

SHORTHAND EXAMINATION

Speed: 100wpm

Title: Town gains city status

May I start by thanking you all for finding the time to come here today, but I think you will agree it was more than ($\frac{1}{4}$) worth it when you hear what I have to say. As Mayor, I am delighted to be able to tell you that the Queen has ($\frac{1}{2}$) chosen our town to become the country's fiftieth city. This is without doubt a great honour and, in the last hundred years, only seventeen other ($\frac{3}{4}$) towns have received it. I am extremely pleased to be sharing this news because, as you know, this is our second attempt to gain city (1) status. A number of years ago, we failed to be chosen when we applied to become a millennium city. I am sure this award will ($\frac{1}{4}$) really put us on the map and it is more than likely millions of pounds worth of investment and new business will be brought into ($\frac{1}{2}$) the area as a result. This, of course, will also mean more jobs. It is something we can all be very proud of and I ($\frac{3}{4}$) know local people will celebrate in style. The town will officially take on its new status in the spring when the Queen will visit us. (2)

INTERVAL OF THIRTY SECONDS

Only eight towns out of the forty-two that applied have won city status. We have been told it was our rich history and plans ($\frac{1}{4}$) for the future that made our bid stand out from the rest. The judges were impressed by the work we are doing to improve cultural ($\frac{1}{2}$) relations in the town. A ten-page booklet that the local newspaper produced looking at the future of the town through the eyes of children ($\frac{3}{4}$) was also well received. Another point which I am sure must have helped is that the main county council offices are based in the town. (1)

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN SECONDS

We have a good university and a successful football team. A city usually has a cathedral but I cannot say if we will build one. ($\frac{1}{4}$) What I can tell you is this. ***We have plans to improve transport links into and out of the city as well as to make ($\frac{1}{2}$) great improvements to many of the city centre buildings.*** I want to end by saying thank you to the people of the town who have ($\frac{3}{4}$) helped make this town what it is. I hope in the years to come it will prove to be a great city to live in. (1)

TRANSCRIPTION TIME ALLOWED FORTY- FIVE MINUTES

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