

Metropolis

Language focus

- Urban life
- Comparatives
- Intensifying adverbs
- The verb form *used to*

1 Native sons, native daughters

a) Describe your city.

Use intensifying adverbs to describe the biggest changes that have happened in the town or city where you were born or where you lived when you were younger.

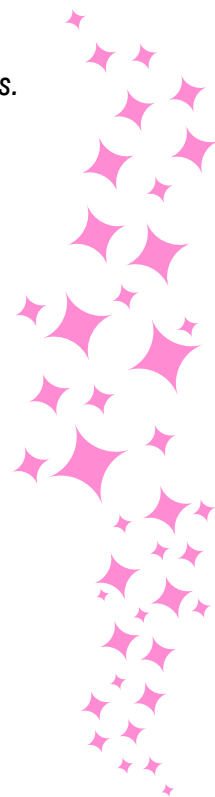
Useful language

- My home town is **much much bigger** than it was in the 2010s.
- My village was **totally off the beaten track** until five years ago.
- My neighbourhood has got **terribly noisy** in the last couple of years.
- My street has become **practically unrecognizable**.

b) Now talk about what it was like before it changed.

Useful language

- Children **used to go** to school on foot.
- People were **much friendlier** and nobody locked their doors.
- There **used to be** an open market.
- Our parents **never worried** about us playing in the street.



2 Comparing the past and the present

People often only think about the bad things that happen when towns and cities get bigger. But good things also happen.

Choose a city and talk about how it has improved.

Useful language

- Barcelona has **much better** beaches **than** it had before.
- The Seine River in Paris is **much cleaner** now **than** it was five years ago.
- London is **far less congested** now **than** it used to be.
- The Athens metro has made the city **much easier** to get around.



3 My kind of town

Tell the other students about the good things in your town or city.

Useful language

- It's **really easy** to get around.
- The club scene is **out of this world**.
- The architecture is **absolutely gorgeous**.
- There are **loads of** places to visit.
- It's **incredibly easy** to find a part-time job to cover your expenses.
- The historic centre is **an oasis of calm**.
- The harbour is **a hive of activity**.
- **What I like most is** the hustle and bustle of the downtown area.

