

9

Getting things done

1 Which service does each person need? Drag and drop the correct word or phrase.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ computer repair | ☐ house painting |
| ☐ dry cleaning | ☐ language tutoring |
| ☐ home repairs | ☒ lawn mowing |

1. lawn mowing

Ken: I have a new home and don't have much time for yard work. I mowed the lawn two weeks ago, and I need to cut it again. I'd like to save money, but perhaps I'll just have to pay someone to do it for me.

2. _____

Akiko: I don't like the flowered wallpaper in my bedroom or the dark color of the walls in my living room. I want to have the wallpaper removed so the whole place looks bigger and brighter with fun, modern colors everywhere.

3. _____

Margaret: Now that it's getting colder, I need to take my winter clothes out of storage. Some things I can wash in the washing machine, but I should take my wool coat to that new place around the corner.

4. _____

Steven: I have a lot of work to do this week, but my laptop stopped working! I tried to fix it, but I don't know how. I can't afford to buy a new laptop.

5. _____

Eric: I'm so excited! I'm finally going to Quebec this summer. I studied French in high school, but I'm not sure how much I remember now. Do you know anyone who can help me improve my French?

6. _____

Karen: I really want to move into that studio apartment I found downtown. The only problem is that there are a lot of little things that need to be repaired. Where can I get a leaky faucet and a broken lock repaired?



home repairs



language tutoring



lawn mowing

2

Where can I get . . . ?

A Match the verbs in column A with the nouns in column B.

A

cut
check
do
fix
print
remove
shorten

B

a stain
my blood pressure
my computer
my hair
my nails
my pants
my photos

B First, use the items in part A to write *Where can I get . . . ?* or *Where can I have . . . ?* questions for speaker A. Then write responses for speaker B using your own ideas.

1. A: Where can I get my hair cut?

B: You can get it cut at May's Salon.

2. A: _____

B: _____

3. A: _____

B: _____

4. A: _____

B: _____

5. A: _____

B: _____

6. A: _____

B: _____

7. A: _____

B: _____

3 Where can you have these services done? Write sentences with *You can have . . .*



Come to
SALON 21
for an
AMAZING
haircut!

1. You can have your hair cut at Salon 21.



At **KWIK FIX**
we repair all kinds
of shoes.

2. _____



**DREAM
CLEAN**
We dry-clean
your clothes
like no
one else.

3. _____

**CARPET
WORLD**
We'll clean your
carpets so they're
as good as new.



4. _____



We do nails (and only nails)
at **Nail File.**



5. _____

JIMMY'S...



**...the best
car wash in town!**

6. _____

Service your
washing machine
to keep it running
its best.

Call **Hal's Repairs**
at 555-1838



7. _____

At EYE to EYE,



we can examine your eyes
in 30 minutes.

8. _____

4 Less could be better

A Read the article about downsizing.



DOWNSIZING

Do you want your parents' furniture, family photos, old toys, and sports equipment? If you're a millennial, the answer is likely to be "no."

Millennials are people who became adults at the beginning of the 21st century, and they are not necessarily interested in collecting things. And boomers, Americans born in the years after World War II, are finding out that their children have very different ideas about how to live "the good life."

Millennials do not feel the need to have a lot of *things*. They would rather have *experiences*, like tourism, art, and sports activities. This preference for "less is better" – or downsizing – is partly a result of the world economic crisis and the student debt that many young adults have. The lack of jobs has made millennials want to lower their expenses. And they feel that they must pay off their student loans before they can get married and have children of their own. Because millennials are waiting to start families, they tend to prefer to live in apartments rather than large houses like their parents. First, they simply don't need that much space. Second, houses are

expensive. Third, houses are often located in the suburbs, farther away from the culture and diversity that cities have to offer and that many millennials want.

But, in the latest twist of generational clashes, millennials are finding it more and more difficult to afford city living. Boomers, who generally have more money to spend than millennials, are finally ready to sell their houses now that their children have moved out. When they do, many then use that money to buy an apartment in the city where they can start a new life with all the amenities cities have to offer to people with money.

With this increase in demand, the prices of apartments have gone up, and millennials are discovering that it is very difficult to compete economically with their boomer parents. One option is for millennials to live together. Today some of them are renting houses or large apartments that several people can share. More than a few people think that this kind of downsizing, besides being good for the pocketbook, is good for the planet.

B Check (✓) the true statements. For statements that are false, choose the true information.

1. ☐ Adult children still enjoy receiving furniture from their parents.

2. ☐ Boomers are Americans born before World War II.

3. ☐ Downsizing is the philosophy that "less is better."

4. ☐ The competition between boomers and millennials has a lot to do with money.

5. ☐ The next step in downsizing could be for boomers and millennials to share houses and large apartments.

5

Choose the best suggestion for each of these problems.



1. **A:** I never have any energy, so I can never do anything except work. I sleep all weekend, so don't tell me to get more rest!

B: Have you thought about taking an aerobics class?

2. **A:** My problem is a constant backache. I just don't know what to do to get rid of it. I had someone give me a massage, but it didn't really help.

B: Maybe you could _____



3. **A:** My doctor told me to get more exercise. She strongly recommended swimming, but I find swimming so boring! In fact, aren't all sports boring?

B: Why don't you _____

4. **A:** I'm very sociable, and I have great difficulty saying no. I end up doing things every night of the week – going to parties, clubs, the movies. I'm so tired all the time!

B: It might be a good idea _____



5. **A:** I like to be a good neighbor, but the woman next door drives me crazy. She's always knocking on my door to chat. And whenever I go out into the yard, she goes into her yard – and talks for hours!

B: What about _____

6 Choose the correct three-word phrasal verb for each sentence.



1. I don't know how my grandmother _____ all the new technology. She's better at understanding new gadgets than I am! (comes up with / cuts down on / keeps up with)
2. My cousin didn't know what to do for her mother's 60th birthday, but she finally _____ the idea of a surprise picnic with the whole family. (came up with / got along with / looked forward to)
3. Ilene has done it again! She only met Chris two months ago, and already she has _____ him. Why doesn't she try to work out any problems? (broken up with / gotten along with / kept up with)
4. After Michelle saw her doctor, she decided to _____ eating fast food. She wants to lose some weight and start exercising again in order to keep fit. (cut down on / look forward to / take care of)
5. We're really lucky in my family because we all _____ each other very well. (come up with / get along with / look forward to)
6. I've done pretty badly in my classes this semester, so I'm not really _____ receiving my grades. (getting along with / looking forward to / taking care of)
7. I can't _____ that loud music anymore! I can't stand hip-hop, and I'm going to tell my neighbor right now. (cut down on / put up with / take care of)
8. I've been getting sick a lot lately, and I often feel tired. I really need to start _____ my health. (cutting down on / keeping up with / taking care of)