

Use of English

Complete the email with the correct answers.

Hi Esme

How are you? I can't wait to see you next week!

I'm sending you some directions so that you can find your way from the train station. I live quite ¹ _____ to the centre, so it shouldn't be difficult to find my flat. When you're outside the station, ² _____ right and go ³ _____ Park Street. ⁴ _____ to the end of the road and turn left ⁵ _____ the crossroads. Go ⁶ _____ on and then ⁷ _____ the main road. Go ⁸ _____ the small church on the ⁹ _____. My flat is on the left, ¹⁰ _____ the Cosmos Café and the fruit shop.

Have a safe journey. See you soon!

Love,

Bella

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|
| 1 A next | B opposite | C close |
| 2 A take | B cross | C turn |
| 3 A straight | B along | C over |
| 4 A Go | B Turn | C Take |
| 5 A on | B in | C at |
| 6 A left | B right | C straight |
| 7 A cross | B turn | C go |
| 8 A over | B under | C past |
| 9 A corner | B crossroads | C end |
| 10 A next | B between | C in front |

Read the text. Match sentences A–E with gaps 1–5.

Unusual homes

There isn't enough space to build all of the houses we need in many cities. ¹ _____ The average house price in London is now over £500,000, but most workers are still getting low salaries. They have to move out of London into small towns and catch the train to work every day. ² _____

Is there anything we can do about this problem? Perhaps there is, as people are finding creative ways to live near their workplace. More and more people are following the example of the Netherlands. They are choosing to live on water – on the rivers that flow through our cities. Houseboats are a popular new form of accommodation for professionals working in towns and cities. ³ _____ There are over 3,500 just in Amsterdam. There are around 6,000 houseboats in the whole of the UK at the moment. Some companies are even building *offices* on the water.

What are the advantages of living on the water? ⁴ _____ You can work in the city, but you can also enjoy living close to the countryside. Second, they are much cheaper than ordinary houses. You can buy a houseboat for as little as £60,000.

You have to be careful if you want to buy a houseboat because there are some disadvantages. They *are* cheaper, but the cost of living on a boat can be more expensive. ⁵ _____ This can be £7,000 a year in some parts of London. In Amsterdam, you have to paint your boat every three years. And people complain that when it gets cold, it's very expensive to keep the boat warm.

- A The Netherlands has the most houseboats in Europe.
- B This means that the price of houses in London and the rest of the UK is getting more and more expensive.
- C For example, you have to pay for your 'parking' space on a river.
- D But it costs a lot of money to buy train tickets too.
- E First, they are beautiful spaces for people to live and work in.