

Below are some texts about cities of the world.

Read texts **B-M** and headings 1-10 carefully. In **BLOCK CAPITALS**, write the letter of the text next to the corresponding heading in the space provided, as in example 0.

Notice that there are two texts which do not go with any of the headings and that each text goes with only one heading.

Answers must be based exclusively on the information in the texts.

CITIES

A.

Looking out from sky100, Hong Kong's highest observation deck on the 100th floor of the city's tallest building, the 494-metre-high International Commerce Centre, you get a 360-degree view of one of the world's most famous skylines – an urban jungle framed by mountains and the gleaming Victoria harbour, with endless clusters of high-rise buildings packed so closely together they resemble a game of Tetris.

B.

Maybe it's no surprise that some super-rich navigate the city by helicopter, rarely setting foot on its car-choked streets. As well as the world's largest bus fleet, São Paulo also reputedly has the most helicopters. There are more than 450 helipads on the roofs of skyscrapers, making it possible to fly from a luxury apartment block to an office in the Itaim Bibi financial district, charter a chopper to swanky Jardins for lunch, then back to work and home again, all without ever touching the pavement.

C.

Far from being crammed with people, Tokyo is in fact averagely dense – more crowded than some cities, less so than others. Unemployment and crime are low. Traffic is comparatively well-managed, while the modal share of transit and cycling are high: Tokyo in particular has solved what many cities call the “last-mile” transit problem, by relying on an informal network of cheap bicycles. Gentrification, though a factor, feels less disruptive than in similarly prosperous cities such as London and New York, where entire neighbourhoods are being rewritten at great speed.

D.

Cocktail d'Amore is one of a handful of landmark Berlin parties that have made the German capital a centre of LGBTQ+ youth culture over the past two decades. It took place in a venue called Griessmuehle, an old East German grain mill that people loved. Sadly, it is to be demolished to make space for a resort hotel. It certainly wasn't an architectural jewel like the Berlin Philharmonic concert hall or Museum Island but it is distressing that club spaces are under threat as Berlin's gentrification intensifies.

E.

Victoria, the capital city of British Columbia, is located on the southern tip of

Vancouver Island and is a charming harbor city that's a gateway to all the wonderful towns, inlets, coves, and Pacific Ocean scenery of Vancouver Island. Dating back to the 1840s when the city was established as a trading port, Victoria also has provenance as an aboriginal community, a mining town, and an economic hub. Tourists can still enjoy well-preserved 19th- and early 20th-century architecture, like the Parliament Buildings and the Fairmont Empress Hotel, both of which overlook the city's iconic Inner Harbor.

F.

While tour operators and hoteliers mostly agree that Cusco, Peru's principal tourist destination, needs a second airport, there is debate about whether the 600-year-old Inca site of Chinchero is the best location for it. Juan Stoessel, general manager of the Casa Andina hotel chain, argues the chosen location would allow planes to land and take off from both sides of the runway – unlike the alternative sites in the mountain region – making it a hub for flights from the main cities in the region.

G.

Copenhagen's city government reported in early July that 62% of its residents are now commuting to work or school by bike — an increase from 52% in 2015 and 36% in 2012, when the City Council launched a 14-year-plan to improve the quality, safety and comfort of cycling. Those bikers pedal an estimated total of 800,000 miles a day. According to local reports, there are more bikes (675,000) than people in Copenhagen, and five times as many bicycles as cars.

H.

Central Dublin – along with 20 other areas of the country – is now classified as a “rent pressure zone”, which caps annual rent increases at 4%, but politicians and activists claim this gets nowhere near tackling the causes of skyrocketing housing costs. In the capital as a whole, rents still went up by an average of more than 12% in the year and are likely to continue on the rise.

I.

As a place that has been in a constant state of development for the past 70 years, the innovation that becoming a smart city requires comes naturally to the Dutch metropolis. A recent inventory revealed Rotterdam has more than 200 smart-city-related initiatives and projects in operation at the moment. These include our city lights development, which has led to a new industry standard. We plan to expand our intelligent household waste collection system, and we have made a lot of progress in the integration of our water management system by combining it with a highly accurate rain radar.

J.

At 240 hectares, the neighbourhood of Aspern, Vienna, is one of the largest urban developments in Europe. By the time it is complete in 2028, it is due to be home to 20,000 people, plus another 20,000 workplaces, and with an explicitly family-oriented design. Centred on an artificial lake and with half of the entire area devoted to public space, it is billed as “Vienna's Urban Lakeside”: a model city-within-a-city, in a place that already has the one of the highest qualities of life of any city in the world.

K.

The new London plan, which sets out how developers and local authorities can plan new housing, will outlaw any segregation by tenure. Under the new policy developments, where there are a mix of tenures – private owners alongside “affordable” housing including shared ownership and social rented accommodation – developers will no longer be allowed to build play areas that are accessible only to people in the most expensive properties.

L.

Until recently, the Sant Pere neighbourhood of Barcelona had resisted the tide of mass tourism. Ten years ago, many visitors who ventured there found it forbidding, even a little sinister, and soon retreated to the more familiar and gentrified Gothic Quarter. Then the city gave Sant Pere Més Baix, the main shopping street, a makeover and, although it was supposed to be for the benefit of residents, as one local put it, “it was like rolling out the red carpet for tourists”.

M.

Driving to work, driving to dinner, driving to meet friends...this quintessentially American invention requires a limitless supply of land and resources. Los Angeles is infamously sprawling. Think of the classic view from the Griffith Observatory, looking down at that vast carpet of concrete with its threads of light from the clogged highways. LA is decentred, potentially limitless, and stands for everything terrible about what happens when cities are developed without planning: swathes of low density housing, the whole terrain plagued by filthy smog.

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ITEM	HEADINGS	TEXT LETTER
Ex. 0	The most vertical city	A
1.	Bringing equality to housing developments	
2.	A city growing nonstop	
3.	Controversy over preserving natural heritage	
4.	An unusual way of getting around a city	
5.	When improving neighbourhoods means gentrification	
6.	A port city with well-kept historical areas	
7.	An example of good urban planning	
8.	Fighting unaffordable housing	
9.	Promoting sustainable transport	
10.	Integrating innovation to achieve urban efficiency	

Answer Key:

TASK 1 (...../10) – CITIES

HEADING NUMBER	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TEXT LETTER	A	K	M	F	B	L	E	J	H	G	I