

## POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- Do you live in a house or in a flat? Give a short description of it.

**A** Read the texts below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5). There are three choices you do not need to use.

## Exam tip

- First, read the instructions carefully. In this type of exam task, you have to match the questions with the texts which give answers to them.
- Next, read the texts for general understanding and then read the questions. Underline key words in the questions.
- Read the texts one more time and underline the parts which answer the questions. Remember, the ideas expressed must be the same, not just similar. Pay careful attention to the individual words used in both the questions and the texts as there may be subtle differences in meaning!
- Note that there are three choices that you do not need to use.

## PROPERTY TO RENT

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**1** 

**The house also features:**

- a large dining room furnished with antique pieces.
- a sizeable kitchen which boasts brand-new, stainless steel appliances.

There is a strict no-pets policy for this property.

The monthly rent is £5,300 and a deposit of £7,800 is required **in advance**.

**A spacious three-bedroom house with private garden, within walking distance of the wide variety of shops, bars and restaurants on Kensington High Street.**

**2** 

*A well-planned, one-bedroom flat on Edgware Road, conveniently located in close proximity to Edgware Road underground station.*

The building benefits from a card entry system and an in-house launderette for washing and drying clothes. Extra storage space and parking are also available at additional cost. This open-plan flat comes equipped with a fully fitted kitchen. All bills and Internet are included.

**The rent is £440 per week.**

**3** 

**Large airy room in St John's Wood.**

**Rent for £1000 per month.**

The room on offer is the largest in the flat and comes furnished with a large chest of drawers and single bed.

The tenant will share the bathroom with one other flatmate.

The ideal tenant is a professional male or female non-smoker aged 20-40 years old.

*Potential tenants must supply at least two references.*

**4** 

**Fantastic studio in Notting Hill – ideally located in a quiet residential area, on the fifth floor of a block of flats.**

This bright studio comes unfurnished, with wood floors and underfloor heating.

There is access to a roof garden, where you can relax with a book or have a friendly chat with a neighbour.

**Available now.** **No deposit required.**

**5** 

**FOR SALE**

**luxurious, modern, two-storey villa in Bayswater.**

It is a perfect family home with four bedrooms and five bathrooms. It also features:

- a gym with an indoor swimming pool.
- a glamorous cinema room.
- a private garden.
- a garage.

**The property price is £3,500,000.**

The villa is conveniently situated near schools and a shopping area.

Which of the advertisements \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. states that public transport is easily accessible ☐
- B. describes the requirements placed on the new resident ☐
- C. points out restrictions that apply to the property ☐
- D. mentions utility costs ☐
- E. notes that there is a shared outdoor space ☐
- F. specifies the deposit required to buy the property ☐
- G. mentions an in-home entertainment facility ☐
- H. states that the bathrooms have been recently renovated ☐

**B** Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one which best fits each space (1-6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

# SHERLOCK HOLMES' HOME - FACT or FICTION?

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930) was a Scottish writer and physician well known for his crime stories featuring the characters of Sherlock Holmes, a detective, and Dr Watson, Holmes' assistant. Sherlock Holmes uses his observation skills and deduction (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and is a highly **skilled** detective. He lives in a flat at 221B Baker Street, in a Georgian terrace in London, England. This fictional residence of Sherlock Holmes was created by Doyle in his first book in 1887.

Little did Sir Arthur Conan Doyle know when he decided on Holmes' residence that the address would be taken as a fact or create controversy. There is actually a Baker Street, (2) \_\_\_\_\_, probably because of the Sherlock Holmes crime stories, but the street numbers went up to 100 at the time Holmes' home was created. Therefore, there was no number 221B until the street was extended in 1932. Then the Abbey National Building Society took residence at 219-229 Baker Street and soon afterwards started receiving mail addressed to Sherlock Holmes. Indeed, a secretary was employed (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and an answer was sent to all correspondents. These letters required Holmes' help and his **deductive** skills, and the response was (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

In 1990, the Sherlock Holmes Museum was opened at 239 Baker Street, a Georgian townhouse similar to the one described by Conan Doyle as Holmes' home. As a result, the issue of who would receive and reply to Sherlock Holmes' letters became a **controversial** issue between the museum and the Abbey National. This argument would last more than ten years, after which the Abbey National moved from the premises, and consequently, the mail addressed to 221 Baker Street (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The Sherlock Holmes Museum later requested permission, which was granted, to use 221 Baker Street as their address even though the building is still between 237 and 241 Baker Street.

Another **fascinating** point is that there is a replica of Holmes' flat in the museum, (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Collectors have managed to reproduce a flat furnished with Holmes' armchair and anything they believe one would find in Holmes' home. The most amazing thing is that a **non-existent** flat has been made a reality at a non-existent address in a real place not far from the **original** non-existent address.

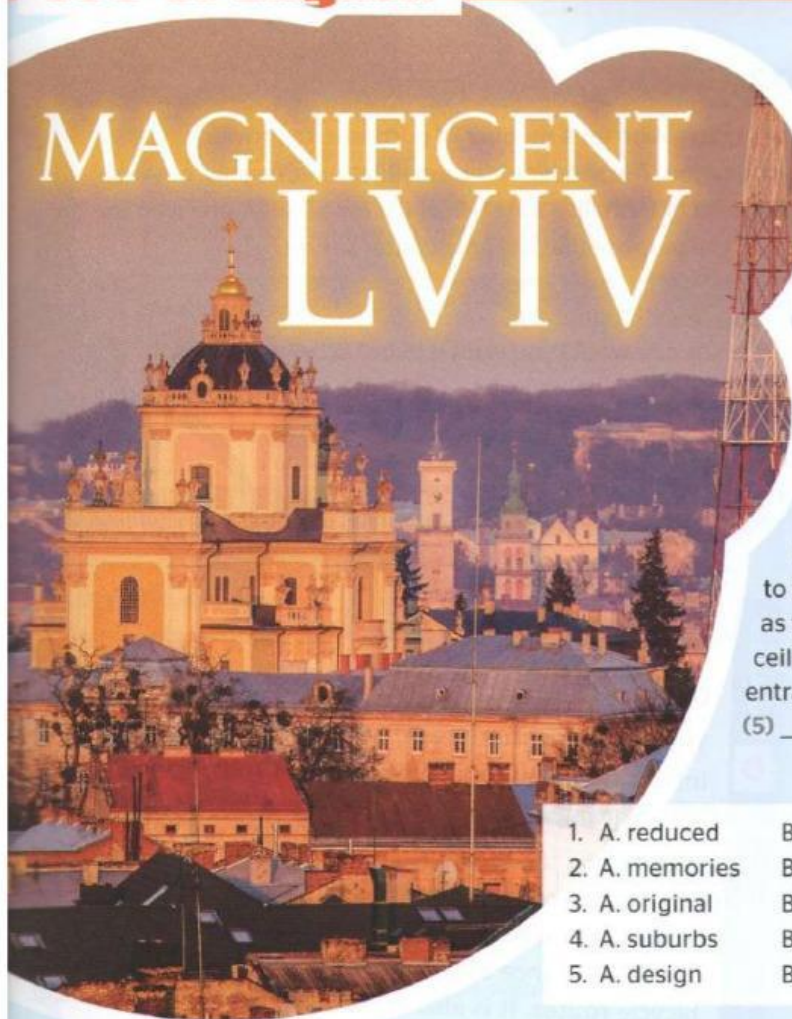


- A. was sent to the museum at 239 Baker Street
- B. which is a well-known street in London
- C. that Sherlock Holmes did not solve
- D. to deal solely with this mail
- E. which is furnished according to Doyle's descriptions in his novels
- F. to solve his cases
- G. was inspired by the character of Sherlock Holmes
- H. that the detective had retired and become a beekeeper in Sussex

## POINTS FOR DISCUSSION

- What objects would you expect to find in Sherlock Holmes' home?
- Which famous person's house would you like to visit? Why?

# MAGNIFICENT LVIV



Read the texts below. For questions (1-10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

If you find yourself in Ukraine, then you should definitely visit Lviv. It is a city with so many magnificent historic buildings, that its Old Town has been (1) \_\_\_\_\_ as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. One example of the city's architectural (2) \_\_\_\_\_ is the Massari House, also known as the Venetian Townhouse, at 14 Rynok Square. The house belonged to Antonio Massari, the Consul of Venice in Lviv. It was built in the late 16th century, but it has been rebuilt and restored many times since then.

However, you can still see elements that date back to the period of its (3) \_\_\_\_\_ construction, also known as the Renaissance. Some of these elements are the ceilings, and on the (4) \_\_\_\_\_, the decoration of its entrance: a lion with wings, which used to be the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of Venice.

- |                |               |              |               |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. A. reduced  | B. recognised | C. noticed   | D. renovated  |
| 2. A. memories | B. pavements  | C. basements | D. monuments  |
| 3. A. original | B. ancient    | C. official  | D. opening    |
| 4. A. suburbs  | B. exterior   | C. outdoors  | D. appearance |
| 5. A. design   | B. pattern    | C. sign      | D. symbol     |



## HOLYROOD WALK OF FAME



Holyrood Palace is (6) \_\_\_\_\_ principal Scottish residence of the British kings and queens. It is located at the bottom of the Royal Mile in Edinburgh, next to Holyrood Abbey, from which it gets its name. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ are many beautiful works of art in the palace, which can be seen by members of the public (8) \_\_\_\_\_ any day of the year. In the north-west corner of the palace, one can find

the bedchamber, or bedroom, of Mary, Queen of Scots, probably one of the most well-known residents of the palace. Behind Holyrood Palace you will find Holyrood Park, with the spectacular Arthur's Seat (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the top. Arthur's Seat is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ dormant volcano from which you can see fantastic views of the city.

- |             |          |          |          |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 6. A. -     | B. an    | C. a     | D. the   |
| 7. A. They  | B. Their | C. There | D. Here  |
| 8. A. at    | B. in    | C. on    | D. under |
| 9. A. on    | B. at    | C. over  | D. by    |
| 10. A. that | B. a     | C. an    | D. -     |

