

“Big City Noise”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

My name is Olaf.

I live in a big city.

I live on a busy road.

At night and during the day, cars go by.

Buses go by.

Trucks go by.

People do not seem to hear the noise during the day.

But at night, the noise makes it hard to sleep.

My road has a lot of animals, too.

People keep their animals outside in their yards at night.

There are cats.

There are dogs.



The dogs make a lot of noise.

To me, the dogs are like the trucks.

The dogs are like the cars.

The dogs are like the buses.

All of them are loud!

One dog barks more than the others do. His name is Simba.

Simba is Mr. Cheek's dog.

"That is a very bad dog. He keeps me up at night," says Mr. Lucas. Mr. Lucas

lives next door to Mr. Cheek. "You should give him away," says Mr. Lucas.

This makes Mr. Cheek very mad. "You should not sleep with your windows open," says Mr. Cheek.

"You should take your dog inside at night," yells Mr. Lucas.

The two men argue about Simba's barking almost every day.

I think this is funny.

To me, Simba is as bad as the cars.

He is **as bad as the buses**.

He is as bad as the trucks.

This is what living in a big city is like. There is a lot of noise.

Questions:

1) In what place does Olaf live?

- A. _____

2) What does Olaf say makes noise?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. airplanes
B. buses
C. dogs
D. horses

3) What goes by at night?

- A. bikes
B. cats
C. dogs
D. trucks

4) Why may people **NOT** hear the noise during the day?

- A. because it is quiet
B. because they are sleepy
C. because they are busy doing other things
D. because they do not hear well during the day

5) What does Olaf say about his road?

▼ Check all that are correct.

- A. It is dark.
B. It is busy.
C. It is dirty.
D. It is noisy.

6) Which noise makes Mr. Lucas mad?

- A. cats meowing
B. trucks going by
C. a dog barking
D. people talking

7) Who argues every day?

- A. Mr. Lucas and Olaf
B. Olaf and Mr. Cheek
C. Simba and Mr. Lucas
D. Mr. Lucas and Mr. Cheek

8) What could Mr. Cheek do to help Mr. Lucas sleep?

- A. get a cat
B. not argue with him
C. not drive his car at night
D. take his dog inside at night
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Questions (continued):

9) What could Mr. Lucas do to sleep better?

- A. close his windows at night
- B. not argue with Mr. Cheek
- C. go to bed later
- D. talk to Olaf

10) Who says Simba is a bad dog?

- A. _____
- _____
- _____

11) Who does Mr. Cheek live next door to?

- A. Olaf
- B. Mr. Lucas
- C. Olaf and Mr. Lucas
- D. no one

12) What does Olaf mean when he says Simba is **as bad as the buses**?

- A. that Simba barks at the buses
- B. that Simba and the buses argue
- C. that Simba runs down the street at night
- D. that Simba and the buses both make noise

13) According to Olaf, what could be done about noise in a big town?

- A. People could ride bikes.
- B. Dogs could be inside.
- C. People could walk everywhere.
- D. Nothing can be done.

Is it better to live in the city, or in the country? Why?
