

Finding Your Own Place



1. Read the following dialogue about living in the city or the suburbs. Or click [here](#) to hear the dialogue.



Jen: My family has lived in both a big city and a suburb.

Marcus: What were your homes like?

Jen: Well, our home in the suburb was a two-story house. It had a backyard and lots of trees.

Marcus: So you had a lot of space in the suburb.

Jen: Yes. Our home in the city was an apartment. The apartment was smaller than the house. It didn't have a backyard, but there were many parks nearby.

Marcus: So you had less space in the city, but I bet it was more interesting.

Complete the graphic organizer with details about the city and the suburb.

City	Suburb

2. What if you could choose any place in the world or universe as your home? What place would you choose? Use the pictures /to help you decide. Write 3 sentences explaining where you want to live and why.

In the city



In the suburb



On the farm



Use these words to help you write.

- many cars
- tall buildings
- places to go
- walk around
- trees
- grass
- houses
- land

I would live in _____

3. Writing Sentences

A complete sentence has two parts: the **subject** and the **predicate**. The subject tells whom or what the sentence is about. The predicate often tells what the subject does.

EXAMPLE: **People choose different places to live.**

Most people chose the big city as their favorite place to live.

Both Rachel and Rosa chose the **mountains** as their favorite place to live.

Match each subject to a predicate. Write the new sentence on the lines below.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Predicate</u>
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My home	_____ is in the city.
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The man	are on a farm.
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The city	lives in the suburbs
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Animals	has many people.
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My home is in the city.

4. Signal Words

Sometimes writers want to **compare** and **contrast** things, or show how things are alike and different. They organize the text in a way that makes the similarities and differences clear. Writers use signal words to show us how similarities and differences.

Alike	Different
both	but
like	difference
same	however
similar	though
too	unlike

Look at the signal words in this text.

My New Neighborhood

I like my new neighborhood. I am beginning to feel at home. In my old neighborhood, we didn't have an outdoor basketball court. **But** my new school has one. I think I'll have to learn chess, though. **Unlike** the kids in my old neighborhood, the kids here really love it.

Another difference here is that the kids don't have to be home for dinner. My parents want me home by six o'clock. This is hard. Like most kids, I like to play sports at night.

One **similar** thing about my new and my old neighborhoods is that **both** have gingko trees. Grandfather told me that gingko trees grow in China, where he grew up. It is like having a piece of his homeland, he said. I feel the same way. For me, it is like having a piece of my old neighborhood

Read each text and write the signal words you see.

City and Country



A red-tailed hawk lands on a city building.

Javier feels at home in the city, **but** Ana likes to live in the country. When Javier leaves his apartment, he hears noisy cars, buses, and taxis. Unlike Javier, Ana hears birds chirping in the trees and the soft hum of insects. Sometimes Javier and Ana have similar experiences. For example, they have both seen red-tailed hawks. Ana sees the hawks flying over her fields. Javier sees them land on buildings. However, Ana sees red-tailed hawks much more often than Javier does.

but

Two Cities



Nearly nineteen million people live in and around Mexico City.

Both New York City in New York and Mexico City in Mexico are home to millions of people. Both cities are important urban areas. Mexico City is the capital of Mexico, but New York City is not the capital of New York or of the United States. Both Mexico City and New York are made up of a collection of areas. Unlike Mexico City, the separate areas in New York City are called boroughs.

5. Vocabulary

Choose 3 new words from the dialogue, *My New Neighborhood, City and Country*, and *Two Cities*. Use a dictionary or computer.

Definition	Word	Picture
Sentence		In my language

Definition	Word	Picture
Sentence		In my language

Definition	Word	Picture
Sentence		In my language

6. Practice Reading and Speaking

Practice reading your sentences and vocabulary. Then read them to a parent or sibling. Check each when you are done.

	✓ To myself	✓ To someone else
I can read my sentences telling where I want to live		
I can read subject and predicate sentences		
I can read <i>My New Neighborhood</i>		
I can read <i>City and Country</i>		
I can read <i>Two Cities</i>		
I can read my vocabulary words		