

American
English

Personal Best

B1 Pre-intermediate

Student's Book
and Workbook
combined edition

B

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7	City living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> present perfect with <i>yet</i> and <i>already</i> present perfect with <i>for</i> and <i>since</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>just</i> and <i>yet</i> <i>for</i> and <i>since</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> city features transportation 	LISTENING	WRITING
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8A	p44				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> scanning for specific information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> making and responding to invitations
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10A	p56				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> finding information in a text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> making inquiries
10B	p57					
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12A	p68				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> interpreting data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> saying thanks
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City living

LANGUAGE

present perfect with *yet* and *already* ■ city features

7A Life in the city

- 1** Discuss the questions in pairs.
- Do you live in a city, a town, or a village?
 - Do you like where you live?
 - What are the good and bad things about it?

2 A Look at the picture. Which city is it?

B Match the words in the box with the things in the city.

sidewalk traffic lights bridge
bike lane crosswalk bench



1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____



Go to Vocabulary practice: city features, page 148

3 A Read the text. Who is more positive about the city: Alex or Megan? _____

B Read the text again and match the headings in the box with the paragraphs.

Cost of living Job opportunities The weather The people Transportation Entertainment

Big City

San Francisco is one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S. Today, we speak to two people who recently moved here and find out their first impressions of living in the city.

Alex, 25, is an IT professional. He just moved to San Francisco from London.



1 _____
There are so many tech companies here; it's really exciting. I've joined a networking group to meet people from the industry, and I've already been to a couple of events. Have I found a job yet? No ... but I'm sure I will soon! At least I have my visa!

2 _____
In my apartment building, there are people of all nationalities, as well as from other places in the U.S. I haven't met all my neighbors yet, but I love living in a city where everyone is different.

3 _____
Whatever you're interested in, there's always something going on. I've already been to the theater twice and I've seen a baseball game, and I only arrived two weeks ago!

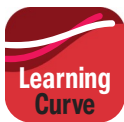
Megan, 27, has moved to San Francisco from her hometown in Idaho to study engineering.



4 _____
San Francisco is expensive and you need a good salary to live here. I've rented a room in a shared house, but after I've paid the rent, it doesn't leave me with much money for other things.

5 _____
All my friends told me that the summers wouldn't be as hot as back home. It hasn't been too cold yet, but it can get really foggy, especially when you're near the ocean.

6 _____
The traffic here is terrible, so forget driving! Cable cars are fun, but public transportation can get really crowded, so I just bought myself a bike. It's one of the best ways to get around the city, and the bike lanes are great.



7B The daily commute

- 1 Is traffic a problem in your town/city? How do most people get to work?
- 2 Look at the pictures in exercise 4. In pairs, use the words in the box to describe them.

traffic jam drive rush hour commuter passenger parking lot
platform take the train parking space public transportatiton

In picture a, people are driving to work, but there's a really bad traffic jam.

Go to Vocabulary practice: transportation, page 148

- 3 7.8 Look at exercise 4. Which cities do pictures a–c show? Watch or listen to the first part of *Learning Curve* and check.

a _____ b _____ c _____



Skill listening for facts and figures

We often have to listen for specific information.

- Before you listen, focus on what type of information you need to listen for. For example, is it a number, a person, a time, a place, etc.?
- Listen for "clues." For example, if the information is an age, you might hear "old" or "years."
- Write the exact word(s) you hear. Then read the sentences to make sure they make sense.

- 4 **A** Read the Skill box. Match the types of information in the box with the blanks in the text.

a specific time a verb (x2) a noun an adjective (x2) a period of time (x2) a number (x2)

- B** 7.8 Watch or listen again and complete the text with the correct words.



Commuting around the world

The global average commuting time is ¹ _____, but it is much worse in some cities.



The average travel time is
2 _____.

Rush hour is between ³ _____
and 9:30 in the morning.

This city has a population of
4 _____ people.



Companies employ "pushers" to
5 _____ passengers onto trains.

They wear ⁶ _____ gloves as
a sign of respect to passengers.

⁷ _____ passengers use the
train system every day.



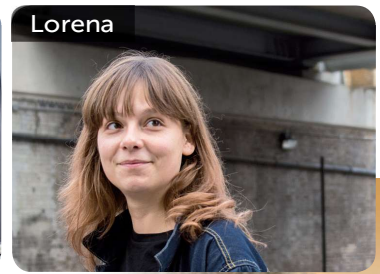
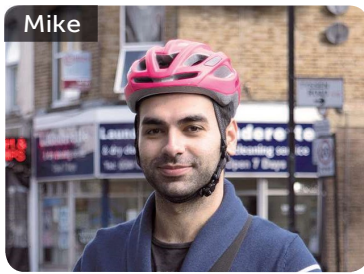
Seven million ⁸ _____ come
into this city every day.

24% of people have ⁹ _____
about a parking space in the last
year.

Parking lots are so ¹⁰ _____
that people can lose their cars.



- 5** **7.9** Watch or listen to the second part of the show. How do Mike, Sandra, and Lorena get to work/the university?



- 6 A** Read questions 1–8. What kind of information do you need to answer them?

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 How long does Mike's commute take in total? | <u>a period of time</u> |
| 2 What time does he usually leave the house? | _____ |
| 3 What causes him problems on his commute? | _____ |
| 4 Which city is Sandra in? | _____ |
| 5 How often does she usually travel with Bonnie? | _____ |
| 6 How far is it to Sandra's work? | _____ |
| 7 How long does it take Lorena to walk to the university? | _____ |
| 8 How much does she spend on public transportation? | _____ |

- B** **7.9** Watch or listen again. Answer the questions.

- 7** Discuss the questions in pairs.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 How do you get to work/college/class? | 4 Do you ever have any problems? |
| 2 How long does it take you? | 5 Who do you travel with? |
| 3 What time do you start out? | 6 How does the trip make you feel? |

- 8** **7.10** Listen to the sentences from the show. When are the /t/ sounds in **bold** pronounced?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 What time do you set off ? | 3 I'm here in front of our building in New York. |
| 2 My biggest problem is pedestrians. | 4 Today, I'm just listening to my car radio. |



Listening builder final /t/ sound

English speakers don't often pronounce the /t/ sound at the end of a word when the next word begins with a consonant. If the next word begins with a vowel sound, they link the sounds together.

*I **get** off the bus. I **ge(t)** to talk with my good friend.
There's still a lot **of** traffic. She **doesn't** drive.*

- 9** **7.11** Read the Listening builder. Listen and complete the sentences.

- The _____ to get to work is to drive, _____ is impossible.
- I _____ at 8:00 and _____ me over an hour.
- The traffic _____ completely, so we _____ and walked.
- It's the _____ in the world for commuting, but they _____ buy a car.
- I _____ taking the subway. I get _____ people come out of the station.

- 10 A** In pairs, prepare a talk of 1–2 minutes about the transportation system in your city or country. Use the ideas in the boxes.

the type of transportation people use

the cost and frequency of public transportation

the problems commuters have

suggestions for people visiting your city or country

- B** Work with another pair. Take turns listening, then ask at least one question.