

TOPIC: CITIES

You and Candidate A/B are attending a conference on the topic of **cities** in which you have heard the three statements in the box below.

- Talk to each other about how these statements represent different challenges cities have to face at present.
- Then decide together which of the statements best reflects the most important challenge that cities face.

- One key consequence is the recapture of city centres by wealthy tenants and the eviction of poorer households, a phenomenon usually designated by the term gentrification.
- Rising traffic congestion is an inescapable condition in large and growing metropolitan areas across the world, from Los Angeles to Tokyo, from Cairo to Sao Paolo. Peak-hour traffic congestion is an inherent result of the way modern societies operate.
- A third problem involves housing. Here there are several related issues. Much urban housing is substandard, and characterized by such problems as broken windows, malfunctioning heating systems, peeling lead paint etc. Cities thus have a great need for adequate, affordable housing.