The Market After Six

B2 Upper-intermediate · Places · about 2 min of audio

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Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. When the riverside market tested evening hours, _____ expected office workers to become their main customers.
2. Instead, most late visitors were hospital staff finishing shifts and parents _____ supper on their way home.
3. Their steady trade helped small vendors sell _____ that often wilted before the usual closing time.
4. Yet residents in the _____ above complained that packing crates rattled long after the stalls shut.
5. The council _____ blamed the vendors, whose late sales seemed to justify the extra noise.
6. Then a _____ tracked the clatter and found that delivery carts caused most of it.
7. Moving _____ earlier could quiet the lane, although several growers share a van that cannot arrive before dusk.
8. A trial with rubber wheels reduced _____, but only when carts were loaded carefully.
9. Extending hours _____ might protect vendors' income and give shift workers a useful food stop.
10. The council should continue evening trading _____ while checking whether quieter deliveries remain practical through winter.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____

2. _____

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. stallholders 2. collecting 3. vegetables 4. apartments 5. initially 6. caretaker 7. deliveries 8. complaints 9. permanently 10. provisionally

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. When the riverside market tested evening hours, stallholders expected office workers to become their main customers.
2. Instead, most late visitors were hospital staff finishing shifts and parents collecting supper on their way home.
3. Their steady trade helped small vendors sell vegetables that often wilted before the usual closing time.
4. Yet residents in the apartments above complained that packing crates rattled long after the stalls shut.
5. The council initially blamed the vendors, whose late sales seemed to justify the extra noise.
6. Then a caretaker tracked the clatter and found that delivery carts caused most of it.
7. Moving deliveries earlier could quiet the lane, although several growers share a van that cannot arrive before dusk.
8. A trial with rubber wheels reduced complaints, but only when carts were loaded carefully.
9. Extending hours permanently might protect vendors' income and give shift workers a useful food stop.
10. The council should continue evening trading provisionally while checking whether quieter deliveries remain practical through winter.

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