

Touchstone 2
Unit 5 “Growing up”

Vocabulary

Be born: to come into existence or life.

Example: "She was born in 1995."

Live in: to reside or dwell in a specific place.

Example: "I have lived in this city for 10 years."

Leave (a place): to depart or go away from a specific location.

Example: "They left home early in the morning."

Move here: to change one's place of residence to this location.

Example: "She moved here last year."

Grow up: to develop from a child to an adult.

Sample sentence: "He grew up in a small town."

Stay (in a place): to remain or reside in a location.

Sample sentence: "We stayed in France for two weeks."

Relocate to: to move or change one's residence to a new place.

Sample sentence: "The company decided to relocate to a bigger city."

Explore (a place): to investigate or discover a location, often while traveling.

Sample sentence: "They explored the historic district on their vacation."

Birthplace: The location where a person was born.

Sample sentence: Her birthplace is a small town in the mountains, known for its stunning scenery.

Hometown: The town or city where a person grew up or considers home.

Sample sentence: After living in the city for years, he decided to return to his hometown to reconnect with old friends.

Nostalgia: A sentimental longing for the past, often in relation to one's childhood or hometown.

Sample sentence: Visiting her childhood neighborhood filled her with nostalgia for simpler times.

Heritage: The cultural, historical, and familial background that is passed down through generations.

Sample sentence: He is proud of his Italian heritage and often shares stories about his family's origins.

Community: A group of people living in the same area, often sharing common interests and values.

Sample sentence: The community came together to celebrate the annual festival that honors their shared history.

Landmark: A recognizable feature or building in a particular area that is often associated with its history or culture.

Sample sentence: The old clock tower is a beloved landmark in our town, serving as a meeting point for residents.

Local: Relating to a particular area or neighborhood; often refers to the people or businesses that are based there.

Sample sentence: She loves supporting local businesses by shopping at the farmers' market every weekend.

Tradition: A long-established custom or practice that is passed down through generations.

Sample sentence: Every summer, our family follows the tradition of gathering at the lake for a reunion.

Roots: The origins or background of a person, often referring to family lineage or cultural identity.

Sample sentence: Learning about her roots helped her appreciate the sacrifices her ancestors made for a better life.

Neighborhood: A distinct area within a town or city characterized by its own community and atmosphere.

Sample sentence: Growing up in a tight-knit neighborhood made her feel safe and supported during her childhood.

Migration: The movement of people from one place to another, often for reasons such as work, education, or safety.

Sample sentence: His family's migration from the countryside to the city changed their lifestyle dramatically.

Cultural Identity: The identity of a group or culture, often shaped by shared language, traditions, and values.

Sample sentence: Her cultural identity is deeply influenced by the traditions of her hometown.

Familiar: Well-known from long or close association; often refers to places or experiences that evoke comfort.

Sample sentence: The familiar streets of her childhood brought back memories of carefree days spent playing with friends.

Scenic: /'si:.nɪk/ Providing or relating to views of impressive or beautiful natural scenery. خوش منظره

Sample sentence: The scenic views from the hilltop overlook made it a popular spot for tourists.

Legacy: Something handed down from an ancestor or from the past; can refer to cultural or familial contributions. میراث

Sample sentence: His grandfather's legacy of hard work and perseverance inspired him to pursue his dreams.

Born and raised: to have been born and grown up in a particular place.

Sample sentence: "She was born and raised in Paris."

Home sweet home: an expression of affection for one's home or hometown.

Sample sentence: "After a long trip, there's nothing like coming back to your home sweet home."

Childhood home: A childhood home refers to the house or place where a person lived during their childhood years, often invoking a sense of nostalgia or attachment.

Example Sentence: Returning to my childhood home always brings back memories of family gatherings, neighborhood games, and carefree summer days.

Commuting: The act of traveling regularly between one's place of residence and place of work or study.

Example: The new subway line has eased the daily commuting for thousands of city residents.

Diverse (adjective): Having variety or differences in characteristics, such as culture, background, or experience.

Sample sentence: The company was proud of its diverse workforce, which included people from many different countries.

Community (noun): A group of people living in the same area or sharing a common interest, culture, or social identity.

Sample sentence: The local community center provides resources and activities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Industrial town (noun): A town or city that primarily focuses on industrial activities, such as manufacturing, production, or processing.

Sample sentence: The industrial town's economy relied heavily on the success of the factories and plants located within it.

Job opportunities (noun phrase): The availability of potential employment or work within a specific location, field, or industry.

Sample sentence: The expanding tech industry in the city created numerous job opportunities for recent graduates and experienced professionals alike.

It's worth it: Something is considered valuable, beneficial, or important enough to pursue or invest time, effort, or resources into.

Sample sentence: "Although the project took a lot of effort, the final result was worth it."

ارزشش رو داره

Prestigious university: A highly regarded and respected educational institution with a reputation for academic excellence and accomplishments.

Sample sentence: "Harvard University is considered one of the most prestigious universities in the world."

Feasible: Capable of being accomplished or achieved in a practical and realistic manner.

Sample sentence: "The team determined that the project was feasible within the given budget and timeframe."

End up: To eventually or ultimately arrive at a particular situation, place, or conclusion, sometimes inadvertently or despite initial intentions.

Sample sentence: "After years of traveling, she ended up settling down in a small town."

Infrastructure: The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of a society or enterprise. زیرساخت

Sample sentence: "The government invested heavily in improving the city's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and public transportation."

Air pollution: The presence of harmful substances in the air that pose risks to human health and the environment.

Sample sentence: "The increase in air pollution has led to respiratory problems for many people living in urban areas."

Greenhouse gases: Gases in Earth's atmosphere that trap heat and contribute to climate change. گازهای گلخانه ای

Sample sentence: "Carbon dioxide and methane are two examples of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming."

Environmentally friendly: Causing little or no harm to the environment.

Sample sentence: "The company adopted environmentally friendly practices, such as recycling and reducing waste, to minimize its ecological footprint."

Sustainable energy: Energy resources that can be replenished and have a minimal environmental impact, often referring to renewable energy sources.

انرژی های پایدار

Sample sentence: "The use of solar panels and wind turbines helps to harness sustainable energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels."

Recreational facilities: Amenities or spaces designed for leisure activities, exercise, or play.

Sample sentence: "The park offers a variety of recreational facilities, including playgrounds, sports fields, and walking trails, for the community to enjoy."

Here are the questions:

Where were you born?

I was born and raised in a city which is located in northwest Iran and is very close to the capital of Iran, Tehran.

Please tell me about your hometown. /What's your hometown like?

Sample 1:

My hometown is a historical city with a rich past and many interesting places to visit. It's not too big or too small and offers a mix of cultural attractions, natural beauty, and job opportunities. People from different provinces come to live and work here because of the diverse community and the many available jobs in our industrial town. Overall, my hometown is an inviting place with a lot to offer.

Sample 2

My hometown is a historical city with a mix of cultural attractions, natural beauty, and job opportunities. It's neither too big nor too small and offers a variety of experiences for both residents and visitors.

One of the most notable aspects of my hometown is its rich history. There are many historical monuments and places that attract tourists from all over. In addition to its cultural attractions, the city is also surrounded by natural beauty, making it a great place to explore on weekends.

The city has a diverse population, with many immigrants from other provinces who have come to seek job opportunities. The industrial town, located just five minutes away, has provided appealing job opportunities and has become a significant factor in attracting people from the northern and western provinces.

How do you like your hometown?

Overall, I like my hometown. It has some disadvantages, such as a lack of entertainment options, but there are several advantages that make it an enjoyable place to live. One of the benefits is that we don't have much traffic, which makes getting around town easier. Additionally, the crime rate is quite low compared to other provinces in Iran, so I feel safe living here.

Another positive aspect of my hometown is that there are numerous industries nearby, providing ample job opportunities and keeping unemployment rates lower than in other cities. Moreover, there are many

universities in the province, which gives students plenty of choices for continuing their education.

Do you think you will continue living there for a long time?

It depends. I enjoy living here, but if I have the opportunity to secure a great job position in another city in Iran with a high salary and it's worth it, I might consider moving. Additionally, if I get accepted into a prestigious university like Sharif University in Tehran, I might relocate since Tehran isn't very far from my city and commuting is feasible. However, overall, I might end up living in this city for the rest of my life.

Has your hometown changed much since you were a child?

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There have been some changes in my hometown over time. Firstly, the development of transportation infrastructure, such as overpasses and underpasses, has made commuting much easier and more efficient. Secondly, the city's recreational facilities have also evolved. In the past, there were limited options for entertainment, but nowadays, we have more choices, including cafes, shopping malls, and various leisure venues, even though they might still be insufficient.

Are there any changes you would like to make in your hometown?

Sample 1

Absolutely, there are some changes I would like to see in my hometown, particularly when it comes to addressing the issue of air pollution. In my city, air quality becomes especially problematic during the winter months due to temperature inversion, which exacerbates the effects of greenhouse gases.

One of the main contributors to this problem is the use of non-standard fuels at the local power plant. To alleviate this issue, I believe the power plant should transition to cleaner, more sustainable energy sources.

Additionally, encouraging residents to use public transportation is vital in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. By providing efficient and reliable public transportation options, people will be more likely to opt for these alternatives rather than relying on private cars.

Ultimately, taking these steps would significantly improve air quality and make my hometown a healthier and more environmentally friendly place to live.

Sample 2

I want some changes in my hometown, mainly to fix the air pollution problem. During winter, temperature inversion makes air quality worse because of greenhouse gases.

The power plant close to the city uses bad fuels, which causes pollution. It should use cleaner energy instead.

Also, we need better public transportation so people use it instead of their cars which will help reduce greenhouse gases and make the air cleaner and healthier for everyone.