

## UNIT 1 : THE MAN-MADE ENVIRONMENT

### A. GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY:

#### Exercise 1 :

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences. Use the words in the box.

bedsit

bungalow

flat

halls

mobile

semi-detached

1 A  is a home inside a bigger building, usually on one floor. It's also called an apartment.

2 I live in a  home. It's got wheels, but it's been in the same place for years.

3 There are no stairs in my house. It's a , so it's only got one floor.

4 When I was a student, I lived in the  of residence for a year, with hundreds of other students.

5 Our house is , so it's attached to another house on one side, but not the other side.

6 The first place I lived after I left home was a  – a rented room. It had a bed, a table and chairs and a place to cook, so it was quite basic.

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#### Exercise 2 :

What item would you not expect to find in each room of a house? Choose the correct answers. The first question has been done for you.

1 bedroom:  an en-suite bathroom  a washing machine  a bedside table

2 bathroom:  a shower unit  a fridge  a sink

3 living room:  a garage  a sofa  a coffee table

4 study:  a desk  a lamp  a cellar

5 kitchen:  a wardrobe  a fridge  an oven

6 dining room:  a patio  a dining table  a rug

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#### Exercise 3 :

Complete the sentences. Use the words in the box.

bright

charming

guest

messy

remote

run-down

spacious

tidy

- 1 My sister's room is very  – she always puts everything away in the right place.
- 2 My flat's quite  . It has enough room for all my things.
- 3 It's a lovely  room. The sun shines through the wide windows all day.
- 4 Our house is very pretty, but it's rather  – it's a long way from everywhere else.
- 5 The kitchen is really  . There are dirty plates and cups everywhere.
- 6 We've got four bedrooms – one for my parents, one each for my brother and me, plus a  room for visitors.
- 7 It was a nice house when it was built, but it's a bit  now. It looks in bad condition and a lot of things need to be fixed.
- 8 What a  little house! It looks so pretty and full of character!

**Exercise 4 :**

Choose the correct prepositions to complete the sentences.

- 1 I live  myself in a bedsit.
- 2 There isn't enough space  all my things.
- 3 My sister shares a flat  two flatmates.
- 4 Our flat is  the top floor of an apartment block.
- 5 I've got a nice view  the park from my balcony.
- 6 My brother is  home this afternoon.

### **Exercise 5 :**

**Read the sentences. Select the two words that can go in each gap.**

- 1 All my money goes on my flat. There's never any money left after I pay my ... / bills / rent / salary / ... every month.
- 2 When we bought the house, it was really run-down, but it looked a lot better after we ... / decorated / painted / removed / ... it.
- 3 When are you going to ... / clean / tidy / wash / ... your room? It's really messy!
- 4 The central heating has broken again. Can you ... / damage / fix / repair / ... it yourself, or do we need to call a plumber?
- 5 You can't see the house from the road. There's a tall ... / ceiling / fence / wall / ... all the way around the garden.
- 6 Our flat is quite small, but it feels a lot bigger now that we've ... / rearranged / remained / replaced / ... some of the furniture.

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### **Exercise 6 :**

**Read the information. Then put the verbs in the correct column.**

**State and action verbs**

State and action verbs are verbs that refer to a state, an action or event.

With state verbs, we usually use the present simple.

**Example:** *I want it.* NOT *I'm wanting it.*

With action verbs, we can use the present simple or present continuous. We use the present simple for habits and present continuous for things happening now.

**Example:** *I often drive to work but I'm not driving to work today.*



pay      cost      believe      know      own      seem      help      build  
work      decorate      tidy      use      need

**state verbs**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**action verbs**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise 7 :**

Read the information. Then complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

**Present simple and present continuous**

- We use the present simple for activities (action verbs) that happen often (e.g. *I usually drive to work.*).
- We use the present simple for state verbs (e.g. *I want to go.* NOT *I'm-wanting to go.*).
- A few verbs (e.g. *live, work, think, have*) can be actions or states, with a slightly different meaning.
- We use the present continuous for activities (action verbs) that are in progress at the time of speaking (e.g. *I'm driving to work at the moment.*).

1 

I'm living
I live

 with my parents, but I'd like to leave home and live by myself in a year or two.

2 

I'm living
I live

 with my parents at the moment, while my own flat's being redecorated.

- 3 I'm afraid the lift 

doesn't work
isn't working

 today. You'll need to use the stairs instead.

- 4 

I'm not working
I don't work

 for that company now. I left that job last year.

- 5 

We're thinking
We don't think

 of moving to the countryside in a few years' time, but we're not sure.

- 6 

I don't think
I'm not thinking

 this is the right house. Are you sure it's the correct address?

- 7 It's a very small bathroom, so it 

isn't having
doesn't have

 a bath. There's only enough room for a shower.

- 8 No, now's not a good time to call me. 

I have
I'm having

 a bath at the moment. Can I call you back in twenty minutes?

#### **Exercise 8 :**

**Complete the conversation. Use the words in the box.**

any currently days longer moment nowadays right  
still temporarily

**A:** I remember you were living in a bedsit last time I saw you. Are you 

living there, or have
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 you found a new place to live?

**B:** No, I'm not living there 

more.
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, I'm sharing a flat with another student.
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 But I'm having a few problems with my flatmate at the 

. We got on really well at first, but
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things aren't going so well these [redacted]. In fact, we're no [redacted] speaking to each other.

So I'm [redacted] looking for somewhere else to live. Do you know anybody with a spare room?

A: Well, I'm actually looking for a new flatmate [redacted] now. My sister's staying with me [redacted], while she gets a new kitchen installed in her flat, but her room will be empty again next week. What do you think? Would you like to stay with me?

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### **Exercise 9 :**

**Complete the conversation. Use the words in brackets with the present simple or present continuous. Use contractions (e.g. *isn't*), where possible. The first question has been done for you.**

A: Why are you standing on that chair? (*you / stand*)

B: I'm changing the batteries in this smoke detector. (*I / change*)

A: Why do you do that? (*you / do*) It works perfectly, isn't it? (*it / still / work*)

B: Yes, but I always change the batteries every six months. (*I / always / change*) And look at the light. (*the light / flash*)

A: Oh, yes. I can see. Why is it flashing? (*it / flash*)

B: It means the battery's nearly flat. (*that / mean*) So I definitely need to change it. (*I / definitely / need*)

A: OK, that sounds like a good idea. (*that / sound*)

### **Exercise 10 :**

**Each sentence has one mistake with the present simple or present continuous.**

**Correct the mistakes. The first one has been done for you.**

1 How much rent you pay **do you pay** every month?

2 I standing outside your flat now, so can you let me in, please?

3 We aren't planning to move house again soon, but it depend on my job.

4 I don't want to live here, because it don't look very nice.

5 We usually sleeping on the floor when we stay at my grandparent's house.

6 The sofa's in the kitchen right now because we paint the living room.

7 Do you own this flat, or are you just rent it?

8 Hey! Why am I cleaning the flat by myself? You don't helping me at all!