical health in the suburbs is thought to be their _____.
 - 3 People living in lower-populated suburban areas experience more _____ than people who live in higher-populated areas.
 - 4 People in suburban areas often find it harder to have _____ with people than in urban areas.
 - 5 Two-fifths of people in suburban areas in the USA do not have _____.
 - 6 Suburban facilities should be only _____ from people's properties.

E CRITICAL THINKING

Work with a partner. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you think the health issues raised in the article affect people in suburban areas in your country too? Why / why not?
- 2 How much do you think suburban planners should take health into consideration when planning new areas? Why? Should they try to regenerate existing areas instead and / or as well?

ACADEMIC SKILLS

THE 4S SYSTEM

The 4S system is a method of finding and studying reading material relevant to your needs. It offers a selective way of reading, which means it saves you time. It comprises four stages: Search, Skim, Select, and Study.

1 Search Look at the contents page, chapter headings, title, and subheadings of a text in order to gain an understanding of what it is about and whether it might be relevant. Begin with a question or questions you would like to find answers to as this will help to focus your attention.

2 Skim Read the text very quickly to identify any relevant sections. Skim the abstract, introduction, and conclusion, and use subheadings to identify and then skim useful sections (e.g., read the first and last line of each paragraph). Highlight (i.e., underline or use color) relevant sections to return to later.

3 Select Decide whether you need to re-read the whole text, or just some sections. If it is the latter, mark these in some way to identify them easily.

4 Study Read your selected texts. Ask questions and try to answer them as you read. Critically evaluate opinions, evidence, and conclusions. Take good notes.

1 Match the name of each stage of the 4S system (1–4) to the purpose of that stage (a–d).

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 Search | a Reading in detail |
| 2 Skim | b Deciding what to read in detail |
| 3 Select | c Reading to find the structure of a text |
| 4 Study | d Reading to find the key points mentioned |

2 Imagine you are writing a paper on environmental issues within suburban areas. You are looking for people’s responses to the question “How can suburbs be more environmentally friendly?” Follow these tasks:

SEARCH the Reading 2 text *Suburbs of the future*. Look at the title and the subheadings. Then decide if the people mentioned seem relevant for answering your question.

SKIM the text. Read the box under the title, then the first and last line of each paragraph. Decide and mark any useful section(s).

SELECT the sections that are most useful for your paper.

STUDY a section you thought looked useful and see if you can find any answers to your research question in that section. Take notes on these.

- 3 Share your notes with your partner. What kind of information did you both include in your notes? Do they include any critical evaluations?**
- 4 How useful is the 4S system? Are there elements of it that you already follow?**

SUBURBS OF THE FUTURE

A VOCABULARY PREVIEW

Complete the sentences with the words below.

bungalows downsize ethnicities inaccessible
insufficient millennials reside unsustainable

- 1 People are drawn to urban cores—they are a melting pot of cultures and _____.
- 2 Nearly 8.5 million people _____ in New York City—twice the population of Los Angeles.
- 3 Over 40% of _____ in New York still live with their parents.
- 4 The property ladder in London is simply _____ to people of my generation.
- 5 Experts suggest that current rents are _____ and are predicting a crash.
- 6 _____ affordable housing pushes many young families out to the suburbs.
- 7 Three-bedroom _____ in the suburbs of London sell for around £2.5 million.
- 8 Most people _____ to a smaller property when they retire.

B BEFORE YOU READ

Work with a partner. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What do you think are the main benefits and issues associated with living in modern suburbia?
- 2 What do you think suburbs of the future will look like? Explain your reasons.

C GLOBAL READING

Read *Suburbs of the future*. Select the topics the writers talk about.

- types of housing
- education
- transportation
- environmental issues
- technological innovation in the home
- communication networks
- community diversity
- business investment

Activating prior knowledge

Identifying main ideas

SUBURBS OF THE FUTURE

Despite the lure of bright city lights, it is the suburbs which account for the highest percentage of population growth. We asked four leading futurists to give their opinions on the changing face of suburbia.

Sarah Kalensky, regular contributor to *The Forecaster*

1 As suburban populations grow, so too does suburban sprawl, leading to more and more people commuting into the city for work, shopping, and entertainment. However, the future looks different. Sprawl is making way for density as an approach to suburbanization. Developments aim to provide housing, offices, shops, and other facilities in one area so that residents are no longer required to use their own vehicles to get around and commuting hours are reduced. As a result, the cost of maintaining infrastructure, including roads, could fall by up to 50% per capita according to some.

2 New developments are likely to provide apartments and houses of varying sizes in the same area, which will allow single people, couples, and families all to reside there. However, properties will need to be affordable, a task which developers have struggled to accomplish in recent years. People on lower incomes have regularly been priced out of the market, making predictions in this area difficult. Even if housing is affordable at first, the longer-term impact may not be quite as desired. Once first-time

buyers sell their property on, the price—determined by market forces—may be considerably higher than the original purchase price. The types of people who were originally able to live there are priced out of the market and the area becomes middle-class, with people from similar backgrounds and with similar income levels. Those on lower incomes or from different backgrounds are excluded. As well as price, construction companies must also consider the local geography before they commence with the construction of buildings, to ensure they are as ecologically sustainable as possible. Homes no longer need to rely on unsustainable energy to run—they can even be carbon-neutral, although this of course depends on sun and wind levels in the area. Companies must be aware that what works in one area may not necessarily be successful in another.



Yoichi Katayama, author of *The Eco Futurist*

3 One often quoted benefit of urban density over urban sprawl is the lowering of emissions, as facilities can be more easily reached on foot or by bicycle. However, mixed-use developments are often required to provide substantial parking facilities outside shops and restaurants in the area, which will logically encourage people to use cars or motorbikes rather than greener alternatives. As well as that, increased density means increased numbers of people and therefore vehicles, meaning the reduction in emissions will be somewhat limited and emissions could arguably increase in that particular area. Having said that, suburbs of the future can still help to reduce the harm we inflict on our environment. Heating bills do not need to cost the Earth, literally. By integrating energy-saving features into new buildings in new developments, it is possible for the area to have a much less significant impact on the world around us.

4 Energy-saving features will cost less financially too. This is significant as new developments must be within budget for not only older generations, but also younger generations. It is very challenging for most millennials to get onto the property ladder in today's risk-averse property market. Denser suburbs promise affordable homes which will allow millennials to overcome this obstacle and purchase their own homes just as their parents did. Those millennials are likely to come from a range of backgrounds. While suburbs are often considered to be places where similar people live together in rows of houses which all look the same, the truth is that suburbs are already full of people from very different backgrounds, be that ethnicity, class, or income-level. According to a survey commissioned by the Urban Land Institute (2016), "seventy-six percent of the minority population in the top 50 metro areas lives in the suburbs" and there is nothing to suggest that this will not remain the case or increase in the future.

Matt Crawford, founder of the Forward Thinking Housing Association

5 One possible prediction for modern suburbs is the depression of the housing market. When existing home owners reach an age where their home is too large or no longer suitable for their needs, they will look to sell that home and downsize to, for example, a smaller bungalow. As young adults today are struggling to afford to buy their own homes, sellers may not find buyers, and as a result, prices will fall. Similarly, eco-friendly features such as solar panels may reduce reliance on fossil fuels, but they may also significantly increase the price of homes which could also contribute to the depression of the housing market. One way to prevent such a depression is to

continue to encourage multi-cultural suburbs through planning and pricing. Mixed housing, i.e., flats, houses, and bungalows in one area, allows people of all backgrounds to live together and share community life. Multi-generational families—many of whom are immigrants—will look to buy the larger homes vacated by retirees. Of course, should there be a depression, it may well help young adults and those on a lower income to get onto the property ladder as prices fall to a more acceptable level. Mortgages may still prove difficult to obtain, however.

6 One attraction of living in new mixed-use developments in the suburbs is that most people will benefit from more free time to spend on alternative activities. The suburbs of the future will be more walkable. No longer will residents have to drive to the city to work, go shopping, or see a film at the cinema—they will be able to do this in the area where they live, meaning less time spent in the car. This is likely to lead to a reduction in both congestion and emissions.

Marisa Tomes, CEO of the Neo Construction Group

7 Construction companies are becoming better at producing properties that are comfortable and warm without endangering the planet. Providing companies adapt to features in the local surroundings, mixed-use developments have the opportunity to be friendlier to the environment than we ever have before. However, it is not only buildings which will contribute to this; transportation will too. The suburbs tend to be inaccessible to those who are unable to drive as public transportation is insufficient as a means of traveling to the workplace. Modern suburbs have a chance to attract those people as they will not need to rely on cars or indeed public transportation to get around, providing them with more opportunities without a loss of independence. In fact, fewer people in the suburbs will need to learn to drive which will keep cars off the road and help to improve poor air quality.

8 Mixed housing has proven to be very popular in areas like Washington, D.C.'s Georgetown. The fact that there will be a range of housing types in future suburbs will make it easier for people to move from a small apartment to a larger apartment, or an apartment to a house, without having to move to a different area completely. Unfortunately, construction companies have focused on properties in the higher-end of the market in recent years as they have struggled to build truly affordable properties to aid first-time buyers. The potential to supply a number of cheaper options for the younger generation and other lower-income families is certainly there, but it is unclear if the potential can be realized or not. Building companies do need to plan with a variety of people in mind before they proceed with their projects.

D CLOSE READING

Identifying similarities and differences between multiple viewpoints can help you form a broader understanding of the topic being discussed. To do this you can:

- 1 Identify the parts of texts where writers talk about the same topic.
- 2 Take brief notes on what each writer says about that topic.
- 3 Use the notes to identify key similarities and differences.

1 Read *Suburbs of the future* again. For each question, underline the parts of the text that deal with that topic. Then take notes on what each writer says to help you answer the question.

- 1 Who has a similar view to Sarah Kalensky on the use of private transportation in future suburbs?
- 2 Which writer has a different opinion to the others on diversity in suburban areas?
- 3 Who shares the same opinion as Marisa Tomes on the future of housing opportunities for people in their 20s?
- 4 Who expresses the same view as Yoichi Katayama on the potential of achieving greener homes?
- 5 Which writer expresses a different view from the others about the future of pollution?

2 Scan Sarah Kalensky's part of the text again. Complete the summary with no more than two words from the article in each blank.

Urban sprawl is being replaced by a policy of ¹_____ as a means of creating better suburbs for the future. These suburbs will provide a one-stop place for people to live and work, reducing the need to use ²_____ and cutting costs in ³_____ maintenance. These suburbs have the potential to supply different types of homes for people from various ⁴_____, providing that they are sufficiently ⁵_____ for everyone. They can also be ⁶_____ in terms of the environment. However, for this to be the case, the homes must be constructed with the ⁷_____ in mind.

E CRITICAL THINKING

Work in a group. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Which of the predictions made in the text do you think are least likely to happen? Why?
- 2 What are some of the key development issues in your area and how might they be addressed?

Finding similarities and differences

VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

PHRASAL VERB ACADEMIC ALTERNATIVES**1 Replace the phrasal verbs in bold with their more formal equivalents below.**

accomplish cite curtail dispose of
disregard exhaust proceeding relocate

- 1 Urban sprawl occurs when people **move away** from the downtown area to the suburbs.
- 2 A city with urban sprawl will **use up** more resources on infrastructure.
- 3 The need to **cut down** pollution is apparent in some suburban neighborhoods.
- 4 To **pull off** a reduction in pollution, road use must be lowered.
- 5 It's impossible to **write off** the lack of employment opportunity in the suburbs.
- 6 Proponents of sprawl may **refer to** a greater sense of community as an advantage.
- 7 In cities with decreased populations, planners should **get rid of** abandoned facilities.
- 8 City planners should plan urban expansion carefully before **going ahead** with it.

2 Complete the text with the formal verbs in Exercise 1. Change the form if necessary.

People who live in a city have wonderful facilities on their doorstep, but stress associated with the cost of living, crowds, and noise can be problematic. This kind of stress can be ¹_____ if the decision is taken to ²_____ from the city to the suburbs. Larger homes, fewer people, nature, tranquility, and a sense of community are all ³_____ as the advantages of suburban life. However, before ⁴_____ with the move, it is important not to ⁵_____ potential issues. There will be longer commutes, which may ⁶_____ funds more quickly, as well as reduce the number of tasks you can ⁷_____ each day. In addition, environmentally conscious people may be concerned about their increased effect on the environment, as more resources are required to provide them with electricity, gas, and water, as well as ⁸_____ their trash.

3 Think about the comparison between city living and suburban living in Exercises 1 and 2. Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 What do you think are the benefits of and issues with both city life and suburban living in your country?
- 2 Would you argue that it is better for people to live in cities or suburbs? Consider issues related to homes, lifestyle, facilities, transportation, and the environment.

ACADEMIC WORDS AND IDIOMS

1 Match the words in bold with the correct definitions.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 commence (v) | a | to develop new products or services in addition to the ones you already provide |
| 2 commission (v) | b | a flat piece of wood, glass, or other material that forms part of something |
| 3 diversify (v) | c | to start |
| 4 from scratch (id) | d | the workers in a particular industry or company considered as a group |
| 5 implementation (n) | e | the process of making a plan, idea, etc., start to work and be used |
| 6 instruct (v) | f | to officially request a piece of work for you |
| 7 integral (adj) | g | to some degree, but not largely |
| 8 in the pipeline (id) | h | forming an essential part of something |
| 9 labor (n) | i | the highest point of technical achievement so far |
| 10 panel (n) | j | behaving as one group |
| 11 somewhat (adv) | k | being planned for the near future |
| 12 state of the art (phr) | l | tell someone to do something |
| 13 unified (adj) | m | from a point where nothing has been done |

2 Complete the text with words from Exercise 1. Change the form if necessary.

Making homes green

Many people think only of solar ¹_____ when they imagine an eco-friendly home, but there are other options too, for example, wood from sustainable forests for kitchens, flooring, or under floor heating. The source of materials is ²_____ to eco-friendly homes and materials should be natural and locally sourced where possible. Access to these materials has improved ³_____ in recent years, with some construction supply companies choosing to ⁴_____ and offer greener alternatives. Some land owners are choosing to build their own eco-friendly homes ⁵_____. These are typically modern and ⁶_____. However, before ⁷_____ such a project, the land owners should devise a clear plan with construction professionals so that its ⁸_____ is as smooth as possible. They should also ensure sufficient funds are allocated to the project and decide whether to supply the ⁹_____ themselves or ¹⁰_____ a third party to supply the labor and ¹¹_____ them on what to do.

3 Work with a partner. Discuss the questions.

- How eco-friendly do you think the homes are in your area? Why?
- What would make them more eco-friendly?

ACADEMIC IDIOMS

FROM SCRATCH

From scratch means without anything being prepared beforehand. It often follows *start*, *do*, and *make* (e.g., *I started / did / made it from scratch*). Its origin is in running races, where the starting line would be marked by a scratch in the ground.

CRITICAL THINKING

Evaluating conclusions

Once you've identified the conclusion of a formal argument, it's important to evaluate its logic. One way to do this is to look for flaws in the way it is presented. Common logical fallacies associated with conclusions are

- **Irrelevant conclusions**—where the conclusion given is thematically related to the topic, but does not logically follow the evidence.
- **Begging the question**—using the conclusion as evidence without proving it (e.g., *One expert suggested X so let us look at ways to implement this*).
- **Hasty generalizations**—Jumping to conclusions through poor inductive reasoning (e.g., *Two people said X so it must be true*).
- **False cause**—identifying a non-existent cause / effect relationship; mistaking correlation for causation; or assuming that only one factor led to an effect.

1 Identify the conclusions in each argument.

- 1 Incomes steadily increased for many years. These increases allowed people to afford longer commutes, either on public transportation or in private vehicles. Relocations to suburban areas increased as a result.
- 2 Many experts believe that urban density is preferable to urban sprawl. Thus, there is a need to address the implementation of such an approach. From here on in, this paper will examine how density as an approach can be exploited to its best effect.
- 3 Urban sprawl has been shown to be harmful to the environment. Research shows that it increases traffic, creates more air and water pollution, and results in a loss of wildlife. For these reasons, agricultural capacity must be protected from the building of new developments.
- 4 Urban sprawl is a never-ending cycle, hence the need to break it by considering alternative options. People move out of densely populated areas due to a loss of green spaces, traffic congestion, and overpopulation. As those people move into the suburbs, research shows those areas too become more densely populated and people leave to move into quieter, newer suburbs.
- 5 Taxes are generally higher in urban areas than in the suburbs. A study of 30 people who moved to a suburban area showed that one benefit of moving was the reduction in taxes. This demonstrates a significant need to address the high taxes in cities in order to persuade residents to stay.

2 Work with a partner. Discuss whether the conclusions in Exercise 1 are logically supported by the evidence or if a logical fallacy has been committed.

WRITING MODEL

You are going to learn about using parallel structures and integrating direct quotations in your writing. You are then going to use these to write an argumentative essay.

A ANALYZE

- 1** You are going to read part of an essay that argues for the expansion of existing suburbs. Thinking about what you have read about this so far, add ideas to the brainstorm below.



- 2** Read the model. Which ideas are included from the brainstorm?

B MODEL

Abandoning existing suburban areas for ones that are state of the art will be expensive both financially and ecologically. Money and resources have been spent on the creation and the maintenance of road systems, utility supplies, and communication networks in those suburbs. In a 2015 study commissioned by the Century Foundation, Paul A. Jargowsky noted that when people moved out of cities into suburbs, “existing infrastructure was abandoned and underutilized in the urban core.” By building new suburbs from scratch and encouraging people to relocate to them, the same situation could happen again in existing suburbs, with the money and resources allocated to that infrastructure going to waste. By expanding and improving existing suburbs, cities can not only create more modern areas that suit today’s needs, but make more use of existing infrastructure without exhausting funds or further damaging the environment.

- 1** Read the model again and answer the questions.
 - 1 What is the writer’s main point?
 - 2 What evidence does the writer use to support this point?
 - 3 What is the writer’s conclusion? Is this conclusion effective?
 - 4 What impact does the direct quotation have on the paragraph?
- 2** Work with a partner. How persuasive is the writer’s point of view? Explain.

GRAMMAR

Using parallel structures

Parallel sentences use repeated grammar structures—parts of speech, verb patterns, clauses, etc.—to add emphasis and to make a text easier to read. Common parallel structures are formed with:

Conjunctions—*and, but, yet, so, not only ... but also, either ... or, neither ... nor*
*Sprawl is neither **cheap** nor **eco-friendly**.*

Comparisons with *than* or *as*

*Some people much prefer **to live** in the city than **to live** in the suburbs.*

Clauses

*Planners were criticized for **what they said** and **what they did**.*

Lists

*Benefits include **bigger houses, better schools, and lower crime rates**.*

- 1 Read the model on page 97 again and identify at least two examples of parallel structures.
- 2 Rewrite the sentences using parallel structures. More than one answer is possible.
 - 1 There are many people who like to live in an urban area rather than living in a suburban one.
 - 2 Some people would rather be close to city facilities than to be far from them.
 - 3 Urban areas can be stressful due to constant noise and places that are crowded.
 - 4 The plan for a modern suburb was ambitious, an innovation but not cheap.
 - 5 The development was praised for its public transportation system, having a network of bike lanes and local parking.
 - 6 Planners tried not only to convince residents to use public transportation but also that they should walk around the area.
- 3 Complete each sentence with an idea of your own and a parallel structure.
 - 1 Empty urban areas should be demolished or ...
 - 2 The city was congratulated for its ability to provide eco-friendly transportation and ...
 - 3 A new suburb's cost to the environment is just as important as ...
 - 4 Creating a suburb of the future means ...
 - 5 Homes in mixed-use developments will be neither the same size nor ...
 - 6 The development plan set out to change where people lived as well as ...



WRITING SKILL

Follow these guidelines to use direct quotations effectively in your writing:

- 1 Make sure the quotation integrates well with the content around it.
- 2 If you want to omit words from a quotation, use an ellipsis (...) to show this, but make sure the meaning does not change from the original.
- 3 If you want to use a word of your own to make a quotation clearer, put it in square brackets [].
- 4 Do not forget to attribute the quotation to the author, include a date, and include a page number if appropriate.

1 Read the three excerpts (1–3) from essays below. Then select the most appropriate quotation (A–C) to be used in each one.

- A** Thomas Berberich—“Developments appear at the end of newly built highways which encourages them to relocate out of the city and into those developments” (2014).
- B** Alana Lei—“these induce demand which would otherwise not have existed” (2016).
- C** Matthew Turner and Gilles Duranton—“If a city increased its road capacity by 10% between 1980 and 1990, then the amount of driving in that city went up by 10%. If the amount of roads in the same city then went up by 11% between 1990 and 2000, the total number of miles driven also went up by 11%. It’s like the two figures were moving in perfect lockstep, changing at the same exact rate” (2009).

- 1 When a new highway is built, the result is a rise in travel miles as people commence using that road. The question is therefore whether such a highway brings any benefits at all and whether construction of new roads should be more carefully considered before they proceed. ____
- 2 It is generally assumed that the building of a new highway will increase traffic rather than lower it. In a study of road expansion and traffic between 1980 and 1990, this was proven. It is certainly clear that there is a correlation between new roads and increased traffic. ____
- 3 Although large-scale highway construction may seem to produce more congestion, congestion surely stays the same. There are no more cars on the highway than there were prior to the road being built. It is therefore simply the number of travel miles that increases as people travel further afield. ____

2 Decide where and how to integrate each quotation into each text. Link the quotation to the previous and / or subsequent sentence as appropriate; select an appropriate reporting verb and edit the quotation if necessary.

Direct quotations

WRITING TASK

You're going to write an argumentative essay in response to the following:
"Suburbanization is increasing as people move out of cities into suburban areas. Is it better to build more homes in existing suburbs or create new modern suburbs in rural areas?"

Brainstorm

Read *Suburbs of the future* again. Think about the advantages and disadvantages of both expanding existing suburbs and building new ones.

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Building more homes in existing suburbs		
Creating new modern suburbs in rural areas		

Plan

Plan your essay. Prepare to write five paragraphs that include an introduction, the advantages of the option you choose, the potential drawbacks, and a conclusion.

Write

Use your plan to help you write your essay. Remember to use parallel structures where appropriate and to integrate direct quotations into your writing. Your essay should be at least 300 words long.

Review

Exchange your essay with a partner. Review the following together:

- Does the essay successfully argue its point? Is it persuasive?
- Does the essay follow an appropriate structure, including potential drawbacks as well as advantages?
- Are direct quotes integrated effectively into the essay?

Rewrite and edit

Consider your partner's comments. Before writing the final draft, check whether your argumentative essay:

- uses parallel structures appropriately.
- uses concessive clauses to introduce and then dismiss potential drawbacks.
- uses appropriate punctuation when including direct quotations.

WORDLIST

*** very frequent ** frequent * not frequent

Vocabulary preview

automation (n)	desired (adj)	fallout (n)	millennial (n)
booming (adj) *	domestically (adv)	impact (v)	reside (v)
bungalow (n)	downsize (v)	inaccessible (adj)	restructure (v) *
coal (n) ***	ethnicity (n)	insufficient (adj) **	unsustainable (adj)

Vocabulary development

accomplish (v) **	curtail (v)	disregard (v)	proceed (v) ***
cite (v) *	dispose of (phr v) **	exhaust (v) *	relocate (v)

Academic words and idioms

commence (v) **	implementation (n) **	in the pipeline (id)	somewhat (adv) ***
commission (v) ***	instruct (v) **	labor (n) ***	state of the art (phr)
diversify (v)	integral (adj) *	panel (n) ***	unified (adj)
from scratch (id)			

ACADEMIC WORDS AND IDIOMS REVIEW

Complete the sentences using the correct form of the words / idioms below.

commence diversify from scratch in the pipeline
labor panel somewhat state of the art

- Companies using foreign _____ are causing friction within the workforce.
- Traffic congestion has improved _____ in the city, but it's not enough.
- Oil-rich nations like Saudi Arabia and the UAE are _____ their economies so that they are less dependent on oil revenues.
- The opening ceremony _____ at 5:30 p.m. Latecomers will not be admitted.
- We consulted a research _____ to hear their reactions to our proposal.
- The technology in few new homes can be described as _____.
- When the initial project failed, the managers began again _____.
- Plans to extend suburbs to the west are _____.

UNIT REVIEW

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Reading 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can use questions to look for information from a text. |
| Reading 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can find similarities and differences. |
| Academic skill | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can use the 4S system. |
| Vocabulary | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can use academic alternatives to phrasal verbs. |
| Grammar | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can use parallel structures. |
| Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can use direct quotations. |