

## Intersteno - Prag 2007 - Mehrsprachenwettbewerb

### englisch

/ = Viertelminute

// = eine Minute

Probediktat (1 Minute, 120 Silben)

Living in the countryside has a great deal to offer. People value the quietness and sense of space, the beauty of /

natural surroundings, the traditions and sense of community. But over the last twenty years, the pace of social and /

economic change has put increasing pressure on rural communities. Many have lost local services and jobs in /

agriculture, and young people have left. We want to reverse this decline and help country people build a better future. // (1. Minute, 120 Silben)

Wettbewerbsdiktat (3 Minuten, 120, 130 und 140 Silben)

Most people would agree that living in the countryside is generally more pleasant than living in town, although the /

extra travelling required for shopping, going to work or to school is probably seen as a major disadvantage. /

Once you are away from living in a town, you will find that people don't often come to visit you. For a while you may /

feel a bit lonely out there, but remember that towns are places where large numbers of people can also be very // (1. Minute, 120 Silben)

lonely. When you buy a cottage in a little village, you are not just buying a new home, but a new lifestyle as well, having to /

adapt yourself to the peace and quiet of the countryside. Your new home may be surrounded by woods, fields or even mountains, and the /

nearest neighbours may live at quite some distance. Living in your cottage you feel closer to nature, watching the sun rise in the morning /

and seeing how it is going down in the evening. You can hear birds singing and every day you breathe the fresh air. Nevertheless, // (2. Minute, 130 Silben)

our countryside is under threat as never before - both from the decline of farming and of related employment and from the accel- /

erating disappearance of shops, schools and other services, including public transport. What is needed is a careful management and /

development of the countryside. Farmers must be able to run their farms as businesses in a fair trade environment. The countryside /

must thrive as a work place and retain young people. We need to make the countryside relevant and interesting for future generations. // (3. Minute, 140 Silben)