

## *Live Lesson Notes*

# The Countryside

---

Click on a picture to discover my online courses!



### What you will learn

1. Useful Links
2. Vocabulary
3. Listening skills
4. Idioms

## Some useful Links

Watch and read this **full lesson here**

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-countryside-lesson-vocabulary>

Link to my **Band 7+ course**

<https://keith-speaking-academy.teachable.com/p/ielts-speaking-success-get-a-band-7?src=YTLive3JUN>

Improve your Pronunciation for IELTS with this app - ELSA

<http://bit.ly/ElsaxEnglishSpeakingSuccess>

An exclusive offer for my students from ELSA:

<https://elsaspeak.com/inf/englishspeakingssuccess/>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!

<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Follow me on **social media**

<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KeithIELTSMastermind/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

# IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: The Countryside

*The following mean related to the countryside*

**rural** (adj.)

A rural area / view / lifestyle

**rustic** (adj.)

A rustic table / cabin /  
This house has rustic charm

**pastoral** (adj.)

A pastoral scene / painting

*The opposite of **rural** is **urban**.*

**urban** (adj.) = related to the city

An urban landscape / area  
Urban development / planning

## **Vocabulary and Collocations**

*In order to speak more fluently, it is always a good idea to learn collocations of words, not just the individual word.*

*Here are some common ones for vocabulary on this topic of Countryside.*

**Rural** landscape

**Mountain** range (*a group of mountains*)

Hiking in the **hills**

Steep **valley**

Dense **forest** (*lots of trees close together*)

Freshwater **lake**

Fast-flowing **stream**

**Fields** full of \_\_\_\_\_ (corn, flowers, wheat, etc...)

Cows and sheep **graze** in the fields

**Farm** produce (n.) (*fresh food the farm sells - vegetables, meat, eggs...*)

Farm **crops**

A field of **cattle** (cows, yak...)

**Livestock** (*animals on a farm; e.g. cows, sheep, chickens...*)

## Where do you live?

*This is a common questions and here are the different areas where people may live.*

I live ....

...in THE city centre

...downtown

...in the heart of the city

...slap bang in the city centre

...in the middle of the city

...in the suburbs (*of the city*)

...in / on the outskirts (*of the city*)

...in THE countryside

...in a village

...in a hamlet = *small village*

## What to do in the countryside

*Here are three useful ways to start talking about activities.*

You **can** \_\_\_\_ visit....

The countryside **is great for** \_\_\_\_ visiting...

**I like nothing better than** \_\_\_\_\_ visiting...

*Note: 'You can' is pronounced -/yekun/ because 'can' is unstressed.*

*Here are some activities you can do in the countryside*

Buy local produce from the farms

Go hiking

Go fishing

Gaze at the stars

Do some star-gazing

Look at the constellations (shapes/patterns of stars)

Have a picnic

Learn to identify some trees, mushrooms, butterflies, constellations...

# Pros and Cons of living in the countryside

## Pros / advantages

Fresh air

Lots of greenery

A slow/laidback pace of life

Quiet and peaceful

Less air and noise pollution

Low cost of living

## Cons / disadvantages

Weak **communication network**

**No Internet**

Fewer job opportunities

Lack of **essential facilities**

No hospitals

Stuck **out in the sticks** (far away from other people)

It can get lonely

## Listening Task

**Listen and try to fill in the gaps below.**

*Answers at the bottom of the PDF*

What I love about the countryside is the silence, the sounds, the [1] \_\_\_\_\_, and the views.

What can you not love about the countryside?  
It's [2] \_\_\_\_\_.

I think it's going to [3] \_\_\_\_\_ soon here.

The mist, look, the mist is rolling in over the hills,  
[4] \_\_\_\_\_ through the valleys.

In fact, just over the road, you can hear  
the [5] \_\_\_\_\_.

If you can hear him. He's starting to  
[6] \_\_\_\_\_ the milk from the cows  
and putting it through a churn.

One of the big things they do in this area  
is they make cheese, um,  
lots of different kinds of [7] \_\_\_\_\_



## Idioms to talk about the Countryside

To **head** outdoors (=to go in the direction of...) = to go outdoors

To **soak up the views** = absorb/ to enjoy the view

To **take in the views** = absorb/ to enjoy the view

**The early bird catches the worm** = if you get up early, you make the most of the day

To get up **at the crack of dawn** = to get up very early

It's **as old as the hills** = it's very old

**To get away from the crowd** = to escape the noise / hustle and bustle  
= find peace and quiet

## Listening Task Tape script and ANSWERS -

What I love about the countryside is the silence, the sounds, the [1] **wind**, the **colours**, the views.

What can you not love about the countryside? It's [2] **gorgeous** = *beautiful*

I think it's going to [3] **rain** soon here. The clouds are coming in.

The mist, look, the mist is rolling in over the hills, [4] **billowing** (=rolling like smoke) through the valleys, and this is the Pasiago valley, down south of Santander, but in the north of Spain. And it's one of the, kind of the '**olde worlde**' (=traditional) places that still remains in Spain.

Sure, tourism has come and I'm a great example of that, but it's kept, it's kind of **pastoral** (=rustic) **beauty**. It's kept its **closeness** to nature.

In fact, just over the road, you can hear the [5] **farmer**. If you can hear him. He's starting to [6] **gather** the milk from the cows and putting it through a churn. Can you hear that?

No! That's a dog. Dogs, loads of them in the countryside.

Of course, one of the big things they do in this area is they make cheese, um, lots of different kinds of [7] **cheeses**.

I don't know if you're a cheese fan. I am. I love cheese, whether it's blue cheese, Camembert - French, Manchego - Spanish, or Parmesan from Italy, all sorts of cheeses goes with all sorts of stuff, but here they, you know, churn out some of the best cheese in...

Cheese or cheeses? Cheese. It's uncountable, unless you're talking about types, it's a bit like fish, right?

Fish, but fishes only if it's different species of fish or types of fish, funny language, right? English,

Look at that you can see there are Eagles up there.