



• Reading

AUSTIN HAY

Have you ever wished you had your own place? That's exactly how American teenager Austin Hay felt - before he built his own house, at the age of sixteen. Using materials which mostly came from recycling centres, he constructed his own home. It's got everything he needs, including a kitchen, a bathroom (with shower), a bedroom and a toilet. The house, which is only about 40 square metres, is one of the world's smallest houses. It's unusual for another reason too - it's built on wheels, so Austin can take it with him wherever he goes. He did most of the work himself although he had some help from his father and family friends. The whole thing took less than two years.

As soon as the house was finished, Austin held the smallest party ever. Then he moved in, and he's lived there ever since. He likes the independence, and he likes 'living small', he says, because it's cheap and green. At the moment, the house is parked in his parents' garden. However, when he leaves school and goes to university, he won't leave it behind. He's going to take it with him, and live in it while he studies. Then when he gets a job, he plans to take his little house with him once more.

1) Decide if the sentences are R ('Right'), W ('Wrong') or DS ('Doesn't say').

1. Austin Hay was keen to try living independently even as a teenager.
2. Austin wanted to move because he comes from a very large family.
3. Austin bought the materials he needed from stores in his town.
4. Despite its size, Austin's home contains all he requires.
5. It's impossible to find a house that's any smaller than Austin's.

• Vocabulary

1) Choose the correct option

1. Poor Susan burned her hand on the **carpet / cupboard / cooker** yesterday evening.
2. The **patio / porch / pond** is full of plants, so we can't see the fish in the water!
3. Mum always does the cooking and after dinner Dad and I do the **mess / washing-up / kitchen sink**.

4. Our **village / stone wall / eco-house** has solar panels, a wood-burner and a compost toilet.
5. Anastasia loves reading the **shelves / bookcase / worktop** in her bedroom is full.
6. **Semi-detached / flat / detached** houses are often quieter because there are no neighbours on one side.

2) Complete the sentences with words in the box.

MUD - RIVER - COUNTRYSIDE - COSY - BRIDGE

1. We skied all morning, then stopped for lunch in a warm and _____ little restaurant at the top of the mountain.
2. This morning the _____ was closed because of the wind. Dad had to drive an extra 30km to take me to school.
3. The air in the _____ is much cleaner than in the city.
4. In many parts of the world people make their houses out of _____.
5. Ben and Theo often go fishing in the _____ in the forest on Sundays.

• Grammar

1) Complete the sentences with the Present Perfect form of the verbs in brackets and *for* or *since*.

1. We _____ (have) frogs in our pond _____ two weeks.
2. Harry _____ (write) lots of miserable poems _____ he stopped seeing Ellen.
3. Chloe _____ (not make) her bed _____ three days.
4. Lewis and Oliver _____ (play) for the school football team _____ two years.
5. _____ last month, there _____ (be) a market in the city centre.

2) Choose the correct answers.

1. Hannah and I **'re going / 're going to go / 'll go** to a concert on Friday night.
Hannah's uncle bought us tickets.
2. Oliver has a plan for next weekend. He **'s cycling / 's going to cycle / 'll cycle** to the campsite on the coast.
3. You look terrible. I think I **'m calling / 'm going to call / 'll call** the doctor.

4. Ryan ***isn't playing / isn't going to play / won't play*** football tomorrow because he's broken his leg.
5. We ***'re planning / 're going to plan / 'll plan to*** visit Auntie Joan on Thursday.

2) Complete the messages with the most appropriate future forms of the verbs in brackets. DON'T use contractions.

Alex Hi Lily. Got any plans for today?

Lily: Hi, Alex. I _____ (meet) Fran at 4 p.m. We _____ (see) the new James Bond film if there are any seats left. Wanna come?

Alex Love to :) Do you need a lift to town? I _____ (pick) you up if you want.

Lily: Cool. Katie's here now – we _____ (do) some homework after lunch (at least that's the plan!). I think we _____ (be) free by 3 p.m. though.

Alex OK. By the way, Pete _____ (have) a party tonight. His parents are away. We can all go after the film.

Lily: Fantastic. Fran loves parties. And she likes Pete. ;)