

2

Reading Gapped text

- 1 Describe your house to the class. Try to be as detailed as possible.

*I live in a flat on the third floor of a huge block of flats.
There are ... rooms in my house. The living room is ...*

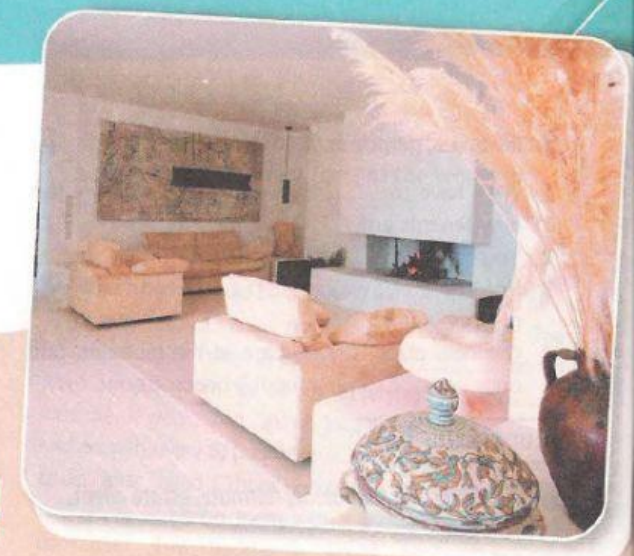
Go with the flow! Go with Feng Shui!

Using an ancient art to make a happy home

Feng shui (pronounced 'fung shway') is an ancient Chinese **philosophy** based on the belief that we are surrounded by a **constant** flow of life-giving energy, called chi, that affects how we feel and act. It **promotes** the idea that by understanding and organising the environment in which we live, we can **A**. A feng shui home **revolves** around the theory that by designing and arranging the space in which we live, we can create a balanced and harmonious flow of energy that improves our lives.

One of the most important concepts of feng shui is ba-gua, or the map of feng shui, **B**. It's octagon-shaped, and divided into eight sections. These correspond to the main areas of life such as health, family, money and career. They are **spatially** represented by the different living spaces in your home. At the centre of the ba-gua is the earth, which **represents** unity and you. According to feng shui, **C** and they can be moved and rearranged to bring about positive change.

To know whether your home has good feng shui, place the ba-gua over a plan of the house to see if they match. The map should contain all the sections in the house. For example, if the prosperity



area doesn't fit or doesn't cover any space in your house, it could **D**. Don't **panic**, though! There are usually simple solutions to the problem. One idea, according to feng shui **principles**, is to **E**. Adding lights and chimes is another approach to creating positive energy where needed.

In feng shui, the centre of the house affects all other areas and is **essential** to maintaining good health. Keep this area clear of clutter because too many objects in the one place can create a **barrier** and prevent energy from flowing freely around the building. Positioning of items in an appropriate place is of **utmost** importance. In the kitchen, **F** as this causes the elements of fire and water to clash and results in family arguments. Also, placing flowers and candles, as well as mirrors and chimes, around the house can greatly improve the positive flow of energy.

- 2 **TIME** Read the text and fill in the gaps A-F, with the parts of the sentences 1-7. One part is extra.

- 1 invite health, happiness and harmony into our lives
- 2 hang a large mirror in the room so that you can extend its space into the missing area
- 3 explain why you are having financial problems
- 4 which is used to evaluate our living space
- 5 the most positive form of energy of all
- 6 never place the cooker directly opposite the sink
- 7 the objects within the different areas affect how the energy flows through the home

Exercise = match with definition

philosophy	mainly concerns
constant	obstacle
promotes:	absolute
revolves around	non-stop
spatially:	ideas or rules
represents:	in relation to position in space
panic:	encourages
principles:	stands for
essential	way of thinking
barrier:	necessary
utmost:	feel fear or anxiety