

Toyota's Woven City



● Warm-up Questions

1. Would you like to have a car that drive by itself?

2. How will cities be different in 50 years?

3. Do you worry about companies collecting data about you?

4. Is housework important in your life?

VOCABULARY

● WRITE THE CORRECT WORD IN THE SENTENCES BELOW

at the foot of, laboratory, zero-emission, daily tasks, natural resources, fertile, expand, territory, chaotic, Chernobyl, futuristic, advanced, only time will tell if

1. Tokyo is a _____ city, but the rest of Japan seems normal.
2. Scientists work in a _____, looking for ways to improve our lives.
3. _____ Biden will be a good president or not.
4. The _____ of Japan consists of 4 large islands and many smaller ones.
5. My garden is not _____, so not many things grow there.

Woven City

Toyota President Akio Toyoda has a plan to change the way people live. At the end of February, Toyota started to build a smart city at the foot of Mount Fuji called Woven City.

Toyota describes the city as “a living laboratory.” The company will test self-driving cars, robots for the home, and AI systems in a real-life environment.

All of the cars in the city will be zero-emission and self-driving. This means they will be good for the environment.

Self-driving cars makes them safer for people to drive. Toyota also believes that there will be less traffic because AI systems can control the traffic lights, speed, and direction of cars.

Houses will be made of wood, and will have sensors to check the health of people inside. The homes will have robots to help home owners with daily tasks like cleaning and taking out the garbage.

At first, close to 400 Toyota workers will live in this city in Susono, Shizuoka. Later, more people will live there, and the city will have police, fire fighters, a hospital and school.

So, is it possible that Woven City will fix all of the problems most cities have with pollution, crime, traffic and inconvenience?

In the past, cities were built because of location. They protected people from attack or bad weather. They were close to natural resources like water or fertile land. Cities were also built between larger cities or as links to expand the territory of a country.

Woven City won't be the first smart city ever built. Songdo, in South Korea, is the world's first smart city. Its planners made it to be a high tech, clean, and green city. These planners wanted it to be different from chaotic cities like Seoul.

Songdo was made for 300,000 people, but today, only 70,000 people live there. One reporter wrote, “The streets are empty, and there is no culture - no museums, cafes, and just 1 movie theater. It feels like Chernobyl.”

In the past, other business leaders tried but failed to build futuristic cities: Henry Ford in Brazil or Walt Disney in Florida. However, technology has advanced so much in the last 20 years. It's possible that these homes can help people not catch sicknesses like COVID-19. Who wouldn't like that?

Toyoda said, “I believe it is up to all of us to help make the world a better place. Woven City is one small step toward reaching that goal.” Only time will tell if people agree with his vision or not.

1. Would you like to live in this town?
2. Do you/did you ever have problems with traffic?
3. How could you make your city a better place to live?
4. Are you friendly with your neighbors?
5. How do you try to keep your privacy?
6. Homes in Woven City will monitor people’s health? What do you think about this?
7. What is good and bad about living in a smart city?
8. What is the most impressive city you ever visited?

Grammar Practice

Fix the sentences below. All of them have around 3 mistakes.

1. There is three rooms in my home. One is small, and other are big.

2. When I go to downtown by feet, it takes for me 15 minutes.

3. I like to buy a new, wood, Spanish, beautiful house.

PREPOSITION PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks using: around, with, in, of, on, into, from, up, out, for

Write a proper preposition for each sentence. Sometimes, there is more than one answer.

1. My home is filled _____ toys. I want to throw them all _____.
2. I always take _____ the trash _____ the morning.
3. I like to clean _____ my room before I go _____.
4. _____ summer, I hang _____ my clothes _____ a clothes line.
5. I need to pick _____ some snacks _____ the party tonight.
6. She moved _____ her new apartment _____ some help _____ her friends.
7. The apartment is _____ the 15th floor, and the view _____ the apartment is great.
8. She paid _____ the apartment _____ cash. She is loaded _____ money.
9. _____ fact, she is the owner _____ a real estate company located _____ Tokyo.
10. _____ her free time, she travels _____ the world searching _____ homes to buy.

WRITING SENTENCES

1. the way: _____

2. to help: _____

3. at first: _____

4. all of: _____

5. feel like: _____

6. agree with: _____
