

Grammar

- 1** Read the conversation and complete the text with the correct form of the verbs given. Add extra words if necessary.

'You just stole that apple,' accused the shopkeeper.
'Well, yes, I took the apple, it's true but I promise you it was on the floor,' said the man.
'Well I suggest you pay for it.'
'I'm not going to,' said the man.
'Well, don't come into my shop again!' warned the shopkeeper.

One day a shopkeeper accused a man of stealing an apple from his fruit stall. The man (1) (admit/take) the apple but (2) (insist/find) it on the floor.
The shopkeeper (3) (suggest/pay) for it but the man (4) (refuse/pay) for it. The shopkeeper (5) (warn/come) into his shop again.

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- 2** Read the reporter's notes and complete his news report with two or three words in each gap. Use the verbs in bold in the correct form.

People **say** Terry Marsh, famous actor, was the victim of a break-in. Intruder **entered** when Marsh was on stage (we believe). Some expensive scripts **are missing**? Friends **report** Marsh is 'deeply upset'. Witnesses claim they saw a man **driving** away in blue car.

It (1) that Terry Marsh, the famous actor, was the victim of a break-in at the weekend. The intruder is believed (2) the actor's apartment when Marsh was acting on stage. Some expensive scripts are thought to (3) According to friends, Marsh (4) be deeply upset. The thief is believed (5) away in a blue car.

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- 3** Complete the text with the **-ing** or **to infinitive** form of these verbs. There are two extra verbs.

eat	•	disrespect	•	know	•	live	•	leave
pass	•	spend						

When I went to university, my parents recommended (1) with a family, so I moved in with a family on the outskirts of the city. But my landlady always wanted (2) when I was coming home. In fact, she often stayed up waiting for me. One day, I brought a friend back to her house for dinner and she ordered him (3) I had prepared a meal and she insisted on us (4) it outside. Finally, she accused us of (5) her. It was quite a relief to move out at the end of the first year.

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- 4** Complete the rest of the news report with one word in each gap.

The car is believed to (1) been stolen earlier in the evening. 'I wish I (2) been more careful,' admitted a tearful Marsh. 'If I had just locked them away in a safe this would never have (3) My wife always used (4) tell me how valuable these scripts were. I really (5) to have listened to her.'

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Total / 20

Vocabulary

5 Complete the dialogue with one word in each gap.

Bob: How's the move to London going, Ryan?
 Ryan: Well, as I come from a big city, it's like a home from (1) , busy and exciting. I love it here.
 Bob: And have you found a job yet?
 Ryan: That's the downside. It's been tough. I got a part-time job in a clothes shop. Not ideal, but I've worked in shops before so at least it's something I'm at home (2) It's a small shop, but it gets really busy at the weekend. I think I'm (3) home about £600 a month, nothing to (4) home about I know! London is really expensive and there's lots of competition for work. It really (5) it home to you how important it is to have transferrable skills and speak English.

/ 5

6 Complete the text with the correct form of the words given.

This weekend we spent a (1) (memory) weekend in Madrid. The people were so friendly and (2) (welcome), they instantly made us feel at home. Although it was a little (3) (tourist) in places, it was a beautiful city to walk around with lots of (4) (magnify) buildings. The city is divided in two: the modern part and the (5) (history) part. When in the old part, La Latina, for example, you can stroll down cobbled streets, surrounded by some of the best Spanish tapas restaurants. When in the new part, there is a different, more (6) (vibe) atmosphere. On Saturday night there was (7) (move) everywhere and lots of interesting (8) (personal). One thing that surprised me about the city was its cleanliness. When you're in the city centre, you will notice the streets are (9) (spot). Not a single piece of rubbish litters the ground. If you haven't been, I suggest you visit! The only (10) (improve) I would make is to put it on the coast!

/ 10

7 Choose the correct alternatives to complete the text.

This summer we went on holiday to the Lake District in the north of England. It was great to get away from the (1) bustling/thriving/renowned city for a bit of peace and quiet. We stayed in a beautiful cottage which had been converted from a (2) sprawling/run-down/hilly farm house. Parts of the rooms were actually where the animals used to live. The Lake District is (3) well-off/renowned/crowded for its stunning scenery and (4) quaint/hilly/steepled villages. We spent most days walking through the (5) picturesque/quaint/cosmopolitan countryside and breaking up our walks with stops in country pubs for traditional lunches.

/ 5

Total / 20

Reading

- 8 Read the article about squatters in the UK. Match the questions (1–6) with the sections (A–E). Some sections may be chosen more than once.

Living in borrowed homes

- A When a group of homeless people in Manchester moved into an empty building owned by two former Manchester United footballers, they didn't expect to be there for long. In most cases like these, property owners are quick to evict people who illegally occupy a property that doesn't belong to them. However, far from taking them to court, Gary Neville and Ryan Giggs, decided to allow the squatters to continue living in the building – which they intend to convert into a luxury hotel – during the cold winter months, after which they promised to help them find alternative accommodation.
- B Many in the same position are not so lucky. Although the number of squatters in the UK is growing, especially in big cities, due to factors such as rising house prices and rents, squatting is a crime and those who do it may end up with a fine of up to £5,000 or even a prison sentence. The media is largely unsympathetic to the plight of squatters, often portraying them as social dropouts for whom squatting is a choice rather than a necessity. Indeed, the newspapers are full of horror stories about people going on holiday and coming back to find their home has been broken into and occupied by undesirables who damage their property and steal their possessions.
- C Of course, there are some squatters who make a mess, fail to maintain the property they occupy and generally behave in an anti-social fashion, but this is only one side of the story. Many squatters inhabit derelict buildings that have been uninhabited for months or even years. They often restore the property themselves and sometimes even spend money doing it up, treating it with love and care as if it were their own home. There are also examples of abandoned buildings that have been turned into centres for arts and culture, as in the city of Ljubljana in Slovenia, where a disused army barracks now houses a thriving community of artists and musicians. These people pay no rent for the spaces that they have turned into studios, workshops and performance venues, but they make an important contribution to the city's cultural life. When the authorities tried to evict them on several occasions, they refused to leave and finally they have been allowed to stay permanently.
- D Many people argue that squatting should be legalised on the grounds that by allowing it, we could solve the problem of homelessness overnight. They say that the government should be prosecuting the landlords who make a fortune out of buying and selling property that they don't live in, not those who just want a roof over their heads. When there are reported to be over 600,000 unoccupied properties and an estimated 280,000 people living on the streets in the UK alone, one can see their point of view.
- E The reality is that in big cities, even those who take home a salary are finding it hard to pay the kind of rents that landlords now demand. One solution, which has been billed as a more acceptable alternative to squatting, is that of 'guardianship', which involves people legally living in empty properties that might otherwise be vandalised or fall into disrepair. 'Guardians' pay only a fraction of the rent that such a property would normally cost, but in return, they have to obey certain rules. Gabriella Slyne, a drama teacher, who is the 'guardian' of a one-bedroom flat in Dalston, East London, is not allowed to have more than two guests at a time or anyone to stay overnight and can be evicted with only a month's notice. However, she thinks that it's worth it for the privilege of paying only £300 a month in rent.

In which section ...

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 do we learn about people who use a squat for professional purposes? | 6 are positive experiences of squatting described? |
| 2 is a possible answer to a serious social problem suggested? | / 6 |
| 3 is a scheme described which is aimed at people who can't afford high rents? | |
| 4 did famous people show a sympathetic attitude towards squatters? | |
| 5 do we learn about squatters who cause problems? | |

9 Read the article again. Are these statements True (T), False (F) or is the information Not Mentioned (NM)?

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1 The Manchester squatters were given permission to live in a hotel. | T/F/NM |
| 2 Some squatters can afford to rent a house. | T/F/NM |
| 3 Efforts were made in the past to get rid of the squatters in Ljubljana. | T/F/NM |
| 4 The writer of the article seems to be positive towards the idea of making squatting legal. | T/F/NM |
| 5 In order to be a 'guardian', you have to have a job. | T/F/NM |
| 6 £300 a month is considered an average amount to pay for a flat in London. | T/F/NM |

/ 6

10 Answer the questions.

- 1 According to the newspapers, what do squatters often do after they've moved into a house?
.....
- 2 According to the writer, how do most squatters treat the properties they live in?
.....
- 3 What do the squatters in Ljubljana do in return for the free premises they enjoy?
.....
- 4 What are three differences between renting a property in the normal way and being a 'guardian'?
.....

/ 4

Total / 16

Use of English

11 Choose the best answer (A, B, C or D) to complete the text.

For many young people the day they fly the (1) and move out of home to go to university is the first step to becoming independent adults. The two most popular options for students at university are living in a student (2) of residence or renting a house. Many ex-students (3) finding student accommodation close to the university, which often comes in modern buildings with gardens, wi-fi, and sporting facilities. In most student residences you would have your own room and if you are at (4) with that, you can enjoy a clean and comfortable living space. Despite the attraction of student residences, many students like the freedom of having their own place and living with friends. If you choose this option, you will have to deal with a landlord or (5) to whom you will have to pay the rent. They will (6) you often of the rules and blame you (7) not keeping them. Since you have to pay a large (8) on the accommodation, if you do have parties and destroy the property you probably won't see your money again. Often, student houses are in quite poor and (9) areas of the city because the rents are low. Even though students are not very good at cleaning and often live in (10) conditions, living with friends can be a great bonding experience.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1 A house | B nest |
| C home | D flag |
| 2 A tower | B home |
| C hall | D block |
| 3 A suggest | B warn |
| C want | D offer |
| 4 A risk | B happy |
| C comfort | D home |
| 5 A landwoman | B landwife |
| C landlady | D landqueen |
| 6 A remind | B suggest |
| C forbid | D insist |
| 7 A in | B for |
| C to | D with |
| 8 A money | B pay |
| C compromise | D deposit |
| 9 A affluent | B historic |
| C run-down | D quaint |
| 10 A filthy | B well-connected |
| C bustling | D touristy |

/ 10

Listening

12 Listen to three people talking about their unusual homes. Choose the best answers, A, B, C or D.

- 1 What does Speaker 1 say about her home?
 - A It has gas and electricity.
 - B Their water is heated using a wind turbine.
 - C She doesn't like footprints on the carpet.
 - D Her friends are proud of her.
- 2 According to Speaker 1, the downside of their house is that ...
 - A they have to wear warm clothes in winter.
 - B it doesn't have a garden.
 - C she sometimes gets ill in winter.
 - D the windows are in poor condition.
- 3 Speaker 2 says that the owner of the boat ...
 - A had a lot of problems.
 - B advertised that his boat was for sale in a newspaper.
 - C wanted someone to live on the boat with him.
 - D liked him immediately.
- 4 Speaker 3 says she and her husband chose to buy the windmill because ...
 - A the area was charming.
 - B it satisfied most of their requirements.
 - C it had historic value.
 - D it needed some reconstruction and restoration.
- 5 She particularly likes the windmill ...
 - A because each room is different.
 - B because it gives them lots of exercise.
 - C because there are variety of views.
 - D because the view of the sea is unusual.

13 Listen again and complete the summary with two or three words in each gap.

Speaker 1:

Lives in a home that she designed with her husband to be more environmentally friendly. The heating system is now (1) and they chose to (2) their garden to create a market garden. The only downside is that it gets cold in winter.

Speaker 2:

Saw an advert in the job section of the newspaper to be a 'house boat sitter' which meant he could live on a boat (3) He only had to report if the boat had any problems. He loves it. The only disadvantage is that he sometimes feels (4) when the weather is very bad.

Speaker 3:

Lives in a windmill which she restored with her husband, adding heating and electricity. It has great views and the rooms get (5) as you go up. The only downside is the crumbling walls.

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Writing

14 Read the notice from a student magazine. Write your article.

We would like you to write an article comparing two areas of your town or city: one area which you love and another that you don't like. Tell us why we should visit one and avoid the other!

Write 250–275 words.

Speaking

15 Work with a partner. Student A, look at photo 1 and prepare three questions to ask your partner about it. Student B, do the same with photo 2. Ask your partner to describe your photo. After approximately one minute, begin to ask your three questions. Allow your partner time to give full answers. Repeat for the other photo.



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