

## SHORTHAND EXAMINATION

Speed: 100wpm

Title: Town gains city status

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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 (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 (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 (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 (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 (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 (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 (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 (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 (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. (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 (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 (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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