

6 Home truths

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Vocabulary: Types of house and places in the home

1 Identify the types of homes the people are talking about.

- 1 It's great living here because our neighbours aren't right on top of us! They're at least five metres away, which is just perfect!
.....
- 2 My grandparents' new place suits them down to the ground. Grandad's getting on now so it's good that he doesn't have any stairs to climb.
.....
- 3 Our friends have got a second home on the Spanish coast. It's beautiful, with a swimming pool and fantastic views of the hills and the sea.
.....
- 4 Our last house was very noisy. You could hear the neighbours on both sides talking – the walls were so thin.
.....
- 5 It's OK living where we do, but sometimes the elevator doesn't work and then there's a lot of climbing to do!
.....
- 6 It's only small, but it's on the edge of the forest and it's at least a hundred years old. It's very pretty and cost us a fortune – but you'll love it!
.....

Vocabulary: Buying, selling and renting a place to live

2 Complete the text with the correct words in the box.

basement conservatory drive fences hedge
landing loft porch shed utility verandah



3 Complete the dialogue with the correct words. The first letters have been given.

- A:** Hi, Martin! I heard you're going to buy a house! How's it going?
B: Slowly! It's crazy! We went to the (1) **e**..... agent and he showed us some pictures of properties. There was one we really liked so we (2) **i**..... it and decided there and then to buy! But then it takes ages. The solicitor has to (3) **d**..... a contract, we had to go to the bank to take out a (4) **m**....., and we had to pay a huge (5) **d**..... It took us ages to save up enough. With luck everything should be completed by the end of next week and we can (6) **m**..... in.
A: It's much easier to be a (7) **t**..... and simply pay rent to your (8) **l**..... every month!

4 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

- 1 We asked the landlord to repair the roof but he *refused* to do it.
- 2 We put a sign on our gate, asking people not to park in front of it and that seemed to *do the*
- 3 The noise of the lorries going past our house in the early morning is *driving us up the*
- 4 Since our row, Hannah has been telling people lies about me. Well, *two can play at that*
- 5 I think police can arrest someone for playing music too loudly. It's called *anti-social*

'Hunter's Moon' is a detached property in excellent condition at the junction between Main Road and Tillings Way. This three-bedroom house has a beautiful south-facing lounge with a magnificent open fire. It also has a large, fitted kitchen and a (1) for cold storage. In addition to this there is a (2) room to house the washing machine and dishwasher. There is a large (3) which has been built onto the living room and which catches the early morning sunshine. The house has two storeys and the (4) is large and well suited to converting into a fourth bedroom or study with access from the upstairs (5)

Outside there is a long (6) leading to a newly renovated (7) over the front door.

A (8) stretches round the outside of the house on the right and takes you into a beautifully maintained garden complete with garden (9) for storing gardening tools. A well-cut (10) separates the back garden from neighbouring gardens and at the front there are wooden (11) to ensure privacy. This house needs to be seen to be appreciated.

Contact us on ...

Reading

5 Write down two things:

- you think might be good about sharing a flat:
- you think might be bad about sharing a flat:

6 Read the blogs quickly to check whether your points are mentioned.

A posted at 13.24 **Amanda**

I was SO looking forward to moving out and getting some independence. My mum's always been a bit dominant – she used to keep an eye on how late I was coming home, how much money I was spending and so on – and I'm in my early twenties! So I decided to find a flat to share. I asked around at the bank where I work and checked out some adverts in the local paper. Finally I found this flat in a detached house overlooking the park. It was amazing. I'd been expecting something in a big block of flats or in a noisy terraced house. This place was ideal – a nice, quiet area with good public transport to the city centre where I work. I thought I'd fallen on my feet. The flat was rented by two girls of my age and they were looking for a third person. They seemed really cool and I moved straight in (much to my mum's disapproval!). Well, looking back, I can only say that the month I stayed there was an absolute nightmare! I found myself doing all the cleaning – otherwise the kitchen would have been a total health hazard – and it seemed that my flatmates were always running out of things, and it was me who had to do the shopping. But the worst thing was that they kept borrowing my things when I was out! Clothes, hairdryer, make-up ... I hate people using my stuff without asking. To top it all, they were extremely sociable – not that I'm not – but they would have friends round all the time and party into the early hours. That's great from time to time, but this was on weekdays and I had to get up for work. So, after a big row one day I walked out – and came back home. My mum, bless her, didn't say 'I told you so!' but was really supportive and said that she and dad would help me pay the rent on a small studio flat or a bedsit until I got on my feet. I can't imagine sharing with anyone ever again. What a lesson!

B posted at 20.55 **Karen**

I used to get home from college and before I'd taken the key out of the lock I'd hear 'That you, Karen? Can you take the dog out for a walk before you take off your coat?' Not that I really minded. I get on really well with my parents and younger brothers and it was good, living with constant noise around me. I think that's why I could never live completely alone. The silence would be horrible! But I was beginning to think that maybe it was time to be a bit more independent. Once I'd broached the subject with Mum and Dad they were all for it – after the initial shock of learning that their first-born was going to be leaving the nest, that is, and they were behind me all the way. They gave me loads of good advice about finding a flat to share and pointed out all the pitfalls. I found a couple of adverts on the notice board at college but nothing worked out and I was on the verge of giving up when a good friend of mine told me that she'd decided to find a flat to share too. We looked at flats together and finally got a place near the town centre – just a small, two-bedroom flat over a shoe shop – really not a good idea for a couple of shopaholics like us! We moved in two months back and it's been brilliant. Best time of my life. What I love about sharing with Bess is that we have so much in common – we enjoy the same TV shows, the same music, having a good time! But we don't live in each other's pockets and we both like to have some time and space to ourselves. OK – we argue a bit, but who doesn't? So for me, sharing has been a great experience. I also get to pick her brains about college work, and that's a bonus!

7 Read the blogs again and complete the table.

	A Amanda	B Karen
what the girl does		
relatives mentioned		
reasons for leaving home		
initial family reaction		
how they found a flat		
flat's location		
relationship with flatmate(s)		
an example of their experience of sharing		
result of their flat-sharing experience		

8 Find idiomatic phrases in the blogs that mean:

- 1 we aren't with each other all the time
- 2 told me possible problems
- 3 watch and check
- 4 been very lucky
- 5 ask for her help
- 6 very supportive

*9 Would you like to rent your own flat or share one with friends? Why?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Reporting structures

- 1 Put the verbs into the correct sections. Some may go in more than one section.

accuse somebody of agree announce apologise for
claim complain congratulate somebody on
criticise somebody for demand forbid inform
instruct invite remind offer recommend regret
suggest want to know warn wonder

1 verb + (that) + sentence in reported speech with change of tense

2 verb + object + (that) + sentence in reported speech

3 verb + question word/if + sentence in reported speech

4 verb + (not) to-infinitive

5 verb + object + (not) to-infinitive

6 verb + gerund

7 verb + (object) + preposition + gerund

8 verb + (that) + object + (modal) + infinitive without to

- 2 Complete the sentences with the correct alternatives.

- Our teacher warned us to be/of being careful when using reporting verbs.
- Tom suggested to have/having a party for my birthday.
- Dad insisted I cutting/that I should cut the grass before going to the football match.
- Shelley offered to give me/me to give a lift to the station after school.
- Matt accused that I had cheated/me of cheating in the exam.
- The estate agent advised us not to wait/we didn't wait too long before putting in an offer for the house.
- Our neighbours complained of our playing/that we had been playing music too loudly at night.

Impersonal reporting structures

- 3 Rewrite the sentences in two different ways, starting with *It* or a subject noun.

1 They say that the pop star has three swimming pools in his garden.

2 They believe that the house was built a hundred years ago.

3 They have reported that the government is increasing the money to be spent on housing.

- 4 They expect that the results of the competition will be announced this afternoon.

- 5 They thought that the building had been designed by a local man but now they know that it was designed by an American.

Grammar extension

- 4 Read the letter. What is Bea Davies concerned about?

Dear Miss Davies,

Thank you very much for your letter regarding the new supermarket and I'm sorry that I haven't replied earlier. Unfortunately we have been extremely busy dealing with letters similar to yours. It is true that the building of this supermarket will affect the people in the area and it is a great pity that so much beautiful land will have to be destroyed. However, we do not accept that we misled people with false information at the planning stages. If you remember, we contacted all local residents at the beginning of the project and asked for comments at that time. If you think we have not followed the correct procedure with the planning, perhaps you should contact your local Member of Parliament.

Of course, we shall be delighted to see you at the Grand Opening on Saturday 15th May.

Yours sincerely,
Laura Roberts

- *5 Now write an email from Bea Davies to Mick telling him what Laura Roberts wrote. Use the following reporting verbs.

admit apologise deny invite
remind say suggest thank

Hi Mick,

Just got a letter from the council from Laura Roberts. She

Love,
Bea

Idiomatic expressions with *home*

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- I feel pretty much home with all sorts of pets.
a by b at c to
- After winning that last game, I think we're home and
a there b free c dry
- I really did badly in that last match. It certainly wasn't anything to write home
a about b for c over
- I think I'll be on a diet until the cows home. I'm never going to lose weight.
a arrive b come c get
- It's an interesting job but I don't home very much.
a take b get c make
- Tests like this bring it home me how much I've still got to learn!
a at b on c to
- University next year! We're on the home
a piece b straight c run
- I love staying with my cousins. It's home home.
a at b from c to
- I can't lie to my parents. They home on the smallest fib.
a on b at c in

2 Rewrite the sentences using the word *home* in each.

- I know it's been a long journey but we're nearly there now – it's only one mile to the hotel.
.....
- Watching those early black and white films really makes you realise how far we've come in cinematography.
.....
- My dad earns about £3,000 a month.
.....
- Our new English teacher targets any mistakes we make in pronunciation.
.....
- My new mobile phone is OK but it's nothing very special.
.....
- During their big row Trudy said some really nasty things to Tom – but they were all true!
.....
- If you're waiting for Marie, you'll be here a long time – she's gone to the cinema!
.....

*3 Finish the sentences in your own words.

- The teacher told Sam a few home truths.
She said
- Staying with Carol is home from home for me.
She
- James is at home with technical things.
He
- The new TV programme was nothing to write home about.
It
- I'm on the home straight with my revising for the exam.
I
- Regarding my job application, I think I'm home and dry.
I
- The police homed in on the weak point in my statement.
I
- It took a heart attack to bring it home to him that he had to take more care of himself.
I

Vocabulary extension: expressions with *house* and parts of the house

4 Match the explanations with the correct expressions.

- You don't need to pay me. This is on the house.
 - After her accident, my aunt was housebound for three months.
 - We went to the theatre last Saturday and there was a full house.
 - The police are conducting a house-to-house along this road after the murder at the weekend.
 - We've got a houseful this coming weekend because of the wedding.
- a a detailed search or questioning
b unable to go out
c every seat was taken
d a lot of people staying with us
e free

5 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- I was by his questions – I had no idea what to say!
a floored b walled c shelved
- It's just love – my baby brother gives me loads of hugs when he wants something!
a sofa b cupboard c table
- I've got a next week – how about 10:30 on Tuesday?
a door b keyhole c window
- It's like a(n) in here – can you open some windows?
a fireplace b oven c radiator
- Mum always takes everything but the kitchen when we go away on holiday.
a chair b table c sink
- I'm afraid I've reached my I can't offer any more than that.
a ceiling b roof c fence
- The council us every time we ask for information. It's really upsetting.
a brickfloors b woodenfences c stonewalls



Discussing photos 2



1 Look at the picture and complete the description with the words in the box.

be behind brick bungalow closer fairly
if may maybe looks quite probably
say seem taken then unfortunately

“The picture shows a couple of young people in the garden of their house. I (1) it's their house because they look as (2) they're related – brother and sister (3) and they (4) quite at home there. As I say, they're in the garden and it looks as if they've been picking vegetables that they or their parents have grown. The girl is carrying a basket with some green vegetables in it and the boy might (5) carrying carrots, or something else – I can't (6) make it out. And (7), I can't remember the exact name for the vegetable the girl's carrying. I know I don't like it though! The garden (8) really nice and it's not all the same. Part of it is lawn and then (9) to the house I can see flowers. (10) again, the area (11) the youngsters is quite wild and overgrown. The house in the background looks (12) big. I think it's a large (13) but it's got a very high roof, so there (14) be another room up there. It's built of (15) and it's got quite old-fashioned windows, so it's (16) not modern. I think the photo was (17) in cold weather because the youngsters are well wrapped up in coats and woolly hats.”

2 Read the description in 1 again, and tick (✓) which of the following points the student mentioned.

- 1 ☐ the people and their relationship
- 2 ☒ what they are wearing
- 3 ☐ what they are doing/have just done
- 4 ☐ why they have done this
- 5 ☐ the garden and the house
- 6 ☐ the weather
- 7 ☐ where their parents might be

3 Add these adverbs and adverbials to the correct lines.

apparently carelessly definitely foolishly
generally speaking honestly interestingly kindly
maybe presumably sadly to be honest
undoubtedly unfortunately wrongly

- 1 Attitude and opinion: frankly, personally, luckily,
- 2 Certainty: probably, clearly, obviously,
- 3 Commenting on others' actions: stupidly, rightly,

4 Read the dialogue and replace the words in brackets with words from 3.

- A:** Why do you think the young people have collected these vegetables?
- B:** There are a couple of possibilities. Maybe they are going to be used in cooking. (1) (I imagine that) whoever is going to cook the evening meal for the family has asked them to pick the vegetables from the garden.
- (2) (I'm very glad) they're not for me, because I (3) (certainly) don't like green vegetables! Or they might have picked them to give to friends, or even to sell at a local market.
- A:** What are the pros and cons of having a big garden?
- B:** (4) (For me), I think there are a lot of advantages. With a big garden, it's great for children growing up and you can develop the garden as you want. For example, you could just have grass – or you could grow lots of flowers and shrubs. (5) (To tell the truth), I'm not that interested in flowers but a lot of people are – like my mother. (6) (Everyone knows that), one of the disadvantages of having a big garden is that you have to spend time looking after it! And it can definitely be expensive.
- A:** What sort of garden do you have or would you like to have?
- B:** (7) (It's a pity but) we have a very small garden but it's just big enough to have a few flowers and for us to sit out and eat there. It's mainly grass with some flowers in pots – definitely no vegetables! (8) (To tell the truth), I don't think my parents have got time to look after anything much bigger. They're very busy. When I'm older I'd like to have a country garden, maybe with a river at the bottom! But that's probably just a dream.

An article

1 Look at the pictures of different places and write down one word to describe each one.

2 Which place would you prefer to visit? Why?



Vocabulary: Describing cities and towns

3 Read the beginnings of the texts and match them with the correct pictures. Then complete the texts with the correct words. The first letters have been given. Do the articles include the words you wrote down in 1?

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A Capital!

London hasn't always been the (1) **b** capital city of England. Centuries ago the home of our kings and queens was a small city in the south of England called Winchester. Today this (2) **h** town attracts many visitors and one of the main sights is the beautiful cathedral. The whole of Winchester is (3) **s** in history and the town centre, although modernised is still (4) **a**. Winchester is well (5) **c** by train to London and consequently, many fairly (6) **w**-off people choose to live here and commute to the city every day.

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B Looking for Romance?

Ask anyone which is the most romantic city in the world and I can guarantee the majority will answer, 'Paris!' As all other major cities, Paris in the past was a (7) **s** mass of narrow streets and (8) **r**-down and (9) **s** buildings, but the Paris of today is a (10) **v** and (11) **c** city that attracts businessmen, holidaymakers and students from all parts of the world. It is (12) **r** as a centre for arts, music and theatre. Everyone should visit Paris at least once in their life to see the art galleries, drink coffee in the pavement cafés and ...

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C Away from it all


Fed up with the noise and pace of city life? Well, instead of opting for a city holiday, why not experience the peace and quiet of one of England's most famous beauty spots – the New Forest? This ancient forest lies on the south coast in Hampshire and stretches for hundreds of square kilometres. It is a (13) **m** area of natural beauty with spectacular views of both (14) **h** and wooded areas, lakes, wildlife and a myriad of tiny, (15) **q** country villages.


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4 Read the continuation of one of the articles. Complete the text with the words in the box.


attraction dates inns numerous sites traditional unparalleled upmarket wide woods


Back


Forward


Stop

Reload

Home

Favourites

History

Print

Interestingly, the New Forest (1) back to William the Conqueror, who created the forest as a private deer-hunting area and many of the laws of the forest today go back to those times. So, if you're into history there's plenty to learn in the New Forest. There are famous (2) to visit as well as museums, and the names of the cafés and (3) in the Forest are also of historic interest!

However, the main (4) of the Forest is the (5) open spaces where New Forest ponies, donkeys and cows graze without fencing. You can walk through unspoiled countryside across heathland and through old oak (6), along streams and through picturesque villages. Why not stop for a picnic by a river or have a cream tea in a (7) old tea shop?

If you're young and think that it sounds a pretty boring place to stay, think again! The forest offers (8) activity courses including canoeing, riding, tree climbing and so on! So, there's really something for all the family, and the accommodation, whether you camp, stay in a welcoming bed and breakfast or in an (9) country hotel, will always give you an (10) view when you wake up in the morning. Maybe even a horse poking its nose into your tent!

5 Looking at all the texts, find and underline the following features of a good text.

- 1 a sentence that catches the reader's attention.
- 2 an example of informal, lively style.
- 3 a direct question to the reader.
- 4 an opinion adverb.
- 5 an amusing closing sentence.

***7** Write the online article.

***6** Read the task and make notes about a beautiful area in your country to write a web article about.

A holiday website has asked students to contribute online articles about a beautiful area in their country which would be good for people to visit.

Think of a good title _____

Paragraph 1: Introduction. Say where the place is and why it's popular.

Paragraph 2: Talk about an interesting historical/geographical/geological, etc. point.

Paragraph 3: Mention additional reasons for visiting.

Paragraph 4: Talk about whether it's attractive for young people/families, etc. Mention accommodation/transport/cost and give a concluding sentence.

8 Check your article for grammatical mistakes and ensure that you have used a wide range of vocabulary.

Revision: Units 5–6

Grammar

1 Rewrite the sentences starting with the words given.

- 1 I'm really confused by the number of insurance deals around.
What
- 2 I'm interested in studying photography.
The subject
- 3 I don't know a lot about the history of Buckingham Palace.
What
- 4 I'd really love a hot drink of tea.
What
- 5 I'm here today to talk to you all about possible careers in law.
The reason
- 6 It's a long way to work from my home.
Where
- 7 I have problems with spelling.
It's

/ 7 points

2 Rewrite the sentences using the correct forms of the verbs given.

- 1 'OK. I made a mistake,' Frank said. **ADMIT**
- 2 'Jason, don't use that window because I've just repaired it,' my dad said. **WARN**
- 3 'You didn't check your work, Julia,' the teacher said. **CRITICISE**
- 4 'I wish I'd gone on the trip to Paris,' Mary said. **REGRET**
- 5 'Why don't we start our own website?' Carl said. **SUGGEST**
- 6 'You got the job! Well done, Penny!' Steve said. **CONGRATULATE**
- 7 'We must finish this work before we go,' Leo said. **INSIST**
- 8 'Ron, you should check the price online,' my mum said. **ADVISE**

/ 8 points

3 Find and correct any mistakes in the text.

I was saying to Tom at the weekend and he told that he hadn't seen Rita since the last weekend. She'd gone on holiday to France the weekend before for a couple of days and had said that she is going to be back in class next Friday but she wasn't. I wanted to know have you heard anything from her? Tom also told that Rita has been ill before she went and he's getting a bit worried about her.

Emma

/ 9 points

4 Rewrite the sentences using the words given. Do not change the word given.

- 1 My brother says he's cleaned his bedroom, but I don't believe him!
CLAIMS
- 2 People thought that our team would win the competition but they lost 2:5.
EXPECTED
- 3 They used to say that smoking was good for our health many, many years ago!
SAID
- 4 Experts know that the house was built in 1908 but they don't know who built it.
HAVE

/ 4 points

Total

/ 28 points

Vocabulary

1 Write the correct words to match the definitions.

- 1 This is a person who works on a council.
- 2 This is a person who decides on the penalty for a person who had broken the law.
- 3 This is the person who rents a property.
- 4 This is a penalty which involves paying money.
- 5 This is a person whose job is to buy and sell houses in the UK.
- 6 This is the person who rents out his property to other people.

/ 6 points

2 Complete the sentences with *by*, *in* or *on*.

- 1 The council have decided to change their housing policy the strength of public reaction to their plans.
- 2 We're running a marathon on Saturday aid of a children's charity.
- 3 I got the right answer means of eliminating the impossible options.
- 4 My dad's the process of designing an extension to our house but it won't be finished for another week.
- 5 The teacher wants us to write an essay addition to the exercises she's already given us for Friday.
- 6 behalf of the whole team I'd like to congratulate you on the success of the project.

/ 6 points

3 Rewrite the sentences replacing the words in italics with expressions using *home*.

- You won't like it but I'm going to tell you some *honest facts about yourself*.
- Our dog manages to *find* food wherever you've hidden it!
- The accommodation we had on holiday was certainly *nothing special*.
- At last, we're *only a few miles from our destination*.
- When I stayed in Italy *I realised for the first time* how little time we spend eating in England.
- With that last goal we must *have won the competition*!

/ 6 points

4 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

- My granddad can't climb stairs anymore so he's moved to a _____.
a villa b bungalow c terraced house
- My younger sister left a toy on the _____ outside my bedroom door and I fell over it.
a porch b drive c landing
- My dad spends most of his weekend doing work in the _____ at the bottom of the garden.
a shed b basement c conservatory
- A(n) _____ is great because you don't get any noise from neighbours.
a apartment b detached house c terraced house
- The lawyer's drafting the _____ for the house and it should be ready to sign next week.
a bill b arrangement c contract
- We live in quite a(n) _____ place and it can get lonely and a bit scary at times.
a historic b picturesque c isolated

/ 6 points

Total

/ 24 points

Reading

1 Read the *Letter of the week* in a newspaper and then decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- Most people are unaware of the problem of homelessness today.
- People who live on the streets are usually there because they don't want to look for work.
- The writer of the letter was impressed by a documentary in the 1960s.
- 'Shelter' was the name of the documentary she mentions.

/ 4 points

★ Letter of the week

Having a roof over our heads is something we all take for granted these days and for most of us it is not until we see people sleeping rough in shop doorways or on park benches that we are reminded that not everyone is lucky enough to enjoy the comfort and security of a home. Homelessness has been a problem for a long, long time and different solutions have been tried but finding the right answer is certainly not straightforward.



One of the most important aspects of the problem is that a large number of us have little understanding of why some people are forced to live on the streets in the first place. We tend to think that everyone else should behave and make decisions as we do – responsibly. We think that these people should get a job and then they could afford to have somewhere to live – just like the rest of us. Unfortunately, for countless members of society our way of living and making a living is not an option. They are often trapped in a circle of loss of family or employment, poverty and drugs and spiral ever downward.

It is truly a scandal that society washes its hands of so many of these unfortunate people. I remember when the charity 'Shelter' was formed in the late 1960s. At that time the situation had been brought to the public's attention by a series of hard-hitting television documentaries, the first of which was called *Cathy Come Home*. This was the first time the plight of young people caught in the poverty trap had ever been filmed and I clearly recall being very upset by the dramatic realism of the piece. It featured unknown actors and actresses who improvised throughout, making it one of the most famous and influential drama-documentaries ever screened. It was as a direct result of this that 'Shelter' was created and it went on to help, protect and advise people about housing throughout the second half of the 20th century. In fact it still does an extremely good job today.

Yours,

Betsy Miller (Rotherham)

Writing

2 Read the task. Write notes and organise your ideas into different paragraphs. Then write the article.

You read the following announcement in an international students' magazine.

We shall be publishing an issue of the magazine in January called 'Power and responsibility' and we would like readers to send in articles about people they know who hold positions of power or responsibility to be included in the issue. Tell us why this person has impressed you and what they have achieved.

/ 10 points

Total

/ 14 points