

UNIT 1 : THE MAN-MADE ENVIRONMENT

A. GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY:

Exercise 1 :

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences. Use the words in the box.

bedsit

bungalow

flat

halls

mobile

semi-detached

- 1 A is a home inside a bigger building, usually on one floor. It's also called an apartment.
- 2 I live in a home. It's got wheels, but it's been in the same place for years.
- 3 There are no stairs in my house. It's a , so it's only got one floor.
- 4 When I was a student, I lived in the of residence for a year, with hundreds of other students.
- 5 Our house is , so it's attached to another house on one side, but not the other side.
- 6 The first place I lived after I left home was a – a rented room. It had a bed, a table and chairs and a place to cook, so it was quite basic.

Exercise 2 :

What item would you not expect to find in each room of a house? Choose the correct answers. The first question has been done for you.

- 1 bedroom: ☐ an en-suite bathroom ☒ a washing machine ☐ a bedside table
- 2 bathroom: ☐ a shower unit ☐ a fridge ☐ a sink
- 3 living room: ☐ a garage ☐ a sofa ☐ a coffee table
- 4 study: ☐ a desk ☐ a lamp ☐ a cellar
- 5 kitchen: ☐ a wardrobe ☐ a fridge ☐ an oven
- 6 dining room: ☐ a patio ☐ a dining table ☐ a rug

Exercise 3 :

Complete the sentences. Use the words in the box.

bright

charming

guest

messy

remote

run-down

spacious

tidy

- 1 My sister's room is very – she always puts everything away in the right place.
- 2 My flat's quite . It has enough room for all my things.
- 3 It's a lovely room. The sun shines through the wide windows all day.
- 4 Our house is very pretty, but it's rather – it's a long way from everywhere else.
- 5 The kitchen is really . There are dirty plates and cups everywhere.
- 6 We've got four bedrooms – one for my parents, one each for my brother and me, plus a room for visitors.
- 7 It was a nice house when it was built, but it's a bit now. It looks in bad condition and a lot of things need to be fixed.
- 8 What a little house! It looks so pretty and full of character!

Exercise 4 :

Choose the correct prepositions to complete the sentences.

- 1 I live myself in a bedsit.
- 2 There isn't enough space all my things.
- 3 My sister shares a flat two flatmates.
- 4 Our flat is the top floor of an apartment block.
- 5 I've got a nice view the park from my balcony.
- 6 My brother is home this afternoon.

Exercise 5 :

Read the sentences. Select the two words that can go in each gap.

- 1 All my money goes on my flat. There's never any money left after I pay my ... / bills / rent / salary / ... every month.
 - 2 When we bought the house, it was really run-down, but it looked a lot better after we ... / decorated / painted / removed / ... it.
 - 3 When are you going to ... / clean / tidy / wash / ... your room? It's really messy!
 - 4 The central heating has broken again. Can you ... / damage / fix / repair / ... it yourself, or do we need to call a plumber?
 - 5 You can't see the house from the road. There's a tall ... / ceiling / fence / wall / ... all the way around the garden.
 - 6 Our flat is quite small, but it feels a lot bigger now that we've ... / rearranged / remained / replaced / ... some of the furniture.
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Exercise 6 :

Read the information. Then put the verbs in the correct column.

State and action verbs

State and action verbs are verbs that refer to a state, an action or event.

With state verbs, we usually use the present simple.

Example: *I **want** it.* NOT *I'm ~~wanting~~ it.*

With action verbs, we can use the present simple or present continuous. We use the present simple for habits and present continuous for things happening now.

Example: *I often **drive** to work but I'm not **driving** to work today.*



pay

cost

believe

know

own

seem

help

build

work

decorate

tidy

use

need

state verbs

action verbs

Exercise 7 :

Read the information. Then complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

Present simple and present continuous

- We use the present simple for activities (action verbs) that happen often (e.g. *I usually **drive** to work.*).
- We use the present simple for state verbs (e.g. *I **want** to go.* NOT *I'm ~~wanting~~ to go.*).
- A few verbs (e.g. *live, work, think, have*) can be actions or states, with a slightly different meaning.
- We use the present continuous for activities (action verbs) that are in progress at the time of speaking (e.g. *I'm **driving** to work at the moment.*).

1

I'm living

with my parents, but I'd like to leave home and live by myself in a year or two.

I live

2

I'm living

with my parents at the moment, while my own flat's being redecorated.

I live

3 I'm afraid the lift

doesn't work
isn't working

 today. You'll need to use the stairs instead.

4

I'm not working
I don't work

 for that company now. I left that job last year.

5

We're thinking
We don't think

 of moving to the countryside in a few years' time, but we're not sure.

6

I don't think
I'm not thinking

 this is the right house. Are you sure it's the correct address?

7 It's a very small bathroom, so it

isn't having
doesn't have

 a bath. There's only enough room for a shower.

8 No, now's not a good time to call me.

I have
I'm having

 a bath at the moment. Can I call you back in twenty minutes?

Exercise 8 :

Complete the conversation. Use the words in the box.

any

currently

days

longer

moment

nowadays

right

still

temporarily

A: I remember you were living in a bedsit last time I saw you. Are you

 living there, or have you found a new place to live?

B: No, I'm not living there

 more.

, I'm sharing a flat with another student. But I'm having a few problems with my flatmate at the

. We got on really well at first, but

things aren't going so well these _____. In fact, we're no _____ speaking to each other.

So I'm _____ looking for somewhere else to live. Do you know anybody with a spare room?

A: Well, I'm actually looking for a new flatmate _____ now. My sister's staying with me

_____, while she gets a new kitchen installed in her flat, but her room will be empty again next week. What do you think? Would you like to stay with me?

Exercise 9 :

Complete the conversation. Use the words in brackets with the present simple or present continuous. Use contractions (e.g. *isn't*), where possible. The first question has been done for you.

A: Why are you standing on that chair? (*you / stand*)

B: _____ the batteries in this smoke detector. (*I / change*)

A: Why _____ that? (*you / do*) _____ perfectly, isn't it? (*it / still / work*)

B: Yes, but _____ the batteries every six months. (*I / always / change*) And look – _____ . (*the light / flash*)

A: Oh, yes. I can see. Why _____ ? (*it / flash*)

B: _____ the battery's nearly flat. (*that / mean*) So _____ to change it. (*I / definitely / need*)

A: OK, _____ like a good idea. (*that / sound*)

Exercise 10 :

Each sentence has one mistake with the present simple or present continuous.

Correct the mistakes. The first one has been done for you.

1 How much rent ~~you pay~~ **do you pay** every month?

2 I standing outside your flat now, so can you let me in, please?

3 We aren't planning to move house again soon, but it depend on my job.

4 I don't want to live here, because it don't look very nice.

5 We usually sleeping on the floor when we stay at my grandparent's house.

6 The sofa's in the kitchen right now because we paint the living room.

7 Do you own this flat, or are you just rent it?

8 Hey! Why am I cleaning the flat by myself? You don't helping me at all!