

ABOUT THE TASK

- In Reading and Use of English Part 1, you read a short text with eight gaps.
- There are four multiple-choice options for each gap.
- You choose the word or phrase that best fits each gap.
- The gaps can test your understanding of differences in meaning between similar words, for example, **found**, **invent** and **discover**. They can also test your knowledge of words that collocate with particular prepositions, or words that occur in fixed phrases.
- They also test your knowledge of verb patterns, for example whether a verb is followed by an infinitive or a clause.
- Some gaps test your knowledge of phrasal verbs and linking words.
- Each question is worth one mark.

Practice task

- 1 Read the first paragraph of a text about micro homes and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

## Micro homes

Most people (0) \_\_\_\_\_ of owning their own home, but for many young people this is not a realistic possibility. House prices are (1) \_\_\_\_\_, and renting is also expensive, which (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that saving enough money for a deposit is often out of reach. In recent years, (3) \_\_\_\_\_, the micro house movement has started to grow. Micro homes are small, compact homes that are cheap to build and need very little space. If the idea (4) \_\_\_\_\_ off, it could offer an alternative to more traditional homes.



- 0 A hope B dream C intend D wish  
 1 A great B big C severe D high  
 2 A causes B demands C means D allows  
 3 A although B however C despite D instead  
 4 A takes B gets C puts D makes

How did you do?

- 2 Check your answers.
- 3 Look at the four answers again.
- 1 Which answer needs you to use linking words correctly?
  - 2 Which answer needs you to understand typical collocations?
  - 3 Which answer needs you to know the meaning of a phrasal verb?
  - 4 Which answer needs you to understand differences in meaning between words with similar meanings?
- 4 Look at the four sets of words from the options (1-4) in Ex 1 in context. What do you notice about how each one is used? Then look at the gaps in the Ex 1 text again. Can you see why the answers are correct?
- 1 The film was a **great success**.  
The new TV arrived in a **big box**.  
We were delayed by the **severe weather**.  
They charge very **high prices**.
  - 2 Pollution in cities **causes** a lot of health problems.  
Working with children **demands** a lot of patience.  
He has no job, and this **means** that he has very little money.  
Living in a micro home would **allow** us to save more money.
  - 3 **Although** he's only young, he's a brilliant player. /  
He's a brilliant player, **although** he's only young.  
Her sister, **however**, isn't interested in sport at all. /  
**However**, her sister isn't interested in sport at all.  
**Despite** her young age, she is determined to go to the USA.  
You should study more **instead of** chatting to friends online.
  - 4 I'm sure the idea will **take off**.  
I can't **get** the lid **off**.  
You can't **put off** the decision any longer.  
A thief **made off** with the money.