

Vocabulary

Describing places

Complete the sentences with the correct answers (A, B or C).

- 1 We live in a/an _____ area with lots of trees and small parks.
A leafy B stuffy C airy
- 2 When there's a football match on, the town can get quite _____, with people singing and shouting.
A dingy B cosy C rowdy
- 3 I'm not saying that I live in a _____ area, but people don't usually go out alone at night.
A dodgy B cheerful C handy
- 4 The area Jenny lives in is _____, with more expensive properties and a selection of fancy shops.
A cluttered B upmarket C run-down
- 5 Why is this street so _____? These buildings could look beautiful if anyone bothered to repair them.
A tidy B run-down C laid-back
- 6 Not everyone likes graffiti, but some of it has something to say and can make a place look _____.
A steep B edgy C airy
- 7 As I get older, I'd prefer to live somewhere more _____. I don't need clubs or restaurants or lots of things going on.
A laid-back B dingy C cosy
- 8 I like living here. It's not beautiful, but it's _____ for the shops and public transport.
A cheerful B handy C cluttered
- 9 The price of renting an apartment here is quite _____. Not many young people can afford it.
A tidy B airy C steep
- 10 I discovered a great _____ shop near me that sells clothes and furniture from the 1970s and 1980s.
A retro B dodgy C rowdy

Expressions with *house* and *home*

Complete the sentences with one word in each gap.

- 1 When Molly and I first met, we got on like a house on _____. We've got so much in common.
- 2 After we'd finished our meal, the restaurant manager gave us a free dessert, _____ the house.
- 3 It took me a while after hearing the news before reality _____ home. I was going to be a father!
- 4 It was the funniest show I've ever seen. All the jokes were funny, but what they did at the end really _____ the house down.
- 5 Please – just take your shoes off, sit down and _____ yourself at home.
- 6 My brother loves his work. He says his office is like a home _____ from home.
- 7 Why did Elisa's comments hurt you so much? Perhaps they were a little bit too _____ to home.
- 8 My dog has a huge appetite. If I'm not careful, it'll eat me out of _____ and home.
- 9 You have to try the tiramisu – it's the _____ speciality and absolutely delicious.
- 10 I don't like going on holiday so much – I always miss my _____ comforts – my own bed, my TV, my kitchen ...

Language focus

Participle clauses

Complete each gap with the correct form of the word(s) in brackets to form participle clauses.

- 1 _____ (not / be) hungry, I decided to skip lunch.
- 2 _____ (go) out recently, I saw that a lot of new cafes had opened.
- 3 _____ (never / drive) around such a busy city before, I felt very nervous.
- 4 _____ (locate) right next to the train station, our offices are easy to reach.
- 5 _____ (worry) by what she had heard on the news, my mother called to check if I was OK.
- 6 _____ (decide) that I needed a bigger salary, I started looking for a new job.
- 7 _____ (know) a little Spanish, I was able to communicate more or less when I went to Mexico on holiday.
- 8 _____ (not / see) for several decades, these colour photos of the city in the 1920s are an amazing record of what life used to be like.
- 9 _____ (walk) to work last week, we noticed many more things on the way than we normally did while driving.
- 10 _____ (be) warned of the high crime rate in the area, Aria always made sure she was home before dark.

Noun phrases

Choose the correct phrases to complete the sentences.

- 1 I've already had three *coffee cups* / *cups of coffee* / *coffee's cup* this morning.
- 2 Is there a reason why the *internet connection* / *connection of the internet* / *internet's connection* is so slow?
- 3 I felt a huge *relief sense* / *sense of relief* / *relief's sense* when I found out I'd got the job.
- 4 Helping to save lives is all in a *day work* / *the work of a day* / *a day's work* for a nurse.
- 5 Have you heard *today news* / *the news of today* / *today's news*?
- 6 I always feel sleepy at the *day end* / *end of the day* / *end's day*.
- 7 I always carry a refillable *water bottle* / *water of bottle* / *water's bottle* with me.
- 8 The city centre is always very busy during the *rush hour* / *hour of rush* / *rush's hour*.
- 9 I usually drink coffee with *almond milk* / *milk of almonds* / *almond's milk* these days.
- 10 My daughter is a *pride source* / *a source of pride* / *pride's source* to me.

Reading and Use of English

Part 1 Multiple-choice cloze

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example:

(0) A trodden B beaten C solitary D lonesome

Tree-house hotels

Want to get off the (0) track for your next vacation – literally? Once the (1) province of young boys, tree houses offer adventurous travellers a unique travel experience in an age of roadside motel chains and globe-stretching hotel corporations.

Building a hotel in the treetops is (2) a new idea, but the concept has (3); today you'll find them everywhere from Massachusetts to China.

'A lot of people had good experiences with tree houses when they were growing up,' explains Michael Garnier, a builder who has constructed tree-based (4) around the globe. 'It (5) an adventurous type of person,' he says. 'The kid comes out in them.'

Sometimes, it's the solitude and seclusion (6) by sleeping in nature that attracts people to tree-top hotels. Modern tree houses present a rare opportunity to (7) free of travel's predictable stops and well-travelled routes. Up in the leaves, you'll find something unique and exceptional – surely the (8) of any good journey.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1 A confined | B narrow | C lonely | D sole |
| 2 A hardly | B barely | C slightly | D faintly |
| 3 A unfolded | B enriched | C burst | D blossomed |
| 4 A territories | B dwellings | C sites | D berths |
| 5 A draws | B drags | C tows | D hauls |
| 6 A caught | B resulted | C afforded | D tendered |
| 7 A break | B escape | C run | D come |
| 8 A remuneration | B reward | C refund | D return |

Reading and Use of English

Part 6 Cross-text multiple matching

You are going to read four views of people who have recently decided to move house. For questions 1–4, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

A Katy Brown

Quite honestly, our recent decision to move out of the city was probably the best one my husband and I have ever made. It wasn't an easy decision by any means as moving to a village was like stepping into the unknown. And it's true that once the decision had been made and the sales on both the properties were going through, the doubts began to set in. Would it be too quiet? Would we miss the constant noise of the traffic and the crowds of people? Unsurprisingly, we didn't! It was a wonderful change to sleep right through the night. Getting around in the countryside is not without its problems, but paying extra for petrol and spending more time to get to work or the shops is certainly worth it. The view we have over fields and trees and the clean, fresh air all around us is a whole world away from the noise, stress and pollution that a life in the city brings.

B Janet Saunders

Last year, I was living in student accommodation at the university, but a month ago, I moved out to share a flat in town with three of my fellow students. It took me a long time to make up my mind to do it. Obviously there are some downsides to looking after a house. My housemates aren't that tidy. I seem to be the one who clears up after everyone, which is a pain. Also, we have to do the cooking. I loved living in student accommodation. The room I had was more spacious, and it was cleaned for me. I could eat all my meals in the cafeteria. It was luxury! Part of me wishes I was still there. But the ups of sharing outweigh the downs. We all get on well. We take turns to cook, and if I get stuck doing an assignment, there's always someone to help. One of my housemates has a car and sometimes gives us a lift into university, otherwise there's a bus stop just a few houses away. Also, we can have parties. We invite the neighbours so no one can complain about the noise!

C Penny Barker

Most people can't wait to leave home and get their own place to become independent. I was no exception. Immediately after starting my first job at the age of twenty-four I rented my own place. This knee-jerk decision was swiftly followed by instant remorse. After three months I moved back in with my parents. It wasn't because I didn't have enough money or didn't like doing the housework and cooking. I actually enjoyed those aspects of having my own flat. The truth is that I missed my family. It was just too peaceful. I'm much happier now that I'm back, and I love living with them all. I learned a lot from the experience, and my mother appreciates the help I can give her in the house. My brothers are pleased that I'm home too as they like to borrow my car from time to time. That's fine with me as long as they pay for the petrol!

D Ruth Markham

We'd put off the decision for far too long, but in the end, we knew we had to move. My husband and I loved the big old family house where we'd brought up three children. And we miss it now, of course. But it was really far too big for us. It was also getting expensive to maintain. The move to a smaller, more modern house was the right decision, even if it's nowhere near as good as the old place. We now live near the town centre so it's easy to walk to the shops. We still live quite close to two of our children and their families and see them a lot. So, really, we have no regrets at all. My husband certainly doesn't miss mowing the lawn in that huge garden.

Which person

feels similarly to B about living with other people?

feels the same way as D about the place they used to live in?

is in the opposite situation to D regarding local amenities?

had a different attitude to all the others about the choice they made?

Listening

Part 2 Sentence completion

- 🔊 You will hear a woman talking about her experience of building a craft centre on the island of Bali.
For questions 1–8, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Ali found the (1) of living in the city too fast.

During the building project the volunteers slept in (2)

The volunteers wore protective (3) when they were cleaning.

Ali suffered badly from (4) on her hands.

A mechanic made a (5) in the walls.

The tiling was delayed due to a (6) during the night.

Tiling the floors was difficult because of the (7)

The building was divided up using (8) made of bamboo.

Writing

Part 2 Informal email

You have received an email from an English-speaking friend. Write your email in 220–260 words in an appropriate style.

...

I'm looking forward to visiting you next week. I'll have an extra day that I'd like to spend having a look around your area. Are there any interesting places that you can recommend visiting? What kinds of things can I do there? Would you say that a day is enough time to get a good feel of where you live?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

Speaking

Part 2 Long turn

1 Travelling in a city

Student A: Look at the **three** pictures. They show **people travelling in a city**.

Compare two of the pictures, and say **why the people have chosen to use these types of transport and how the people might be feeling**.

Why have the people chosen to use these types of transport?
How might the people be feeling?

1A



1B



1C



Student A talks on his/her own for about 1 minute.

Student B: **What do you think is the best way to get around a city? Why?**

Student B talks on his/her own for about 30 seconds.

2 Sightseeing

Student B: Look at the **three** pictures. They show **people sightseeing in a city**.

Compare **two** of the pictures and say **why the people have chosen to see a city in this way** and **what kind of experience the people are having**.

Why have the people chosen to see a city in this way?
What kind of experience are the people having?

2A



2B



2C



Student B talks on his/her own for about 1 minute.

Student A: **What is the best way to enjoy a new city? Why?**

Student A talks on his/her own for about 30 seconds.