

# 8A A new way of living

**GRAMMAR** | participle clauses

**VOCABULARY** | collocations with *go*, *have* and *make*; describing homes and living conditions

**PRONUNCIATION** | pitch in participle clauses



## READING

**1 A** Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What are the pros and cons of living with other people?
- 2 Do you feel part of a community where you live?

**B** Read an article about co-living spaces. Which of the following topics is not mentioned?

- convenience
- data privacy
- the high cost of rent
- loneliness
- networking
- rising house prices
- rules and regulations
- shared facilities

**C** Read the article again. What arguments does the writer make for and against co-living? Make notes.

**D** Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What arguments do you find the most convincing?
- 2 Would you like to live in a co-living space?

## GRAMMAR

### participle clauses

**2 A** Read the sentences (1–3) from the article and answer the questions (a and b) about the participle clauses in bold.

- 1 **Having decided to move to a city**, young people face the challenging task of finding somewhere affordable to live.
- 2 **Moving into co-living accommodation**, many people find they have a ready-made community.
- 3 **Having moved into co-living accommodation two years ago**, Brad Hoffner, twenty-four, found that the people were friendly, but he was shocked at the size of the small 'box' rooms.

Which participle clause(s) suggest(s):

- a someone finished an action before something else happened?
- b two actions happen at more or less the same time?

**B** Which two verb forms are used at the start of a participle clause?

**C** Learn and practise. Go to the Grammar Bank.

▶ page 133 **GRAMMAR BANK**

## 'Co-living': the end of urban loneliness – or just another way to make a profit?

**With huge numbers of young people moving to expensive cities in search of work, lack of affordable housing and loneliness have become big issues. Could co-living spaces be the answer?**

Having decided to move to a city, young people face the challenging task of finding somewhere affordable to live. They often end up living alone, working long hours and locked into expensive rental contracts. It can be hard to find opportunities to meet up with like-minded people. Nowadays, many young workers have the opportunity to work remotely and don't need to be in an office from nine to five. These remote workers often move from city to city, which makes it hard to meet people.

Co-living means living with many other people in one space that encourages residents to interact and work together. Co-living residences are appearing in cities all over the world; from Berlin to San Francisco, Tokyo to New York. They offer residents affordable accommodation in a sociable environment. Residents generally have their own small bedroom and bathroom, but they share living spaces, workspaces, kitchen spaces and laundry rooms with other residents. Some co-living companies put residents together with like-minded people, who are around the same age and have similar interests. Moving into co-living accommodation, many people find they have a ready-made community and lots of opportunities for networking. Sharing interests and values, residents are also able to enjoy workshops and events in the communal living spaces.

The Collective Old Oak is a huge co-living apartment block in northwest London. It doesn't market itself as 'apartments'. It calls itself a 'global living movement' and promises a 'dream lifestyle' to young workers who can't afford to buy their own homes. The 550 residents who call this building home pay a monthly rent to live in rooms that are hotel-sized, but which benefit



from communal amenities and events. There's a cinema room, a co-working space, a music venue, a library, a restaurant, a roof terrace, a games room and a gym. You can book classes in pasta making, graffiti or yoga. There's a room-cleaning service and you can leave with one month's notice. This kind of accommodation appeals to young people who are looking for a convenient place to live in the city, without any long-term commitment. Benjamin Webb, 37, has lived at the Collective for eight months. He says co-living offered him a sense of freedom after two decades of renting in London. He enjoys the flexibility and feeling like he is part of the community.

However, co-living also has its downsides. Shared living spaces don't offer a lot of privacy. Although some residences try to group people according to their jobs, age and interests, how effective is this in reality? Wouldn't it be better for you to actually choose a group of friends and find a place to live together? There is also concern about the rules which are imposed. Residents in some co-living spaces complain that their lives are being overly controlled. Watched on CCTV, residents are contacted if their behaviour breaks any of the community rules. In addition to that, many co-living spaces require you to download an app, giving you access to messages and chat groups with other residents, all of which has led to concerns about data privacy. Critics argue that property developers are promoting co-living spaces simply to make more money by renting out rooms which are very small. Having moved into co-living accommodation two years ago, Brad Hoffner, twenty-four, found that the people were friendly, but he was shocked at the size of the small 'box' rooms. He didn't think the space was liveable in the long term.

So, are co-living spaces the future? Well, on the one hand, it seems that co-living can suit young people who are looking for somewhere cheap and convenient to live in the city, and need a ready-made social group. On the other hand, it can feel a bit like you're living in a hotel – a space that's just too impersonal for any real sense of community. Perhaps it's all just a matter of perspective.

## PRONUNCIATION

**3A** **8.01 | pitch in participle clauses** | Listen to the sentences in Ex 2A. Does the speaker use a higher or lower pitch on the participle clauses?

**B** Work in pairs. Take turns completing the sentences with your own ideas. Focus on the pitch you use.

- 1 Having lived in ... , I ...
- 2 Moving to ... , I ...
- 3 Having decided to ... , I ...

## VOCABULARY

### collocations with *go*, *have* and *make*

**4A** Work in pairs. Complete the texts with *go*, *have* or *make*. Which place sounds the most enjoyable to live in?

#### Sällbo – HELSINGBORG, SWEDEN

Proposed as a way to tackle loneliness, this community is only for under-25s and pensioners, and residents agree to spend two hours a week socialising with their neighbours. Both groups benefit and rely on each other when things <sup>1</sup> ..... **wrong**. Friendships form as residents <sup>2</sup> ..... **a point** of watching films together, eating together, or just learning what they <sup>3</sup> ..... **in common**.

#### Coworksurf – CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

Situated in fashionable Cascais, just outside Lisbon, Coworksurf offers residents the chance to enjoy a beautiful, spacious villa with a pool. They also <sup>4</sup> ..... **the opportunity** to do courses in yoga or climbing, and with Guincho beach close by, there's no excuse not to <sup>5</sup> ..... **a go** at surfing. The house is ideal for people looking for somewhere that working on a project can <sup>6</sup> ..... **hand in hand** with leisure pursuits.

#### Arcosanti – PHOENIX, ARIZONA

In 1970, architect Paolo Soleri decided he couldn't <sup>7</sup> ..... **sense** of modern cities and set out to create Arcosanti, an experimental eco-city. Unfortunately, things don't always <sup>8</sup> ..... **according to plan**, and the project remains unfinished. However, architects keen to <sup>9</sup> ..... **a difference** continue to work and live there today, collaborating on ideas for sustainable cities of the future.

**B** Complete the questions with the correct form of collocations in Ex 4A. Then ask and answer them in pairs.

- 1 When was the last time you ..... to do something exciting?
- 2 When was the last time something you were doing didn't ..... ?
- 3 When was the last time you ..... at something new?

**C** Find words for describing homes and living conditions in the texts in Ex 4A. Can you think of any others?

**D** Learn and practise. Go to the Vocabulary Bank.

page 141 **VOCABULARY BANK** describing homes and living conditions

## SPEAKING

**5A** Work in pairs. Read the Future Skills box and do the task.

### FUTURE SKILLS Collaboration



When you discuss issues as a group, it's important to encourage members of the group to explain their thinking. You can ask questions like, 'Can you go into a bit more detail?' or 'Can you give us an example?' What other expressions can you use?

**B** Work in groups. Look at the co-living spaces in Ex 4A again. Discuss the questions. Ask other students to explain their thinking.

- 1 What do you think are the main advantages and disadvantages of each space?
- 2 Would any of these projects work in your area? Why/Why not?
- 3 What do you think can go wrong in co-living accommodation?
- 4 If you had the opportunity to live in any kind of living situation, what would you choose?
- 5 How does where you live affect your life?
- 6 What do you have in common with the people you live/work with?

## WRITING

### an application letter/email

**6A** Work in pairs. Read the job advert. What qualities and experience does someone need to apply for this job?



### Multiple Roles

WhiteSpace | London / New York / Paris

3 days ago | 9 applicants

WhiteSpace CoLiving is one of the best co-living operators worldwide. We're looking for fun, sociable and outgoing people to join our team! We need people involved in architecture, marketing, finance, events management, sports, sustainability, catering and social media management.

We're looking for people to help build our brand, create a vibrant community of young professionals and help WhiteSpace CoLiving make a real difference!

If you would like to join our team, please get in touch. Email Alice Munroe on A.Munroe@WhiteSpace.com, telling us a little bit about yourself and why you think you would be a good fit for the company. We look forward to hearing from you.

**B** Read the job application. Do you think Evelina is well suited to the position at WhiteSpace CoLiving? Why/Why not?

**To:** Alice Munroe  
**From:** Evelina Martuzzi  
**Subject:** Application for role of chef

Dear Alice Munroe,

<sup>1</sup>I am a chef currently working full-time at the Plaza restaurant in Brighton. Having seen your advertisement on social media, I am writing to apply for a position as a chef in your catering team.

<sup>2</sup>I graduated from the renowned Gourmet Institute four years ago, with distinction. Since then, I have held several positions within 4-star restaurants for a leading hospitality group and spent the past two years working as a chef on luxury yachts. Whether I am preparing a meal for a household dinner party, or an event for more than 250 people, I enjoy creating dining experiences that bring people together.

<sup>3</sup>I believe in sourcing local and seasonal produce where possible, and aiming for zero waste. I have a particular interest in plant-based diets and using influences from other cuisines to keep menus fresh and exciting.

<sup>4</sup>Attached is my CV which will provide you with additional information about my experience and qualifications. I have completed your online application and would be happy to provide any further information you require. I can provide references if necessary and I can be available for interview at your convenience. It would be a pleasure to prepare some sample dishes for you to give you a taste of my culinary style.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Evelina Martuzzi

**C** Scan the email again. Match the paragraphs (1–4) with the topics (a–d).

- |                |                                  |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| a attitude     | c basic biographical information |
| b availability | d education and experience       |

**D** Find formal phrases in the email that match the informal phrases (1–6).

- 1 Get in touch soon.
- 2 I can meet up with you whenever you want.
- 3 With best wishes,
- 4 I can give you any other information you need.
- 5 I have worked in restaurants
- 6 I would be happy to ...

**7A** You are going to write an application email for a position at WhiteSpace. Use the questions to help you make notes.

- 1 What job/area would you like to apply for?
- 2 What relevant skills or experience do you have?
- 3 Do you have any interesting specialities or expertise?

**B** Write your email, using your notes and the model in Ex 6B to help you.

## 8A participle clauses

### REFERENCE

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We can use participle clauses to join two actions together in the same sentence.

She was sitting in the waiting room. She thought about her father.

→ **Sitting** in the waiting room, she thought about her father.

They finished their meal. Then they left the restaurant.

→ **Having finished** their meal, they left the restaurant.

We use a present participle (*-ing* form) when the two actions happen at more or less the same time.

I walked into the room, and I noticed everyone was busy.

→ **Walking** into the room, I noticed everyone was busy.

We use a past participle clause (*having* + past participle) when one action happened before the other.

I read through all the information, then I decided to sign the contract.

→ **Having read** through all the information, I decided to sign the contract.

The two actions in the sentence must have the same subject.

Ana finished her talk, then she left.

(same subject)

→ **Having finished** her talk, Ana left.

Ana finished her talk, then everyone left.

(different subjects)

NOT ~~Having finished her talk, everyone left.~~

### PRACTICE

#### 1 Choose the correct verb forms to complete each second sentence.

1 She was working long hours. She usually felt tired in the evening.  
**Working** / **Having worked** long hours, she usually felt tired in the evening.

2 He finished his exams and then he considered whether to apply for university.

**Having finished** / **Finishing** his exams, he considered whether to apply for university.

3 They visited all the important sights and then went back to their accommodation.

**Visiting** / **Having visited** all the important sights, they went back to their accommodation.

4 She was standing at the window as she watched the cars drive past.

**Standing** / **Having stood** at the window, she watched the cars drive past.

5 She read all the books in the house and then went to the library for more.

**Reading** / **Having read** all the books in the house, she went to the library for more.

6 As she opened her office door, she saw Max disappearing down the corridor.

**Opening** / **Having opened** her office the door, she saw Max disappearing down the corridor.

#### 2 Complete the sentences with the correct participle form of the verbs in the box. More than one answer might be possible.

clean complete leave move promise sit visit work

1 ..... several co-living spaces, she eventually decided to look for an apartment of her own.

2 ..... to the city for the first time, he found that it was difficult to meet people.

3 ..... at her desk, she tried to focus on her essay.

4 ..... her degree, she was keen to find her first job.

5 ..... with an experienced artist every day, Sara had the confidence to try new techniques.

6 ..... the entire apartment, he sat down to enjoy a cup of tea.

7 ..... for work in the mornings, they often bumped into each other.

8 ..... to take Natalia on holiday, he searched for a suitable villa.

#### 3 Rewrite or combine the sentences using participle clauses.

1 Young people start new jobs and often find they need to work long hours.

**Starting new jobs, young people often find they need to work long hours.**

2 He is living in Lisbon. He enjoys his job and has the chance to surf.

3 They considered the various options and then they decided to move into the co-living space.

4 She was walking through the park when she realised that she had forgotten her laptop.

5 He'd lived with someone who didn't pay the rent, and was now looking for a different solution.

6 They cooked meals together and got to know each other better.

7 They looked at the available workshops and then they chose the pizza-making course.


8 She finished her work and then she went to the beach to swim.



1 A Read the sentences and match the words in bold with their meanings (a–h).

- 1 The house had been well maintained and was in excellent **condition**.
- 2 The room was full of **stylish** furniture and expensive paintings.
- 3 The house was **elegant** and well kept.
- 4 The house isn't very **secure**. We need to change the locks.
- 5 It's an old house with a lot of **character**.
- 6 The rooms are very **spacious** with large windows opening out onto balconies.
- 7 Bel Air is an **exclusive** suburb of Los Angeles.
- 8 The area near the harbour has become very **fashionable**.

- a beautiful, attractive or graceful
- b in a particular physical state, e.g., clean, dirty, messy, etc.
- c attractive in a way that is modern and popular
- d large, with plenty of space to move around
- e a combination of qualities that makes a place different to others
- f so expensive that most people cannot afford it
- g protected so that people cannot get in or out
- h popular at the moment

B  **VB8.01** | Choose the correct words to complete the text. Listen and check.

### Marmalade Lane – Cambridge, UK

Cambridge is one of the most <sup>1</sup>**fashionable** / **character** cities in the UK to live in. But price increases have meant the city has become quite <sup>2</sup>**stylish** / **exclusive** and it can be difficult for young people to afford to buy or rent properties which are <sup>3</sup>**in good** / **of good** condition. Marmalade Lane is Cambridge's first co-housing community project, and its residents include families with young children, retired couples, single-person households and young professional couples. The architects have designed <sup>4</sup>**stylish** / **exclusive** houses of different sizes and the houses have their own <sup>5</sup>**character** / **stylish**. The architecture is <sup>6</sup>**in terrible condition** / **elegant** and even the smaller houses feel <sup>7</sup>**spacious** / **fashionable**. Residents live in their own houses, which are <sup>8</sup>**secure** / **exclusive**, but they share communal spaces and facilities, like a gym and a laundry. There is also a shared garden and a 'common house' where the community can eat together and socialise.



C Work in pairs. Use the words in Ex 1A to describe different areas of your town or city.

# Lesson 8A

GRAMMAR | participle clauses

VOCABULARY | collocations with *go*, *have* and *make*; describing homes and living conditions

PRONUNCIATION | pitch in participle clauses

## VOCABULARY

### collocations with *go*, *have* and *make*

- 1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *go*, *have* or *make*.
- 1 Something's ..... wrong with the boiler. Would you mind taking a look?
  - 2 I might ..... a go at repainting this room at the weekend.
  - 3 Here, you take a look. I can't ..... sense of these instructions at all!
  - 4 Many young people don't ..... the opportunity to buy a house until their mid-thirties.
  - 5 Moving the furniture around has ..... such a difference to this room.
  - 6 Unfortunately, buying a home often ..... hand in hand with getting into debt.

### describing homes and living conditions

- 2 Choose the correct word to complete the advert.

## Massey's Estates

### Well-maintained studio flat in city centre

- In excellent <sup>1</sup>**condition** / **fashionable** / **character**
- Very <sup>2</sup>**elegant** / **spacious** / **condition** for this kind of property (45m<sup>2</sup>)
- Separate kitchen and bathroom decorated in a <sup>3</sup>**character** / **fashionable** / **secure** manner
- Comes fully furnished with <sup>4</sup>**spacious** / **secure** / **stylish** decoration.

### Four bedroom detached property

- Nineteenth-century house with plenty of <sup>5</sup>**elegant** / **condition** / **character**, including large windows
- Extremely <sup>6</sup>**elegant** / **exclusive** / **secure** staircase leading to upper floors
- Price on application

## GRAMMAR

### participle clauses

- 3A Choose the correct word or phrase to complete the sentences.

- 1 **Have worked** / **Having worked** / **Working** hard all week, Beth was really looking forward to the weekend.
- 2 **Finishing** / **Having finished** / **Finish** repainting her bedroom, Nisha decided she didn't really like the colour.
- 3 **Sat** / **Sitting** / **Having sat** in her living room, Natalia had a beautiful view of the river.
- 4 **Not having completed** / **Completing** / **Not completing** the repairs to his roof, Dan was alarmed to see heavy rain forecast that weekend.
- 5 **Opening** / **Having opened** / **Opened** the cupboards, Mike had to put his hands up to stop a pile of old boxes falling on his head.

- B Complete the sentences using the correct participle clause of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 ..... (clean) the windows, Jo stood back and admired her work.
- 2 ..... (finish) the assignment, Chloe emailed it to her tutor and sighed with relief.
- 3 ..... (panic), Karl searched his pockets rapidly, worried he had lost his car keys.
- 4 ..... (promise) she'd make an appearance, Fatima arrived early for the party.
- 5 ..... (leave) his car in a well-lit street, Al was surprised to find his window broken on his return.

## PRONUNCIATION

- 4A 8.01 | pitch in participle clauses | Listen and underline the clauses which have a higher pitch than the rest of the sentence.

- 1 Having rented throughout his 30s, David was finally able to buy his own home.
- 2 Looking out of the window, Sasha realised how much she loved this place.
- 3 Having worked at the company for 50 years, she finally retired last month.
- 4 Thinking about their future, the couple started researching schools in the area.
- 5 Having lived in many different places, Kim finally decided to settle down.

- B 8.01 | Listen again and repeat.

## READING

**5A** Read the article. Which topic is NOT mentioned?

commuting cost of living jobs local transport  
mental health nightlife pollution

**B** Read the article again. What arguments are made for and against moving to the countryside? Make notes.

### Why young people are moving to the country

For many young people growing up in the countryside, life in the big city has lots of obvious attractions – more opportunities, better nightlife, a bus service that runs more than once an hour – the list is endless. So, it's easy to see why so many of them leave their rural upbringings behind. However, recently more young people are settling outside of major cities. So, what's prompted the change?

For many, the main reasons are financial. 'We just couldn't afford to live there anymore. We were living in a two-bedroom flat, with no garden, nowhere near the city centre, and most of our salaries were going on rent and bills.' This is Lucie Darvell – a young professional who, recently moved from a flat in London to a cottage in Sussex. For her, it's more cost-effective to live in the countryside. 'You just get more for your money. Here we get three bedrooms – one of which I use as an office – a garden, a parking space outside ... it just makes more sense.'

Others like Lucie have also said the move has had a positive impact on their mental health. 'In Manchester, I felt stressed all the time. I lived in a small flat, didn't have much money and was surrounded by grey buildings, traffic and pollution,' says India West – a financial analyst originally from Bolton. 'Out here, I've got nature right on my doorstep. There's a forest five minutes' walk in one direction, a beautiful river ten minutes the other way – it's just much easier to relax here.'

However, the majority of people who have made the transition still have to commute into the city, which has its own disadvantages. 'All that money I've saved on rent now goes on my train ticket,' says media producer, Tom Carter. 'And the journey's not that great either. It should take an hour door to door, but with all the delays, it can sometimes take me two hours to get to work.'

Some have also found it all a bit quiet in the countryside. 'There's also just not as much going on out here,' says Tom's partner Alex. 'I miss being able to go to galleries and nice restaurants.'

So, for many, the countryside provides a welcome escape from the stresses of everyday life. For others, it's a change of pace they're not quite ready for. However, if the cost of living continues to rise, we may well see more and more young people ditching their expensive coffees for a pair of wellies.

## WRITING

### an application letter/email

**6A** Read the extract from an application letter. What kind of company is the writer applying to?

I would like to apply for the role of ..... as advertised on the Inspire website on Monday 3rd July.

I have experience in a similar position, having worked for Blackwell's Agency for twelve months. I am experienced in keeping the company website up-to-date with details, and showing clients around properties. I would now like to take the next step and become a sales negotiator.

I believe I would be suited to this role because I have excellent communication skills, a friendly and confident attitude and good knowledge of the local market.

**B** Read the letter again and underline the formal phrases.

**C** Read the job advertisement and make notes on why you would be suited to this position. You can invent skills and abilities if necessary.

#### Trainee Sales Negotiator

Landley's Estate Agency

Posted 3 days ago

Apply

An excellent opportunity to join our sales team as a trainee sales negotiator with on-the-job training.

#### Duties will include:

- interviewing clients to identify needs
- contacting clients regularly to advise them of suitable properties and to arrange viewings
- negotiating with potential purchasers
- achieving sales targets as agreed with the Branch Manager

#### You will need:

Excellent customer service skills  
Teamwork skills  
A high level of professionalism  
Sales experience an advantage

**D** Now write a formal letter of application for the post, using the advert and your notes in Ex 6C. Write at least 140 words.