

4F

Reading

Alternative living

I can understand an article about alternative houses.

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1 Complete the compound nouns with the words below. Two are written as one word.

dining front housing rain rubbish
shipping sky sofa solar studio

1	bed	6	flat
2	containers	7	panels
3	door	8	scraper
4	dump	9	table
5	estate	10	water

2 Complete the sentences with compound nouns from exercise 1.

1 We've had fitted on our roof.
2 Joe lives on the 20th floor of a .
3 There are about 200 homes on the .
4 Can you open the for me?
5 Our guests slept on the .
6 My uncle's is small, but cosy.

3 Read the texts. Look at the photo and match it with the correct text.

Reading Strategy

When you find evidence in the text that supports an answer, underline it and note which question it refers to. If you do that, you can find it again easily when you are checking all your answers at the end.

4 Read the Reading Strategy. Then match the texts (A–C) with questions 1–4 below. One text matches two questions. Underline the evidence in the text that supports your answers.

In which text does the author ...

1 mention that the house isn't built yet?

2 refer to an indoor garden?

3 make it clear that the house has more than one floor?

4 suggest that the house will suit someone with a playful nature?

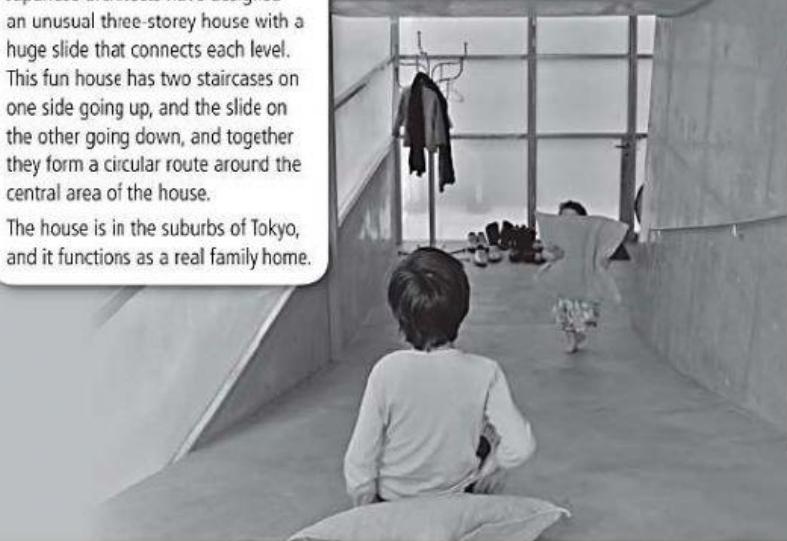
Strange places to live in ...

A THE SLIDE HOUSE, JAPAN

Did you love going down the slide in the playground as a child? Perhaps you secretly wish you still could? If so, then the Slide House in Japan is the house for you!

Japanese architects have designed an unusual three-storey house with a huge slide that connects each level. This fun house has two staircases on one side going up, and the slide on the other going down, and together they form a circular route around the central area of the house.

The house is in the suburbs of Tokyo, and it functions as a real family home.



B THE SKATEBOARD HOUSE, USA

Are you a skateboarding fan? Would you like to live in a house where you could skateboard everywhere? This is exactly what a former skateboard champion wants to build in California. It will be the first house that can be entirely used for skateboarding as well as living in.

A prototype of the house is currently on display in a French museum. It has three spaces: a living area, a sleeping area and a skateboard practice area. However, you can skateboard everywhere because the floor becomes the wall and then the ceiling in a continuous curve. You can also skate on and off all the furniture!

C THE GIANT SEASHELL HOUSE, MEXICO

If you've ever wondered what it would feel like to live inside a seashell, then this house in Mexico City would be the home for you. This amazing shell-shaped house was designed and built in 2006. As strange as it looks, it's a real home built for a family. The parents were tired of having a traditional house and wanted to live in a home that was inspired by nature.

All the walls and furniture in the house are curved and all the surfaces are smooth. There are round windows and doors, coloured glass walls and even flowers growing in all the rooms.