

3 Things that matter

Vocabulary Hoarders

V insight Synonyms

1 Replace the words in *italics* with the correct form of the synonyms below.

- accumulate ■ get rid of ■ stacks ■ products ■ junk ■ belongings

- My room looks quite tidy, but there's a lot of *rubbish* under the bed!
- I don't think he's ever *thrown* anything out!
- When I moved house I couldn't believe how much stuff I had *amassed*.
- My dad still has *piles* of old records, but no record player!
- I keep all my precious *possessions* in a tin box, where I know they're safe.
- The bathroom is full of *stuff* that I have only used a couple of times.

V insight Phrasal verbs with out

2 Choose the correct answers.



Next time your parents are ¹clearing out / dropping out of the loft or garage, make sure they don't ²wear out / throw out their old video games. Games from the 1980s are becoming collectible items.

Joel Cassidy was ³helping out / opting out at his local charity shop when the manager pointed to a whole heap of 1980s video games which were ⁴running out / spilling out of a cupboard. The manager asked Joel to ⁵sort them out / pick them out, and, knowing Joel had an old games console, the manager told him he could ⁶pick out / clear out any he wanted to take home. Joel ⁷spread them out / took them out on the counter and saw that one of them was *Pepsi Invaders*, a rare game worth over £1,000.

V British vs American English

3 Replace the British English words in *italics* with the appropriate American English words.

- Put the saucepan on top of the *cooker* for now; I'll put it away later.
- He lived in a very small *flat* with just one bedroom.
- She liked sitting in the *garden* when it was sunny.
- Just put the bread in the *dustbin*; it's going mouldy.
- I need to go through what's hanging in my *wardrobe* and sort out the clothes that don't fit me any more.
- How do you manage to live in a building with no *lift*?
- Pull the *curtains*; it's getting dark.
- Oh no, it's really dark out here. Where's the *torch*?

4 Complete the text about feng shui for teenagers with the words below. There are two words that you do not need.

- piles of ■ drop out of ■ chest of drawers ■ possessions
■ throw out ■ curtains ■ clutter ■ help out ■ reach out

Feng shui for teenagers

Feng shui is the ancient Chinese art of designing your room and placing objects to create a positive environment, influencing your emotions and behaviour, and perhaps even how other people treat you. The first step is to ¹ all the stuff you don't really need. According to feng shui, holding onto ² will hold you back in life.

Then, think about where to place the bigger items of furniture. For example, the ³ should be in a different position, depending on what it is made of. For example, if it's made of wood, place it in the east corner. The bed should never be underneath a window, even if you have ⁴. Try not to place your desk with ⁵ books behind it. Feng shui says this will make people gossip about you.

There are also some other things you can do to improve your life. Put a lamp in the north-east of your room for educational success, or, if you want to ⁶ to someone and create a better relationship, place a picture of that person in the south-west corner. Want to achieve something in particular? Feng shui could ⁷ if you place anything related to your goal on the south wall of your room.

5 CHALLENGE! Prepare a description of your room. In what ways could you improve it to follow the rules of feng shui?