

- A** Countable and uncountable nouns
- B** too and enough
- C** Communication strategies Complaints
- D** Interaction Collecting information

Special places



Countable and uncountable nouns

Reading: Big decisions

1 What is the biggest decision people make in life and why?

Is it deciding ...

- a what career to follow?
- b who to marry?
- c where to live?
- d something else? What?

2 Read the article. Does the writer agree with your answers in exercise 1?

3 According to the writer, are these statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The place we live in affects our salary.
- 2 People can work efficiently in any place that has good communications.
- 3 Living near talented, creative and productive people gives us more opportunities.
- 4 The job and marriage market aren't important when we're selecting a place to live.

4 Discuss these questions.

- 1 How much time did you spend deciding where to live? Did you research other places or did it just happen?
- 2 How do you feel about the place where you live? When you get home from work, do you feel glad you live there?

A major decision

How much time did you spend deciding where to live? Did you collect information on different places and make comparisons? A lot of people don't give it much thought but it's a really important decision. It affects how much money we earn, the friends we make and the opportunities our families have. In many ways it's more important than deciding on a career or who to marry.

Living in the right town or city feels good and gives you lots of energy. Some people think you can work efficiently anywhere these days if you have equipment to access the internet. But this isn't really true. Talented, creative and productive people often live near one another in the same cities or regions. That means some places have lots of opportunities but there aren't so many in others. Also, the sad fact is that jobs end and relationships break up. We all hope it won't happen but if it does, we need to be in a place where it's easy to find a new job or partner. Deciding where to live is a major life decision. ■



Listening: Finding a place

5 🎧 1.41 When you are choosing where to live, what are your priorities? For example, is it having lots of job opportunities or having good schools nearby? Listen to an estate agent talking about a house to a potential buyer. What is the buyer interested in?

6 🎧 Listen to the conversation again and answer these questions.

- 1 According to the estate agent, what changes have taken place in this area?
- 2 What changes will take place in the future?
- 3 Do you think the client will buy the property? Why?/Why not?