

LESS STUFF MORE HAPPINESS

1. THE SENTENCES BELOW WILL HELP YOU LEARN WORDS IN THE TED TALK. READ AND LISTEN TO THE SENTENCES. GUESS THE MEANING OF THE WORDS IN BOLD AND COMPLETE EACH QUESTION WITH THE CORRECT WORD. USE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE WORD.

- a. This appliance saves space because it **combines** the functions of a microwave and traditional oven.
- b. Only pack what you will need during the trip. Don't include any **extraneous** items.
- c. To make more space in my room, I'm going to **digitize** my CDs and photos.
- d. I got a loan for my large and expensive house. I lost my job, so now I'm worried about repaying this **debt**.
- e. My closet is so full. I have too much **stuff**.
- f. This space is **multifunctional**. I use it as a garage and a music studio.
- g. The **majority** of Americans—about 60 percent—own their own homes.
- h. **Coincidentally**, I got a job offer on the same day that I found my apartment.
- i. If you live in a small apartment, you have to think about space **efficiency**.
- j. My new apartment does not have a lot of **storage** space, so I left a lot of my books at my parents' house

- 1. When you listen to a lecture, are you sometimes overwhelmed by all of the _____ information?
- 2. Many people in the United States have a lot of _____ from buying houses, cars, or from college loans. Is this true in your country?
- 3. If you _____ all of your expenses (e.g., rent, food, etc.), do they equal more than your income? How could you reduce your expenses?
- 4. Do you have any _____ furniture in your home? Describe their different uses.
- 5. Does your home have enough closets and other _____ space for all of your things? What do you do if there is no more space?
- 6. Mario is going to _____ his photos. This will save a lot of space in his small apartment. What can you put on your computer or online to save space?
- 7. Have you and a friend ever _____ bought the same thing or worn the same thing on the same day?
- 8. A dishwasher that fits inside a drawer saves a lot of space. What other products can improve space _____ in a kitchen?
- 9. Do the _____ of people in your city live in apartments or houses? Has this changed in the last 30 years?
- 10. How much _____ do you have in your bag? Can you find things easily?

2. READ THE STATEMENTS AND WATCH THE TED TALK BY GRAHAM HILL. WRITE "A" IF YOU THINK HILL WOULD AGREE OR "D" IF YOU THINK HE WOULD DISAGREE WITH EACH STATEMENT.

- 1. _____ It is a good idea to stop buying things.
- 2. _____ Having less space makes life more difficult.
- 3. _____ We don't really need most of the things that we own.