



Part 1: Your Neighbourhood

Is your neighbourhood a nice place to live?

Yes, it's very nice. I live on the south side of Dublin in a neighbourhood called Dundrum. It's not exactly on the **outskirts**, but it's not close to the city centre either. It's a relatively quiet, **residential** neighbourhood. What makes it so nice is that there is a lot of **greenery dotted around the area**. I used to live in Shanghai, so living here is a welcome change from the **hustle and bustle** of city life.

Do you know many of your neighbours?

You know, I don't actually know any of them. To be honest, I don't see my neighbours so often, and we've never **formally met**. I've passed them on my way into the apartment, and we usually say "hi", but they tend to **keep themselves to themselves**.

What would improve your neighbourhood?

Ah, this is something that my girlfriend and I talk about regularly. We both used to live in city centres and enjoyed being able to walk out the door and go to a cafe or meet up with friends easily. In contrast, living in Dundrum seems a bit more **isolated**. There aren't many nice cafes nearby, and there's a lot less life on the street in general. Ultimately, I think the area would improve if more people moved here and if there were more small businesses and cafes. I believe that it'll happen in the future. But for now, it's a bit too quiet for us.

Useful vocabulary

Outskirts

Outskirts = the outer part of a city or town (not near the centre).

*"It's not exactly on the **outskirts**, but it's not close to the city centre either."*

Residential (area)

An area that people live (not a commercial area- where people shop).

*"It's a relatively quiet, **residential** neighbourhood."*

Greenery

Green area like parks and gardens, for example.

*"What makes it so nice is that there is a lot of **greenery** dotted around the area."*

Dotted around (the area)

In small sections around the area (like dots).

*"What makes it so nice is that there is a lot of greenery **dotted around the area**."*

Hustle and bustle

Busy activity (usually in a city).

*"I used to live in Shanghai, so living here is a welcome change from the **hustle and bustle** of city life."*

**Formally meet**

Officially meet.

*"To be honest, I don't see my neighbours so often, and we've never **formally met**."*

Keep myself to myself

Be a private person (also with "himself", "herself", etc.).

*"I've passed them on my way into the apartment, and we usually say "hi", but they tend to **keep themselves to themselves**."*

Isolated

Not near anything else (alone).

*"In contrast, living in Dundrum seems a bit more **isolated**."*

Write your answer

Is your neighbourhood a nice place to live?

Do you know many of your neighbours?

What would improve your neighbourhood?

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