Theme Two: The Big City

Advanced Thematic Discussion

By E. Tahasoni
www.tahasoni.com
Urban Culture

- How do people in cities differ from those living in villages in your country?
- Do you think city dwellers are more sophisticated than villagers? How about more intelligent? How about more healthy?
- If city life is so stressful and the problems of living in a large city are so difficult to put up with, why is there such a strong trend among people from smaller towns to migrate to large cities?
- Do you think the advantages of migration to larger cities outweigh the drawbacks for villagers and people from smaller towns?
- What do you think of the cultural impact of this migration?

Urban Sprawl

- Do you think cities should expand vertically or outward? What pattern do you think is the best: spiral, circular (above left), linear (above right) or in square blocks (like most cities today)?
- Do you think cities should be allowed to expand or new cities need to be built to accommodate new people?
- What do you think are the greatest challenges urban sprawl has led to? Can you think of any practical solutions?

Backward Migration

- Would you ever be able to migrate to small town? To a village? To a ranch? To a secluded mountain or lake cottage? What would your reason(s) be?