

Vocabulary | lifestyle/home

- 1 a** Match the definitions (1–7) with the words and phrases in the box.

attic cellar drive outskirts playground
public transport studio flat

- 1 parts of a town that are not close to the centre
- 2 private road or parking space between the street and a building
- 3 room or space (often with no windows) under a building
- 4 buses, trams, trains etc
- 5 room or space just below the roof of a house
- 6 one-room flat
- 7 an outdoor area for children to enjoy themselves, especially in a park

- b** Complete the sentences with the words and phrases in the box in exercise 1a.

- 1 I often take my kids to the local _____, where they play with their friends.
- 2 I live in a tiny _____, but I'm looking for a bigger place.
- 3 I live on the _____ of the city, quite close to the countryside. It's 20 minutes by bus to the centre.
- 4 I've put all the old furniture (which I don't need) up in the _____.
- 5 We keep the wine in the _____ because it is very cool down there.
- 6 My flat is great for _____: the station's five minutes away, and the bus stops in front of my house.
- 7 You can park the car outside the house, on the _____.

Grammar | future plans

- 2** Complete the sentences with the *will* or *going to* form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 A: Why are you reading all those books?
B: _____ an English course in September. (I/start)
- 2 A: What would you like to drink?
B: _____ some mineral water, please. (I/have)
- 3 A: I don't know how to work this computer programme.
B: Don't worry. _____ you. (I/show)
- 4 A: Have you decided where to go on your birthday?
B: Yes, it's all planned. _____ that new restaurant I told you about. (We/try)

- 3** Add one word to complete each sentence.

- 1 I need some fresh air. I think I go for a walk.
- 2 you seeing Jack at the weekend?
- 3 What time Susannah coming?
- 4 We going to Berlin at the end of the month.
- 5 Are you coming to the concert too? Great – we see you there then.

How to... | complain politely

- 4 a** Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

about apologise isn't to (x2) you

- 1 I don't like _____ complain, but these chips are cold.
- 2 You're an hour late! I think _____ should get here on time next time.
- 3 I still haven't received your payment. I'm sorry, but it just _____ good enough.
- a I do _____ for that. You'll have the money by tomorrow.
- b Oh, I'm sorry _____ hear that. I'll bring you some hot ones.
- c Yes, I know, I must apologise _____ that. I was stuck in traffic.

- b** Match the sentences (1–3) with the sentences (a–c) in exercise 4a to make dialogues.



Reading

5 a Read the article and complete the table.

	Jean-Marc, Felicity and Abrielle	Pat, John and Sally
Where is their house?		
How many bedrooms are there?		
Other features of the house/area		
How much money does the hotel/bed and breakfast make per year?		
How do they spend their time?		
What do they want to get from the house swap?		

b What is different about this house swap?

HOUSE SWAP WITH A DIFFERENCE

Swapping your house with another family is one thing. But would you be happy to swap not just your house, but also your business? This is exactly what the following two families decided to do.

Jean-Marc, Felicity and Abrielle (sixteen) live in a huge villa in the south of France. The house has six guest bedrooms, a swimming pool, vineyards and extensive gardens. They run a hotel from the house, earning more than €50,000 per year. They employ two full-time staff so that they can take time off work to swim, eat good food, play golf and generally enjoy the Mediterranean lifestyle.

They decided to swap lives with John, Pat and Sally for one month. They hoped that the swap would be useful work experience for their daughter Abrielle.

John, Pat and their daughter Sally live in Bongor, a seaside town in the north of England, famous for its fish and chips. They run a bed and breakfast, which has ten bedrooms, and earns €20,000 in the high season, and about €10,000 during the rest of the year. They work hard. John manages the finances and serves food and drinks to the guests. Sally works as a waitress and helps Pat in the kitchen. Pat does the shopping, cooking, cleaning the bedrooms, and anything else that needs to be done. Pat is exhausted and wants to spend a month in France, to see how different life could be.

We spoke to the couples after their swap to ask them how it went.



Listening

6 a Cover the audioscript. Listen to Pat and Jean-Marc describing the house swap.

- 1 Was the swap a success for Pat?
- 2 Was the swap a success for Jean-Marc?

b Listen again and answer the questions about Pat.

- 1 Why was the house swap like a honeymoon?
- 2 What job did she have to do in the mornings?
- 3 What did they do with their free time?

c Now answer the questions about Jean-Marc.

- 1 Where did the English family live when they were at home?
- 2 Why didn't Jean-Marc like the traditional English breakfast?
- 3 Was the trip a success for Abrielle?
- 4 Would they like to repeat the experience?

AUDIOSCRIPT

Pat: It was wonderful. It was probably the best thing I've ever done. When we arrived at this beautiful villa it was like being on honeymoon. There was hardly any work to do. There was a cleaner for the rooms, and the only cooking I had to do was to make coffee in the morning! We had lots of free time, so we travelled around the area and went sailing. It didn't feel like work at all – it was a wonderful holiday.

Jean-Marc: Well, we were very surprised to see how the English family lived. They had two very small rooms in the basement, underground, and all the nice bedrooms were used for the guests. Also I think they work too hard, because nobody helps them. They are always cooking and cleaning. I had to cook a traditional English breakfast, but it was terrible. I can't eat food like that because I think it is very bad for you. In France we have fresh bread, with jam and coffee. It is healthier, and easier to prepare too! It was an interesting experience, but I was very happy to come home, and I don't think Abrielle learnt anything very useful. We wouldn't do it again.

Vocabulary | adjectives for describing places

1 a Match the adjectives (1–8) with their definitions (a–h) to make complete sentences.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1 tiny | a busy and full of people and traffic |
| 2 dull | b popular with visitors |
| 3 touristy | c dirty and unhealthy because of carbon emissions |
| 4 bustling | d boring |
| 5 polluted | e attractive |
| 6 enormous | f very large |
| 7 picturesque | g unfriendly |
| 8 unwelcoming | h very small |

b Complete the sentences with the adjectives (1–8) from exercise 1a.

- It's an absolutely _____ city, with over 20 million residents.
- My home town is so _____. There's nothing to do, and nowhere to go.
- Hassop is a _____ village – it's only got three houses and a postbox!
- From the top of the hill, the town looks very _____, so remember to take your camera.
- Big cities are often very _____, and it's hard to meet people when you move there.
- When you go to Kengtung, you must visit the _____ market, which is full even at 6 o'clock in the morning.
- Seatown is pretty, but very very _____. The town is full of coaches and people taking photographs and buying ice creams.
- Unfortunately, Sinston is badly _____ because of all the factories in the area.

Grammar | comparatives and superlatives

2 Complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives in the box.

expensive heavy modern near peaceful small

- It's very noisy in here. Shall we go somewhere _____?
- The meal was cheap. I expected it to be _____.
- Your suitcase feels light. Mine is much _____.
- The style is a bit old-fashioned. I was looking for something _____.
- That hotel is a long way from the centre. Can't you find anything _____?
- This table is enormous. Have you got anything _____?

3 Complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- They say London is the most interesting city in the world to visit. But I don't think it's the _____ place to live. (good)
- Going out to eat in Milan was _____ than we expected. (expensive)
- Delhi is the _____ city I have ever been to. (hot)
- Madrid is a big, bustling city. The atmosphere in Salamanca is _____. (relaxed)
- Ravenna has some of the _____ mosaics in the world. (beautiful)
- Istanbul is one of the _____ cities I know. (lively)

Reading

4 Read the information about a new book. Tick (✓) the statements which are correct.

The book ...

- provides information about different cities in the US.
- is a fictional description of life in New York.
- tells you which are the best and the worst cities to live in.
- describes twelve of the best European cities.
- might be useful for someone who is planning to move to the US.

Think your city is best?

See the latest rankings.

The latest issue of *Cities Ranked and Rated* is just out. This book describes the top cities in the US. But what is it that makes a metropolis great (or bad)?

Are you thinking about relocating, or just curious how your city compares with others across the nation? Well, the answers to your questions are here, as featured in the annually updated book *Cities Ranked and Rated*. The book's authors, Bert Sterling and Peter Sander, talked to us about their findings.

5 Read the article below and match the questions (1–6) with the answers (a–f).

- 1 If I'm young and single, just starting out, what places would I find attractive?
- 2 And what if I have a family with kids? Is that different?
- 3 In general, what places make it to the top of the list?
- 4 How did you decide who makes it to the top?
- 5 Were there any surprises in your findings?
- 6 And what about the bad news? Why does a city end up at the bottom of your list?

a We look at over a hundred pieces of information about each place. We group those into nine categories including: economy and jobs, cost of living, climate, education, arts and culture. Then we press a button on the computer, and that's how we get the top ten.

b Cities with a university do especially well. They have plenty to do, nice city centres, pleasant surroundings and usually they aren't too crowded. The strength in higher education tends to affect all levels of education and most have excellent health care facilities. Then there are the state capitals, which tend to be clean, have a good economic situation and lots of cultural facilities – these are also good.

c Yes, quite a few. For instance, highly ranked cities are found all across the country, not just on the sunny coastlines like everybody thinks. There are a few interesting cities that we call the 'Big City Bargains'. These are big cities with a low cost of living, like Pittsburgh and Indianapolis.

d Areas at the bottom typically have high levels of unemployment and crime and a high cost of living combined with low levels of education, few facilities and not much to do. However, most of these cities recognise that there are problems and they are actively working to improve.

e Younger single people are interested in places with jobs where they can build their careers and make money. They want lively cities with lots to do, and of course lots of other single people too! Of course, the top ten cities would all be good places to live, but for singles in particular we would choose the Norfolk area in Virginia and San Antonio, Texas.

f Yes. Families look for many things, including good and affordable housing, quality education and more daytime facilities like parks, museums and outdoor recreation.

6 Choose the best answers, a, b or c.

- 1 The authors decided on the top cities by ...
 - a asking people about their favourite cities.
 - b looking at the population of each city.
 - c comparing statistics about each city.
- 2 According to the book, university cities ...
 - a have a lot of crime.
 - b are nice cities to live in.
 - c usually have too many people.
- 3 Cities with lots of people in higher education also tend to ...
 - a have a low cost of living.
 - b have good hospitals and doctors.
 - c come near the bottom of the list.
- 4 The top cities ...
 - a are found on the coasts.
 - b are cheap to live in.
 - c are spread across the country.
- 5 'Big City Bargains' are cities which ...
 - a are cheap to live in.
 - b are expensive to live in.
 - c have a low standard of living.
- 6 Cities at the bottom of the list ...
 - a don't realise that there is a problem.
 - b have a lot of people who do not work.
 - c are cheap to live in.
- 7 Young single people look for cities ...
 - a where they can get good jobs.
 - b where there are a lot of parks and museums.
 - c which are cheap to live in.



Grammar | future possibility

- 1** Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.
- at/probably/party./you'll/the/see/We
 - not/He/want/might/come./to
 - airport/us/may/They/at/meet/the.
 - call/Simmons/the/Mrs/about/contract/might.
 - for/you/table/eight/book/please?/o'clock,/Could/a
 - you/buy/Do/house?/think/you/the/might/
 - to/won't/I/definitely/go/restaurant/that/again.
 - this/We/win/definitely/game./will

Vocabulary | compound nouns

- 2 a** Match the compound nouns in the box with the definitions (1–8).

air conditioning bunk bed
 central heating fish tank
 household waste sofa bed solar panels
 washing machine

- rubbish
- for pets to swim in
- something for cleaning clothes
- these get energy from the sun
- a system to keep your home warm
- a system for keeping a building cool
- a bed for two people, especially children
- a piece of furniture that can be a seat or a bed

b Complete the sentences with the compound nouns from the box in exercise 2a.

- It's hot. Shall I put the _____ on?
- My flat is very cold because the _____ isn't working.
- Can you put all the dirty clothes in the _____ please?
- I'm going to put _____ on my roof, to make my own electricity.
- I bought a cheap _____ online. So now I need some goldfish to put in it.
- My brother and I shared a small bedroom, and slept in a _____. I had the top one.
- The council collect _____ on Wednesdays, but only if we leave it outside in a black sack.
- We have a _____ in the living room. It's great – guests sleep on it, as we don't have a spare bedroom.

Pronunciation | word stress in compound nouns

- 3 a** Look at the compound nouns in box A, and tick (✓) the correct sentence, a or b.

A

birdsong computer screen DVD player fireplace
 nightlife skylight swimming pool

- The compounds in box A consist of: [ADJECTIVE + NOUN].
 - The compounds in box A consist of: [NOUN + NOUN].
- b** Listen and mark the stress on the compounds in box A.

c Now look at the compound nouns in box B, and tick (✓) the correct sentence, a or b.

B

central heating household waste mobile phone
 public transport terraced house

- The compounds in box B consist of: [ADJECTIVE + NOUN].
 - The compounds in box B consist of: [NOUN + NOUN].
- d** Listen and mark the stress on the compounds in box B.

Vocabulary | prefixes and suffixes

- 4** Complete the words in the dialogues with prefixes and suffixes.

- A: Is the coast full of hotels and bars?
 B: Not at all, it's totally _____ spoilt.
- A: I haven't seen your girlfriend for a long time. How is she?
 B: I don't know. She's my _____-girlfriend now.
- A: I'm afraid I can't make the meeting tomorrow.
 B: That's not a problem. We can _____ arrange it.
- A: Do you get on with your new flat-mate?
 B: He's OK, but he's very mess____.
- A: I paid over £5,000 for the insurance.
 B: That's unbeliev____!
- A: I love it here. It's so quiet.
 B: Yes. It's very peace_____.
- A: Where is Saskia?
 B: I don't know. It's _____ usual for her to be late.
- A: This is a table for six people, but we booked for twelve.
 B: I think there's been a _____ understanding.

Reading

5 a Read the article and match the paragraph headings (a–d) with the paragraphs (1–4).

- a The 'smart' home of the future
- b Things your clothes might be able to do
- c Predictions that were wrong
- d Changes in information technology

1 _____

People have always been interested in how things will change in the future. But we should remember that people have often got things wrong. I'll just give you two examples. In 1943, Thomas Watson, the founder of IBM (who make computers) was asked what he thought about the future of technology. And he said that one day there might be a worldwide market 'for maybe five computers'. Just five computers – can you imagine that?! And H.G. Wells, the writer, said that one day **public transport** would be moving walkways, like moving pavements, and you'd just step on and off to go anywhere you wanted.

2 _____

Well, of course now we know that these predictions weren't **accurate**. But we can be fairly sure that developments in IT today will become the changes in our lifestyles tomorrow. And a lot of that will involve microchips. It's possible that by 2025, anything small enough to contain a microchip will have one.

3 _____

So, for example, **household** technology might be very different. We could have fridges that can read the **use-by date** on your milk, and then place an order for more when you need it. Or our washing machines could be so smart that when something goes wrong, they send a message to a service engineer about the problem.

4 _____

And even the things you wear could be connected to this technology. For example, a device could change your mobile to different **settings**, depending on whether you're in your work or casual clothes. No more annoying work calls when you're in the pub! And no more embarrassing football text messages when you're in a meeting!

But if you don't like the sound of all this, don't worry. Even H.G. Wells got the future wrong!



b Read the article again. Mark the sentences true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Thomas Watson thought that in the future, everyone would have a computer.
- 2 More things will have microchips in them.
- 3 Fridges will order your milk.
- 4 People will probably wear the same clothes at work and when they go out.

c Complete the sentences with the words and phrases in **bold** from the article.

- 1 I need to change the _____ on my mobile, because it's too quiet.
- 2 Where can I buy _____ objects – kettles, radios, an iron, that sort of thing?
- 3 My GPS isn't very _____, so I often get lost on the road.
- 4 Check the _____ on that cheese – it's been in the fridge for ages!
- 5 Lisbon has great _____, and it's so easy to get around.