

## Word power

### • Houses

1 Use the vocabulary to describe the houses in the pictures.

#### SIZE

small, cramped, medium-sized, spacious, three-bedroom, huge

#### STYLE

traditional, old, modern

# Home



#### FEATURES

garage, garden, central heating, thatched roof, balcony, lift, stairs, fireplace, nice view

#### COST

cheap, a bargain, reasonably priced, low/average/high-priced, expensive

#### TYPES

terraced, bungalow, mansion, flat, cottage, semi-detached, detached, villa, townhouse



► In picture A, I can see a **modern semi-detached** home. It looks quite spacious and probably has two or three bedrooms. It has a small front **garden** and a **garage**. I think it's **reasonably priced**.

## Developing your speaking skills

- Preferences/Comparisons

2 Use the ideas from the table and the useful language below to talk about the pros and cons of houses and flats.

|        | PROS  | CONS   |
|--------|---|--|
| flats  | economical, cheap to heat, easy to clean, comfortable, cosy, low security risk, conveniently located for public transport, easy to maintain | lack of space, no garden, offer no privacy, thin walls, noisy, no individuality  |
| houses | lots of storage space, pleasant surroundings, good investment, roomy  | expensive to maintain, less secure, isolated, costly to heat, difficult to clean |

### Useful language

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| listing advantages                   | a good thing about, one advantage is, one important thing is, the best thing about |
| adding advantages/disadvantages      | moreover, in addition, furthermore, also, as well, too                             |
| listing disadvantages                | a bad thing about, one disadvantage is, the worst thing about, it's a bit/rather   |
| contrasting advantages/disadvantages | but, however, on the other hand  |

► **The best thing about flats is that they are economical. They are cheap to heat and quite easy to maintain. Often, flats are conveniently located for public transport such as buses and trains. On the other hand, they can be small and have a lack of space. Also, they have no garden so they are not really suitable for families with children.**

3 In pairs, discuss which type of dwelling you would and wouldn't like to live in and why. Use the ideas from Ex. 2 and the useful language below.

### Useful language

| Expressing Preferences  | Making Comparisons   |
|---|--|
| I'd prefer, I'd rather, I'd like, I'd fancy, I'm keen on, I (don't) think I'd, I wouldn't like, I wouldn't fancy, If I had a choice I'd ... | more (expensive) than, as (expensive) as, less (expensive) than, twice/three times as (expensive) as |

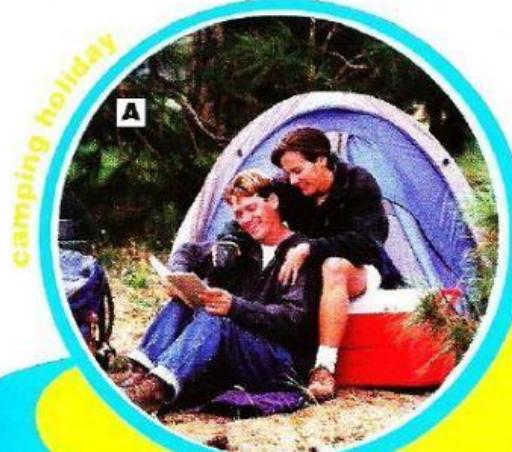
► A: **I'd like to live in a flat, as they are economical. They are cheap to heat and easy to maintain.**  
B: **Really? I'd prefer to live in a house because they're usually in pleasant surroundings.**

## Word power

### • Holidays

#### 1 Look at the pictures. On which of the holidays could you

- enjoy nature?
- visit galleries/museums/ancient ruins/historical sites?
- have an opportunity to meet new people?
- sample local dishes?
- hear a new language?
- experience a different lifestyle?
- buy handmade souvenirs?
- compare cultures?
- spend pleasant hours in cafés/restaurants/shops?
- cook in the great outdoors?
- appreciate wildlife?



► On a camping holiday I could enjoy nature.

## Developing your speaking skills

### • Agreeing/Disagreeing

#### 2 Use the expressions below and the ideas in Ex. 1 to discuss which of the two holidays you would prefer and why.

### ○ Useful language

| Agreeing   | Disagreeing   |
|--|---|
| <p>I completely agree because ...</p> <p>Yes, that's right. I couldn't agree more.</p> <p>There's no doubt about that.</p> | <p>I see what you mean, but ...</p> <p>I agree up to a point, but ...</p> <p>That's a good point. However ...</p> <p>I'm afraid I don't agree because ...</p> |

► A: If I had a choice, I think I'd go on the camping holiday because it would give me a chance to enjoy nature.  
 B: That's a good point. However, I'd choose the sightseeing holiday because then I could visit galleries and museums.

## Word Power

- Holiday equipment

3 Underline the items you don't think you would need on the following types of holidays.

1 skiing holiday



ski jacket, dinner jacket, skis, ski goggles, bush hat, ski boots, shorts

2 mountaineering holiday



map, jacket, rubber ring, compass, swimming costume, rope, gloves

3 yachting holiday



life jacket, ropes, camera, sunscreen, hat, riding boots, tennis racket

4 seaside holiday



raincoat, snorkel, fishing rod, flippers, umbrella, mittens, towel

5 touring holiday



walking boots, car, travellers cheques, map, parachute, net, bait

6 safari holiday



map, insect repellent, binoculars, wet suit, evening gown, hammock

7 camping holiday



oxygen, tent, camping stove, sleeping bag, tinned food, matches, whistle

8 fishing holiday



fishing rod, bait, saddle, hairdryer, net, hooks, goggles

## Developing your speaking skills

- Expressing Choice/Reason/Purpose

4 Choose a type of holiday from Ex. 3. Use the list of items and some of the useful language below to discuss in pairs what you would and wouldn't take with you, giving reasons for your choices. You can also use your own ideas.

### Useful language

choice

I'd definitely, I might (not), It'd be a good idea, I'd consider, I wouldn't bother, I don't think I'd, I'd also

reason/purpose

because, since, to, in case, so (that), as

► A: *If I went on a safari holiday, I'd definitely take sunscreen with me as the sun is very dangerous.*  
 B: *I agree with you. I'd also take binoculars so that I could see animals that were far away.*  
 A: *Yes, that's right. I wouldn't bother to take a map because we would have a guide with us.*

# Speaking Test

1

## Part 1 Talking about general topics (3 minutes)

- How long have you been learning English?
- What do you find easy/difficult about learning English?
- How will you use your English in the future?
- How do you think your knowledge of English will help you find a job?

## Part 2 Monologue (4 minutes)

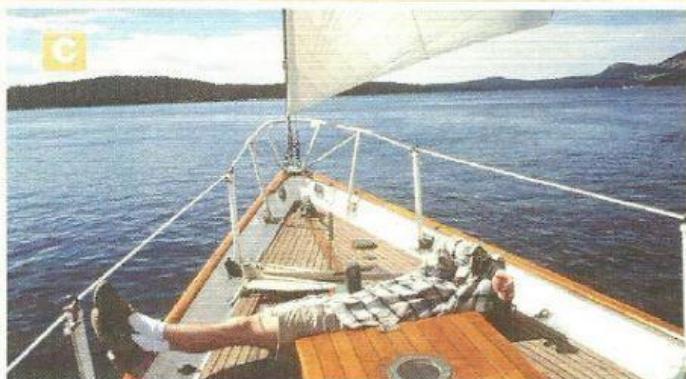
What might it be like to live in homes like these?



Candidate A: Compare the pictures and say what it might be like to live in homes like these. (1 minute)

Candidate B: Which of these homes would you prefer to live in? (20 seconds)

Why do you think people choose holidays like these?



Candidate B: Compare the pictures, and say why you think people choose holidays like these. (1 minute)

Candidate A: Would you choose either of these holidays or something else? (20 seconds)

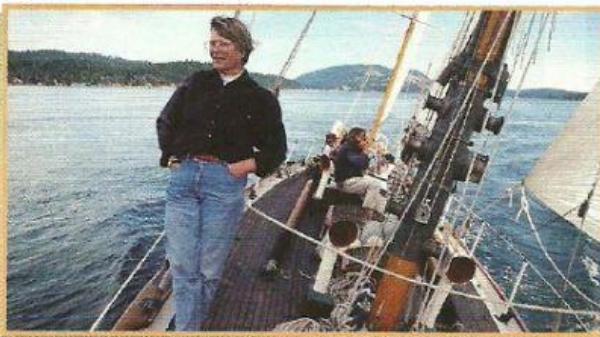
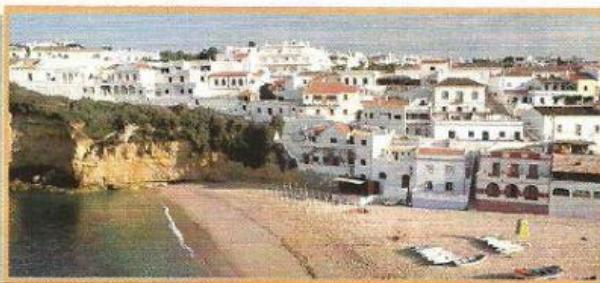
### Model Interview:

Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Part 2. What reasons does each candidate give to support their answers?

### Part 3 Decision making (pairwork) (3 minutes)

An older couple is going away on holiday for their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Here are some of the suggestions they are considering.

- How enjoyable might these suggestions be for older people?
- Which two would be the most suitable.



### Part 4 Discussing in pairs (4 minutes)

- Would you like to go on any of these holidays? Why?
- Do you prefer winter or summer holidays? Why?
- Do you like going away with your family? Why/why not?
- What sort of holiday do people from your country prefer?
- Why do you think young people choose different holiday destinations from older people?
- Some people think that going on holiday is more tiring than staying at home. Do you agree?

#### Model Interview:



Listen to two candidates doing the speaking task in Parts 3 and 4 and answer the questions.

**Part 3** 1 Which types of holiday do the candidates suggest for the older couple? Which two do they choose and what reasons do they give to support their decision?

**Part 4** 2 What sort of holiday do people from the candidates' countries prefer?

3 Why do the candidates think young people's choice of holiday destination differs from that of older people? What reasons do they give to justify their answers?