IELTS ENGLISH PODCAST. URBANIZATION. TRANSCRIPT

Part 1. Do You Live In A City?

Yes, I do. I live in Seoul city in South Korea. It's a very busy city. Actually, it's not the biggest city in the world, but the population density is very high.

Part 1. How Has Your Hometown Changed In The Past Ten Years?

Well Seoul has changed a lot in the past ten years. The transportation network has expanded a lot. There's a lot more, you know, different restaurants and coffee shops, particularly chain restaurants and chain coffee shops, these franchises. And apart from that, you know, there's a lot of buildings being destroyed and nowadays, a lot of big apartments, very tall apartments, being built. So, it's changed a lot in the past 10 years.

Part 2. Describe A Part Of Your City That Has Changed?

I'd like to tell you about my home district, the district where I live in Seoul. I first moved to my district, which is called Gangdong District—it's in the east of Seoul. I moved there five or six years ago, and at that time, to be honest, it wasn't a particularly nice area of Seoul. It had a lot of what they're called villas, but in British English, it would be just small flats. It was not particularly developed. The transportation system was okay, but certainly, there weren't many nice restaurants, coffee shops, or bars. So yeah, I wasn't excited to move to that district

After some time, and particularly over the last three years, there's been huge development, and it's entirely different now. So, let me tell you a little more about my district. Nowadays, it is, most importantly, there's a lot more restaurants and coffee shops, and that's changed the atmosphere of the district.

It feels less like a living place, you know, more like somewhere, you know, a bit more commercial, more entertainment, that kind of thing. And that's quite a nice feeling when you're on the high street. Apart from that, a lot of the smaller flats have been destroyed, and they are being replaced by apartment complexes and that makes a huge difference to the look of an area, it makes it look more developed, newer and, of course, it does also mean the population is increasing in my district. For me personally, I am happy with the ways it's changing.

VOCABULARY

bars (noun) - places where people go to buy drinks and relax.

commercial (adjective) - something related to buying and selling, like stores or businesses.

density (noun) - how many things there are in a certain space, like how many people in a crowded room.

destroyed (verb) - when something is broken so badly that it can't be used anymore.

district (noun) - a part or area of a city or town.

flats (noun) - apartments or homes that are in a building and usually have more than one floor.

franchise (noun) - a business that is part of a bigger company and follows the same rules. transportation network (noun) - all the ways people get around, like buses, trains, and roads.

villa (noun) - a large, comfortable house, often in the countryside or near the sea.