

# The Place Where We Live

## Types of Houses

Task 1 Label every picture with the name of the type of a house.

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_

Task 2. Match the words with their definitions.

|                        |                                                                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Villa               | a) a small house usually in the countryside                                  |
| 2. Block of flats      | b) a house that stands alone                                                 |
| 3. Mansion             | c) a very large expensive house (usually with 10 bedrooms)                   |
| 4. Cottage             | d) a house that is joined to the houses on either side of it by shared walls |
| 5. Detached house      | e) a one-storied house, usually surrounded by a veranda                      |
| 6. Terraced house      | f) a fairly large house, especially one that is used for holidays            |
| 7. Semi-detached house | g) a tall building which contains different apartments on different floors   |
| 8. Bungalow            | h) a house that is attached to something on only one side                    |

### Task 3. Complete the text messages with the correct words from the box.

view rural ground floor end neighbourhood nursing home suburbs close lift  
edge residents studio flat overlooks converted

1 Just seen a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in town.  
Can you come over and look at it again  
with me? Small but cosy! And  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ to the Old Town.

3 You know that big old country house on the (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
of Newbury? They've (7) \_\_\_\_\_ it into flats and I've got  
a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ one! The (9) \_\_\_\_\_ is brilliant! My flat  
(10) \_\_\_\_\_ the gardens and river. Come round for a visit.

2 Dan's moved out of the centre of town to  
the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. He's got an (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of  
a terrace in Keane's Road. It's just down from the shops.  
Looks like a nice (5) \_\_\_\_\_ – no vandals or too  
much noise! Party there on Saturday. Can you come?

4 Gran's finally moved into a (11) \_\_\_\_\_. She needs  
looking after all the time. But it's really nice. Her room's  
on the second floor but there's a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for all  
the (13) \_\_\_\_\_. It's in a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ area just  
outside a small village. Let's go and visit her tomorrow.

### Task 4 Choose the correct words to complete the adverts.

1

Got a young family and want a new house at  
an **affordable / economic** price? Check out the new  
two and three-bedroomed properties on the Hadley  
**Housing / Home** Estate.

2

House prices too high? Go for something **much**  
cheaper but with style – you'll find exactly what  
you want at our **movable / mobile** home park  
in Marchwood. Compact, but with all new  
**connections / mod cons**.

3

Here at Grantly's, we pride ourselves on looking after  
the elderly. We offer **covered / sheltered** accommodation  
for those who still want to live in their own homes but like  
the security of knowing there is help when they need it.

4

Are you looking for somewhere modern and easy to  
**maintain / retain** when you're older? How about one  
of our new **old age / retirement** flats which are under  
**building / construction** in Long Road?

5

Looking for a challenge? We have some rather  
**bad condition / run-down** older houses in need of  
**renovation / renewal** at our auction on Wednesday.  
Come and make your **bid / bet** for a potential  
money-spinner.

6

Ideal for students at the local college – we are renting  
out two purpose-built **parts / bedsits** in our property  
in James' Court. Phone for an appointment to view.

### Task 5 Complete the messages with the correct words.

Well, it's a bit off the beaten (1) **t** \_\_\_\_\_ – actually, it's in the (2) **m** \_\_\_\_\_ of nowhere! But you'll love it because it's in the (3) **h** \_\_\_\_\_ of the countryside and very (4) **is** \_\_\_\_\_. It's away from the (5) **h** \_\_\_\_\_ and **b** \_\_\_\_\_ of the city centre that you're used to. It's along a very narrow country (6) **l** \_\_\_\_\_ that goes on for miles. Call if you get lost!

The new flat is great. We're in a very (7) **ce** \_\_\_\_\_ location, within (8) **w** \_\_\_\_\_ distance of all the local (9) **am** \_\_\_\_\_ and just a (10) **s** \_\_\_\_\_ throw from Jack's office. It's excellent. The public (11) **t** \_\_\_\_\_ for getting about the area is excellent. You'll find us easily. If you park in the city centre car park, we're just (12) **a** \_\_\_\_\_ **s** the road, (13) **a** \_\_\_\_\_ the bookshop.

### Task 6 Read the text. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each place (1-6). There are two choices you don't need.

## Getting our houses in order

Nowadays, more and more cities are facing a shortage of housing. The main reasons for this are a growing population and a lack of land which can be built on. Increases in sea level have not helped matters, and some places are actually (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to hold on to areas which are next to the sea.

One city that has decided to give up the fight and go with the flow is Amsterdam. Since 1997, authorities from the Dutch city have been (2) \_\_\_\_\_ called IJburg, which is located to the east of the city centre. IJburg consists of six man-made islands in the IJmeer lake, one of which is home to a community of floating houses. The first stage, completed in 2011, featured 93 such houses, but more will be added as long as there is enough interest from people (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to the area.



Possible inhabitants of the suburb can rent an area of water for fifty years at a price of around €360,000. They then order their (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and state any preferences they may have, such as the number of rooms or the layout of the interior. The house is built in a factory and when it is complete, it is towed along the river to the area that the owner has rented.

Inhabitants of the floating homes never need to worry about floods or rising waters again. The buildings are fixed at the side of the lake, but are free to move upwards or downwards (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the water.

The area's first residents started (6) \_\_\_\_\_ back around 2010, and, so far, their opinions have been very positive. Rik Bos, who is a resident of IJburg, enjoys admiring the beautiful view from his new house. 'It was always an ambition of mine to live next to a lake, and now I'm actually living on a lake!' he says. 'It really is a dream come true.'

- A. floating house
- B. looking to move
- C. fighting hard
- D. becoming difficult
- E. living in their floating homes
- F. depending on the level
- G. keeping areas of land
- H. building a new suburb