

PIANO AROUND THE HOUSE

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word.

Have you ever asked yourself (1) _____ people passed the long evenings in the days before televisions? The answer is that those (2) _____ could afford it used to play the piano, or (3) _____ the very least tried to persuade their daughters to (4) _____ do. Although there is less piano-playing nowadays, pianos are still (5) _____ interest to collectors of antiques, both as instruments and as pieces of furniture.

As a result, it is once (6) _____ very fashionable, amongst those (7) _____ both money and space, to have a grand piano in the living room. Not (8) _____ pianos, however, are equally fashionable. It would be a mistake to (9) _____ too excited about the possible resale value of a modern piano bought ten years (10) _____, for example. Similarly, not every old piano is going to be a good investment.

Rather (11) _____ television sets today, they were made (12) _____ huge numbers in the early twentieth century. At that time, pianos became (13) _____ popular that most sizeable towns had a local manufacturer. Newly-married couples frequently got (14) _____ as a main wedding present. So nowadays, many pianos are (15) _____ little more than the value of the materials they are made from, and end their days being chopped (16) _____ for firewood.

