

Reading

Strategy

Make sure you read the whole of each paragraph before you start to match the headings. The extra heading will contain a word or phrase that matches part of one or two paragraphs, but only the correct heading will match the whole of the paragraph.

1 Read the **Strategy**. Read each paragraph of *Homes in Mexico* and answer the questions.

- Which paragraphs in the text contain the word *rich*?
- Which paragraphs in the text contain the word *big*?
- Which paragraph matches the whole meaning of heading F?

2 Read the text. Match the headings (A–F) to the gaps (1–5). There is one extra heading which does not fit any of the gaps.

- A European-style houses, old and new
- B Old houses in many colours
- C Small houses for Mexico's richest people
- D New houses, old style
- E Colours have made life better
- F Big houses for rich people

Homes in Mexico

Mexico has forests and beaches, high mountains and lowlands. It has very rich people and very poor people. It isn't surprising then that there are so many different kinds of homes in Mexico.

1 _____

There are modern blocks of flats in Mexico's towns and cities, but a lot of Mexican people prefer to live in houses. In the old areas of town you can see traditional houses. Their outside walls are painted bright green, yellow, orange and blue. The houses haven't got gardens, but there's usually a small outside space at the back where you can sit and relax. People can talk to their neighbours easily because the houses are next to each other.

2 _____

Some people in Mexico have built modern *adobe* houses. They look like houses from ancient Mexican cultures. They are small and simple, with red walls and small windows. Inside they are cool and comfortable, even when the weather's hot.

3 _____

Some rich people in Mexico live in Spanish *villas*. These houses may be modern or old, but they all have white walls, red roofs, wooden doors and lots of windows. The walls in the kitchens and bathrooms are usually blue. Some Spanish *villas* have beautiful gardens.

4 _____

Other very rich people live in very big, beautiful houses called *haciendas*. In the past, rich families owned *haciendas* and all of the land around them. They used the land for growing coffee and sugar. Lots of people worked there, but only the family who owned the land lived in the big house.

5 _____

Not everyone in Mexico can live in a beautiful house, but in one town where life is difficult for many people, the government has paid a group of street artists to paint more than 200 new houses in bright colours. The houses make a 20,000 m² picture. 'It's fantastic,' says Ana Flores, who lives in the area. 'It's helped young people believe that a better future is possible.'

Listening

Strategy

Read the instruction and the options in multiple-choice questions carefully before you listen. Then guess what the general topic of the listening is about.

3 Read the **Strategy**. Read the questions in exercise 4. What is the best summary of the listening text?

- Three teenagers tell us about their new homes.
- Three teenagers describe their homes and bedrooms.
- Three teenagers talk about their experiences of moving house.

4 **4.12** Listen to part of a radio report about moving house. Choose the correct options, A, B, or C.

- Which feelings does the presenter talk about?
A excitement, happiness, worry
B sadness, anger, worry
C excitement, sadness, worry
- Caitlin, Ahmed and Josie
A moved house three months ago.
B have moved house recently.
C moved house a long time ago.
- Caitlin
A has felt unhappy in her new house.
B doesn't like her bedroom.
C has been to visit her old school.
- Ahmed
A started his new school last week.
B has already decorated his bedroom.
C thinks his bedroom is too dark.
- Josie
A has felt very sad in her new house.
B hasn't spoken to her old friends.
C has made some new friends.