

# Upstream

B<sub>2</sub>

INTERMEDIATE

**Student's Book**

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**Express Publishing**

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Module 1

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Grammar	Listening	Speaking	Writing
present tenses; adverbs of frequency; state verbs Phrasal verbs: <i>BREAK, BRING</i>	multiple choice; matching speakers to statements	compare types of houses; suggest ways to make houses safe for children; renting a house; expressing sympathy; requesting services	- an advertisement/email - an informal letter describing a house for rent
past tenses; used to/would Phrasal verbs: <i>CARRY, COME</i>	matching speakers to statements; T/F statements	discuss important things in life; express opinions on family matters; spreading the news; describing people; introducing people	- famous people's profiles - a narrative
future tenses; Conditionals Type 0 & 1; the definite article Phrasal verbs: <i>CUT, DO</i>	note-taking; multiple choice	discuss weekend activities; speculations; holiday experiences; accepting/refusing invitations; cancelling a hotel reservation; renting a vehicle	- a letter of complaint - a semi-formal letter/email
comparisons; too/enough; -ing form/infinitive Phrasal verbs: <i>FALL, GET</i>	note-taking; matching speakers to statements; identifying speakers	suggest solutions to improve the environment; complaining; offering solutions to problems; expressing hesitation	- a set of rules - an essay providing solutions to problems
-ing/-ed participles; modal verbs; making deductions; question tags Phrasal verbs: <i>GIVE, GO</i>	multiple choice; matching speakers to statements	discuss ways to relax; speculating; give advice; losing your temper; making an appointment; describing symptoms	- an informal email describing a personal problem - a for-and-against essay
order of adjectives; the passive; relatives; relative clauses Phrasal verbs: <i>HOLD, KEEP</i>	multiple matching; note-taking; matching speakers to statements	discuss pros & cons of using computers; discuss effects of modern technology on our lives; "filler" phrases; reporting a theft; giving instructions	- a news report - an opinion essay
causative form; reported speech (statements, questions, orders) Phrasal verbs: <i>LET, LOOK</i>	note-taking; multiple choice	ask for information; discuss pros/cons of advertising; expressing opinions; making complaints; buying clothes	- describe clothes for a fashion magazine - an article describing a visit to a place
quantifiers (some, any, no, (a) little, (a) few); countable/uncountable nouns; reported speech (special introductory verbs) Phrasal verbs: <i>MAKE, PUT</i>	multiple choice; matching speakers to statements; T/F statements	give advice; decide on a menu; accepting/refusing invitations; doing your shopping; ordering a meal/fast food	- a recipe - an assessment report
Conditionals Type 2 & 3; wishes; would rather Phrasal verbs: <i>RUN, SEE, SET</i>	multiple choice; matching speakers to statements	give opinions; guess content; talk about hobbies; asking for permission & polite requests; taking a phone message; inviting a friend to a sporting event; intonation – regrets	- instructions for a magic trick - a letter to the editor
future perfect; linkers & quantifiers (either/neither, although, both, all, none) Phrasal verbs: <i>STAND, TAKE, TURN</i>	matching speakers to statements; Yes/No statements; note-taking	compare types of films; express preferences; talk about disasters; gossip; making arrangements; making excuses	- a news report - a formal letter/email

# People & Homes

## Before you start ...

How long have you been studying English?  
Why are you studying?

## Listen, read and talk about

- dwellings
- home appliances
- household chores
- rooms
- colours
- home safety
- stages in life
- life events
- types of families
- facial features
- feelings
- working lives

## Learn how to ...

- make houses safe for children
- describe a room/a house
- request services
- express sympathy
- decide on a house
- describe people
- express feelings
- express your opinion
- spread the news
- introduce people

## Practise ...

- present tenses
- adverbs of frequency
- prepositions of place
- linkers
- state verbs
- past tenses
- used to/would

## Phrasal verbs

- break
- bring
- carry
- come

## Write ...

- an advertisement for a house
- an informal letter/email describing a house for rent
- a description of a person
- a narrative

## UNIT 1

### My Home is my Castle

## UNIT 2

### While there's life, there's hope



# Module 1

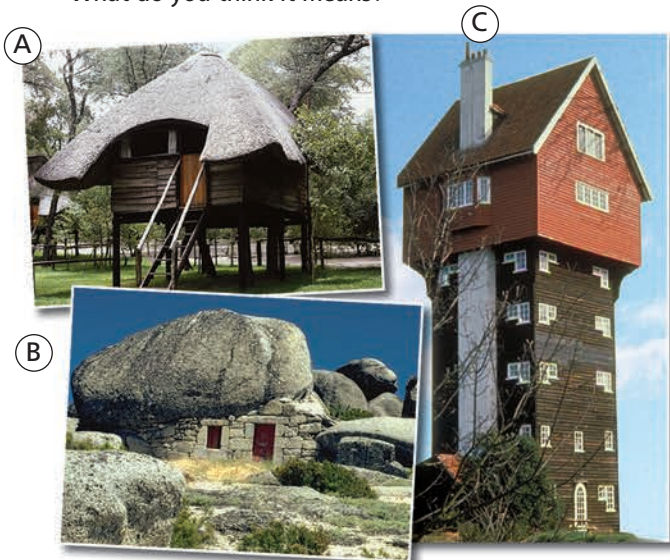
Units 1-2



# My Home is my Castle

## Lead-in

- 1 The title above is taken from an English proverb. What do you think it means?



- 2 a. Which of the houses in the pictures:  
**has:** five storeys and a house on top; a fibreglass shark; brick walls; a thatched roof; a chimney; a rock on the roof; wooden stairs up to the front door; stone walls; a pitched roof; a tiled roof?

**is:** built underground; a castle; built on stilts?

- b. Use the adjectives to describe each house. Give reasons.

• economical • impractical • cold • spacious • cramped  
 • airy • comfortable • attractive • eccentric

*House A is economical to maintain because it doesn't cost very much to heat and cool.*

- c. **THINK!** Which house would you/wouldn't you like to live in? Give reasons.

*I'd like to live in the hut on stilts because it looks very attractive to me.  
 I wouldn't like to live in the rock house because it must get very cold.*

## Reading

- 3 a. Look at the title of the article. What do you think it is about? Where might you read it? Say words you expect to find in it.

**Tip**

Read the text quickly to get a general idea of what it is about. Look at the first part of the question, then find the part of the text the question refers to. Go through the choices and choose the answer that best fits. Keep in mind that the information may be rephrased. Even if you think you know the correct answer, always check that the others are not appropriate. Check your answers against the text.

## In Search of the Perfect Home

How would you like to live in a castle, a tree house or even underground? This might not be as unusual as you think. It seems that these days more and more people want to live somewhere special and **out of the ordinary**, and if they can't buy what they want they are quite 5 prepared to build it **from scratch**.

For John Mew and his wife Josephine their home really is their castle. They have built their own English castle in the Sussex countryside. The building is **brand new** with all the luxuries you would expect from a house that cost 10 more than £350,000 to build. However, when you first see it from the outside it would be easy to think that you are looking at an ancient monument. The building has a lot of the features of a traditional castle, including a **keep**, a **moat** and a **drawbridge**. "My choice of house is 15 somewhat eccentric and building it was very hard work, but we've got the perfect place to live," Mew says. Although some would say that the building is impractical and may be cold in **harsh** British winters, he certainly has got a unique and **spacious** home. 20

If you don't look carefully, you might not even see the home that Jonathan Ridley-Jones and Shanon Ridd built at all! That's because the house is a converted underground water tank. The only thing that can be seen from the surface is a door leading into the hillside. "We've never wanted to live in an **ordinary** house," Shanon says. "Living below ground means that our home is quiet and very cosy – none of the usual **draughts**. It doesn't damage the local surroundings and has very low **fuel bills**. Some of our friends find it dark and feel shut in when 30 they first visit, but they soon get used to it!"





If an underground home doesn't **appeal to** you, how about living in the tree tops? Dan Garner, a tree surgeon from Gloucestershire, certainly thinks that this is the way to go up in the world. 35

"When our family **became short of** space at home our solution was to build a luxury tree house in the garden. The tree house is built into a **spruce tree** six metres **above the ground**. It has one main room, a bedroom and a balcony running around two sides." Garner is so happy 40 with this practical **extension** to his home that he thinks he can **convince** more people of the benefits of living in the trees. He wants to **set up** his own enterprise making more of the deluxe tree dwellings, saying, "Tree houses are **airy**, secure and comfortable and the only disadvantage is 45 that they might not be **suitable for** people who **suffer from hay fever** or a fear of heights!"

Even people who live in more ordinary **settings** sometimes can't **resist** doing something to make them **stand out** from the crowd. One extreme example of this is 50 Bill Heines' house in Headington, Oxfordshire. Until one morning in 1986, his house looked much like all the others in his street, when suddenly overnight a 7.5 m long **fibreglass shark** appeared to have crashed through the roof. The shark was a **sculpture** by local artist John 55 Buckley. At first some people complained that it might be dangerous or that it spoils the look of the neighbourhood, but engineers checked that the sculpture was safe and the 'Headington shark' has become a well-known and popular landmark. It seems that no matter where you live, 60 you can always do something to make sure your house says something about who you are.

b. Read the article. For questions 1-6, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which fits best according to the text.

- 1 **More and more people build their own home**
  - A so that they can live underground.
  - B so that they can have exactly the home they want.
  - C because it is cheaper than buying a new house.
  - D because they want all the modern luxuries you find in a new home.
- 2 **John and Josephine Mew**
  - A know that their choice of home is unusual.
  - B found that creating their dream home was easy.
  - C wanted to live like people would have in traditional castles.
  - D converted an ancient building into a modern home.
- 3 **According to the text, what could be a disadvantage of the Mews' home?**
  - A It might not be very comfortable.
  - B It was very expensive to build.
  - C Tourists often mistake it for a historic building.
  - D It doesn't have enough luxury items.
- 4 **What do Jonathan Ridley-Jones and Shanon Ridd say about their home?**
  - A It's just an ordinary house.
  - B They always wanted to live underground.
  - C It doesn't harm the environment.
  - D They don't pay anything for heating and lighting.
- 5 **Why did Dan Garner build a tree house in his garden?**
  - A He wants to persuade people to buy one.
  - B His family wanted to live in a tree house.
  - C He builds them for a living.
  - D His family needed more room.
- 6 **What does Dan Garner aim to do in the future?**
  - A build more tree dwellings in his garden
  - B invite more people to visit his tree house
  - C open a business selling tree houses
  - D design a tree house to suit all tastes

c. Explain the words in bold, then suggest synonyms for the highlighted words.

d. **THINK!** What is the author's purpose?

### Follow-up

- 4 a. List the advantages and disadvantages of Mew's, Ridd's and Garner's dwellings, then talk about them.
- b. **THINK!** What would your ideal house be? Describe it giving reasons.

*My ideal house would be a castle. It would be made of ...*

# Vocabulary Practice

## Dwellings and Appliances

- 1 a. Go through the table and look up the words you don't know in your dictionary.
- b. Listen and underline the words that best describe Ann's house. Circle the ones which best describe John's house.

STYLE:	traditional, modern, apartment/flat, (semi) detached, terraced house, cottage, villa, 1/ 2/3 storey building, castle
LOCATION:	village, city, centrally located, residential area, close to the shops, in the suburbs, on the outskirts, isolated, in the country
SIZE:	small, tiny, spacious, large, huge, average, family-sized, 1-/2- bedroomed
COST:	cheap, low-priced, overpriced, expensive, economical
GENERAL DESCRIPTION:	cosy, comfortable, secure, luxurious, well-maintained, fully furnished, airy, noisy, cold

- c. Use the words to describe Ann's and John's houses, then describe your house.

*Ann lives in a traditional cottage in the country. The cottage is ...*

- 2 a. Read the advertisements, then, in pairs, list the special features of each property under the headings: Inside – Outside

**A**

**FOR RENT** 3-bedroomed semi-detached house, Paddington. Large lounge/dining room with fireplace, entrance hall, modern fitted kitchen, attic, central heating, built-in wardrobes. Garage and driveway. Large front garden with shared fence, rear patio and pool. Close to shops and public transport. Available for long let. £430 per month. Contact Mrs Wilson Tel: 020 8360 7289

A: Inside: large lounge/dining room ...  
Outside: garage, driveway ...

**B**

**FOR SALE** £399,986 Golders Green, London.  
A superb first-floor 2-bedroomed flat.  
Fully-furnished with a large balcony, double glazing and air conditioning. Fully-equipped kitchen and modern security system. Minutes from tube station.  
Full details at Primary Properties: 020 8731 6889

- b. What features are there inside/outside your house?

- 3 a. Which of these items are in your house? In which room?
- refrigerator • vacuum cleaner • electric heater
  - washing machine • microwave • humidifier
  - air conditioner • hairdryer • dishwasher • cooker

refrigerator – kitchen

- b. Match the columns. Which of these have you/haven't you got in your house?

built-in	system
central	hall
fitted	glazing
double	wardrobes
entrance	kitchen
private	parking
security	heating

*There are built-in wardrobes in our house.*

*We haven't got ...*

- 4 a. Complete the dialogue, then listen and check.

A: Hello!  
B: Good morning. I'm calling about the house advertised for rent in Paddington.  
A: Oh yes?  
B: I wonder 1) ..... give me a bit more information, please.  
A: Of course. 2) ..... like to know?  
B: First of all, 3) ..... exactly where the house is situated?  
A: Yes, it's on 15, Bayswater Drive.  
B: And the lounge and dining room – are they separate?  
A: Yes, but they're joined by a sliding glass door.  
B: And do all the bedrooms have fitted wardrobes?  
A: No, only the two largest bedrooms.  
B: One last question. Is the garage large enough for two cars?  
A: Oh, definitely.  
B: It sounds perfect. 4) ..... I could see it?  
A: 5) ..... 6 o'clock this evening?  
B: That's fine — see you then.

- b. In pairs, take roles and act out dialogues about each of the advertisements in Ex. 2a.

OWNER/ESTATE AGENT	CLIENT
greeting	greeting - ask for information
agree to give information	ask your questions (e.g. exact answer the questions
location - special features)	agree on a viewing
arrange a viewing	



- 5 a. Use the prompts and the linkers to make up sentences for each house, as in the examples.

- both • as well as
- also • besides
- whereas • but
- although • however



	A	B		A	B
• driveway	✓	✓	• balcony	✓	✗
• chimney	✓	✗	• air conditioning	✓	✓
• garage	✓	✓	• security system	✓	✓
• pool	✓	✗	• cellar	✗	✓
• garden	✓	✓	• fireplace	✓	✗
• attic	✓	✓	• built-in wardrobes	✗	✓
• patio	✓	✗	• central heating	✓	✓
• fence	✗	✗	• fitted kitchen	✓	✗

Both house A and B have got a driveway.  
 House A has got a chimney, but house B hasn't got one.  
 House A has got a driveway as well as a garage.  
 Besides having a garage, house A has got a driveway.

### Writing Project

- b. Look at the pictures A and B and write an advertisement for each house. Say if it is for rent/sale, what kind of house it is, how much it costs, what special features it has got and give a telephone number for contact. Use the advertisements in Ex. 2a as models to help you.

### Household Chores

- 6 a. Match the verbs to the nouns.

wash  
dust  
make  
iron  
vacuum  
clean  
mop  
mow

the beds  
the carpets  
the clothes  
the dishes  
the windows  
the floors  
the lawn  
the furniture

Which of these household chores do you do?  
 How often? Which do you like/not mind/hate doing?

*I sometimes wash the dishes in the evenings.*

- b. Which of these verbs can be changed to **do + ing** form of the verb? Make up sentences about your family using these phrases.

*Mum always **does the ironing** on Saturday.*

### Colours & Rooms

- 7 a. Listen and circle the words that are mentioned in connection with each colour.

red	competitive, romantic, active, excited
orange	conservative, talkative, adventurous
yellow	shy, reliable, cheerful, generous, impatient, creative
blue	calm, confident, stressed, relaxed, peaceful
green	relaxed, peaceful, refreshed, depressed
white	cheerful, isolated, withdrawn

- b. Listen again. What colour would you paint these rooms? Why?

- a dining room • a child's bedroom
- a play area • a living room • a classroom

*I would paint a dining room orange because it stimulates the appetite.*

- 8 Use the prepositions and the words in the list to describe the living room. How similar to/different from is it from your living room?

- in front of • next to • behind • opposite • on
- between • above • in the middle of
- fireplace • candlesticks • carpet • paintings • sofa
- armchair • cushions • plant • glass coffee table
- window • lamp



*There is a glass coffee table in front of the sofa.*

## Present tenses

Grammar Reference

### 1 Identify the tenses in bold, then match them to their use.

- 1 The Earth **revolves** round the Sun. ....
- 2 The train **leaves** at 5:30. ....
- 3 John **is looking for** a new house. ....
- 4 She can't play. She **has broken** her leg. ....
- 5 He **is always biting** his nails. ....
- 6 I **have been trying** to call you for an hour. ....
- 7 He **is flying** to Madrid tomorrow. ....
- 8 It's **getting** colder and colder. ....

- a action which started in the past and continues up to the present with emphasis on duration
- b law of nature
- c expressing irritation
- d action happening around the time of speaking
- e result/consequence of a past activity in the present
- f fixed arrangement in the future
- g timetable
- h gradual development

#### State verbs

We do not normally use **believe, forget, hate, know, like, love, need, prefer, realise, remember, suppose, understand, want, appear** in continuous tenses.

*I believe you. NOT I'm believing you.*

The verbs **think, taste, see, look, smell, feel** and **have** can have continuous tenses, but there is a difference in meaning.

*I think he is desperate. (= I believe) BUT I'm thinking about moving house. (= I'm considering)*

### 2 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct present tense, then identify their use.

- 1 She ..... (**move**) house next week.
- 2 Carl and Mary are looking for a new house. The landlord ..... (**evict**) them from their flat.
- 3 ..... (**you/wait**) a long time?
- 4 They ..... (**convert**) the old mill into a beautiful new home at the moment.
- 5 Water ..... (**freeze**) at 0° C.
- 6 Her flight ..... (**arrive**) tonight at 7pm.
- 7 ..... (**you/sign**) the contract for the house next week?
- 8 The Earth ..... (**become**) warmer and warmer.
- 9 The bus ..... (**come**) every ten minutes.
- 10 Jack and Maggie ..... (**still/search**) for the perfect house.
- 11 Bob can't move house now because he ..... (**sign**) a two-year contract.

### 3 Fill in the correct tense of the verb in brackets.

- 1 A: ..... (**Jane/still/think**) of renting the house?  
B: Yes, why?  
A: Well, some people ..... (**think**) that it is haunted.
- 2 A: Mark ..... (**taste**) the curry to see if we need to add any more spices.  
B: I don't think we do. It ..... (**taste**) delicious as it is.
- 3 A: Why ..... (**you/smell**) the milk? I only bought it this morning!  
B: Well, it ..... (**smell**) off to me!

### 4 a. Talk about British homes, using adverbs of frequency, as in the example.



*British homes always have running water.*

*There is always running water in British homes.*

*You can always find running water in British homes.*

### b. In pairs draw a similar chart about homes in your country, then present it in class.

### 5 In pairs, talk about:

- what you do/don't do in your free time
- what you are doing this weekend
- what you have done so far today

### 6 How much have you changed since you were five years old? Make up sentences, as in the example.

*I've grown my hair long.*

### 7 In pairs, act out dialogues, as in the example.

- sleep outdoors • visit a castle • be in a tree house
- stay at a campsite • redecorate your own bedroom
- stay in a house with its own swimming pool
- have a power cut at your home • move house

A: *Have you ever slept outdoors?*

B: *No, I haven't. Have you ever visited a castle?*

A: *Yes, I have.*

B: *Really? When was that?*

A: *Two years ago. Have you ever ...? etc*

## 8 Use the prompts to act out dialogues, as in the example.

### 1 exhausted – work/garden

- plant/flowers (✓)
- prune/bushes (✓)
- water/lawn (X)

A: *You look exhausted. What have you been doing?*

B: *I've been working in the garden.*

A: *What have you done?*

B: *Well, I've planted some flowers and pruned the bushes but I haven't watered the lawn yet.*

### 2 tired – do/homework

- finish/Maths (✓)
- write/composition (✓)
- study/test (X)

### 3 excited – organise party

- send out/invitations (✓)
- book/caterers (✓)
- book/band (X)



## 9 Make up sentences about yourself, using present tenses and the time adverbs in the list.

- yet • still • already • for • since
- at the moment • every day • now
- next Saturday

*I haven't done my homework yet.*

## 10 Use the prompts to write sentences, as in the example. Use present perfect or present perfect continuous.

- Ann can't get into the house. (lose/her key)  
*Ann can't get into the house. She has lost her key.*
- Tom's sunburnt. (sit/in the sun/all morning)
- My eyes hurt. (watch TV/hours)
- John passed his Maths exam. (study/hard)
- Nick has lost a lot of weight. (be/on a diet)
- Amy looks so happy! (buy/new house)

## 11 Circle the correct tense.

- I'm afraid I can't make it tonight. I ..... the estate agent at 7 o'clock.  
A see B am seeing C have seen D have been seeing
- The film ..... at 7:30.  
A has been starting B has started C is starting D starts
- He ..... to find a cleaning woman for a month now.  
A has been trying B tries C is trying D has tried
- Look! You ..... coffee all over my desk!  
A have been spilling C were spilling  
B have spilt D spill
- He ..... the property section of the newspaper every day, but he still hasn't found anything.  
A has been reading B is reading C have read D read

## Prepositions

Appendix 1

## 12 a. Fill in the correct preposition, then explain the phrases.

- Ann has been **absent** ..... work for two weeks.
- It has taken Mark a long time to become **accustomed** ..... the Australian climate.
- They **accused** him ..... stealing the car.
- We need to **agree** ..... a time to meet.
- He **apologised** ..... Mary ..... being late last night.
- Emma has **applied** ..... Leeds University ..... a place on the History course.
- Some people don't **approve** ..... the council's plan to build a new shopping centre in town.
- The old man was **begging** ..... food.
- Do you **believe** ..... magic?
- Rob has been **busy** ..... the redecorating all week.

## b. Chain Story. Read the beginning of the story, then, one after the other, continue the story using the phrases in bold from Ex. 12a.

*John Smith worked as an office manager. He was very good at his job, but unfortunately he wasn't able to go to work because he was very ill. He was **absent from work for three weeks.***





- 13** Fill in the correct prepositions. Then choose any five phrases and make up sentences using them.

1 ..... the ordinary; 2 ..... scratch; 3 ..... the countryside; 4 to expect sth ..... sb; 5 ..... the winter; 6 to appeal ..... sb; 7 to live ..... a tree top; 8 to become short ..... space; 9 an extension ..... his home; 10 to convince people ..... sth; 11 the benefits ..... sth; 12 suitable ..... sb; 13 to suffer ..... hay fever; 14 fear ..... heights

## Phrasal Verbs

Appendix 2

- 14** a. Replace the words in bold with the appropriate phrasal verb formed with **break** or **bring**.
- My computer has **stopped working**. (= *broken down*)
  - My favourite band have just **released** their new album.
  - Schools **finish** for the summer holidays tomorrow.
  - She was **raised** by her grandma.
  - The burglars **entered by force** and stole all our valuables.
  - A fire **began suddenly** on the second floor of the building.
  - Visiting my old neighbourhood always **makes me recall** memories of family holidays.
  - The two countries **ended** diplomatic relations with each other two years ago.

## Competition Game

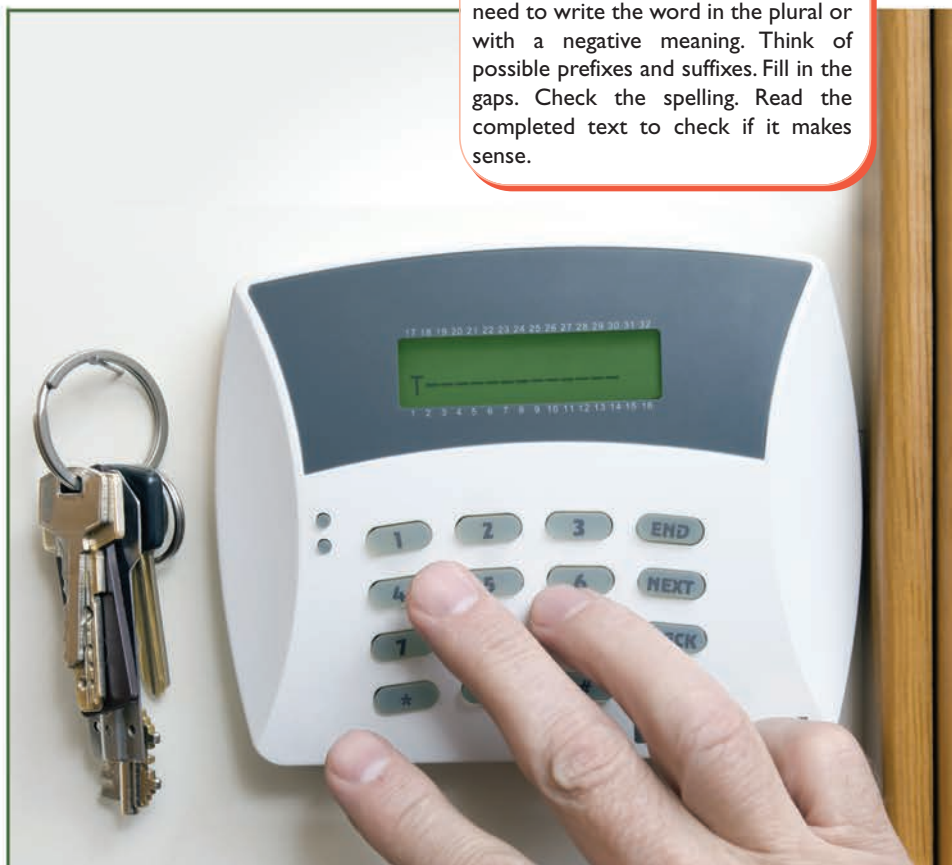
- b. Choose one of the phrasal verbs in Ex. 14a and draw a picture about it. In teams, show your picture to the class. The team which guesses the phrasal verb first gets one point. Continue the game until all of you have shown your pictures. The team with the most points is the winner.

## Word Formation

- 15** Fill in the correct word derived from the word in CAPITALS.

**Tip**

Read the title of the text to get an idea what the text is about. Read the text once quickly. For each gap decide what the missing word is (e.g. noun, verb, adverb, etc.) You may need to write the word in the plural or with a negative meaning. Think of possible prefixes and suffixes. Fill in the gaps. Check the spelling. Read the completed text to check if it makes sense.



## Burglarproof YOUR HOME

Can you imagine anything worse than returning home to find that burglars have broken into your house? 0) *Unfortunately*, this happens to about 1 million people in Britain 1) ..... However, if you want better protection against burglars there are several things you can do. To improve security, check all the locks on your doors and windows. The 2) ..... of lighting all around the house will make sure a burglar is 3) ..... to hide in the shadows. An alarm system is another good 4) ..... measure you can take.

Starting a 5) ..... watch group is also a very 6) ..... way to prevent crime in your area. Since most 7) ..... take place when people are away on holiday, this is when your neighbours' help is most 8) ..... Ask them to collect your mail, open and close your curtains every day, switch your lights on and off and even mow your lawn to make your house look occupied.

FORTUNE  
ANNUAL

INSTALL  
ABLE

PREVENT  
NEIGHBOUR  
EFFECT  
BURGLAR

VALUE

## Key word transformations

- 16** Complete the sentences, using the word in bold. You must use between two and five words, including the word given. Do not change the word in bold.

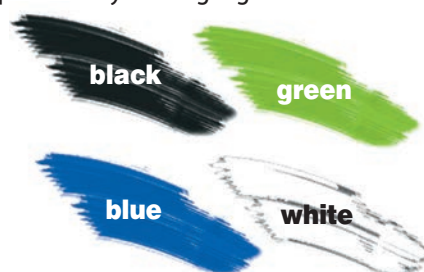
**Tip**

Read the whole sentence, then look at the key word. Try to work out what the question is testing (passive, indirect speech, part of speech, etc). Complete the sentences without changing the word given. Check that you have written two to five words. Also check for spelling.

- 0 Mildred said it was the best film she had ever seen.  
**good** Mildred said she *had never seen such a good* film before.
- 1 I've never seen such a tiny house.  
**ever** It's the ..... seen.
- 2 It's a long time since he last visited us.  
**for** He ..... a long time.
- 3 It's a year since he started working here.  
**been** He ..... a year now.
- 4 His new book will be on the market next March.  
**out** His new book ..... next March.
- 5 Two men forced their way into Sally's flat last night.  
**broke** Two men ..... last night.
- 6 John has a really good relationship with his parents-in-law.  
**gets** John ..... with his parents-in-law.
- 7 A private secretary deals with Dr Williams' correspondence.  
**has** Dr Williams ..... by a private secretary.
- 8 It didn't rain for six months, so there was a water shortage.  
**lack** The water shortage was ..... rain.

## Idioms &amp; Fixed Phrases

- 17** Fill in the correct colour(s). Then explain the phrases formed with the words in bold. Are there similar phrases in your language?



- 1 Sophie goes to the cinema **once in a** ..... **moon**. She doesn't like it much.
- 2 Jack fell down the stairs and he is ..... **and** ..... all over.
- 3 Angela definitely has ..... **fingers** – everything in her garden grows really well.
- 4 He **is a bit** ..... – he hasn't got much experience in this kind of work.
- 5 They knew that if she found out the truth it would hurt her feelings so they told her a **little** ..... **lie**.
- 6 She doesn't want to say anything until she has seen the facts **in** ..... **and** .....

- 18** Underline the correct word, then explain the phrases.

- 1 Ian is very active. He is always **out and about/around**.
- 2 After the argument they both did their best to **clean/** **clear** the air.
- 3 I can't find my keys anywhere – they seem to have **vanished into thin/delicate** air.
- 4 Matt is very determined to buy the cottage. He **won't** **accept/take no for an answer**.
- 5 They wanted to build a holiday resort here, but the owners of those beachfront cottages **refused/denied** to **play ball**.
- 6 They knew they would have to **drive a difficult/hard** **bargain** if they wanted to buy the house at a price they could afford.



# Listening & Speaking skills

**Tip**

- 1 You will hear five different people talking about problems they are having with their houses.

For questions

1-5, choose from the list (A-H) what each speaker says.

Use the letters only once. There are three extra statements which you do not need to use.

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A There is a badly fitting window.  | Speaker 1 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B The central heating doesn't work. | Speaker 2 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C The air conditioner doesn't work. | Speaker 3 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D The roof is leaking.              | Speaker 4 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E The windows are broken.           | Speaker 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F The driveway needs repairing.     |                                    |
| G The door is creaking.             |                                    |
| H There isn't enough space.         |                                    |

- 2 Look at the houses in the pictures and compare them, saying which house would be more suitable for a large family. You can use the expressions below to help you.



Both pictures show ...  
Picture A ... but picture B ...  
Picture A ... . In addition, ...  
Picture B, on the other hand, ...  
Although/While picture A ..., picture B ...



Discuss the following:

- Which house would you like to live in? Give reasons.
- How is your house similar to/ different from the ones in the pictures?
- What problems might you face in each type of house? Think about: noise, neighbours, distance from shops/facilities, space, heating etc.

While picture A shows a detached house with a garden, picture B ...

- 3 a. You are going to hear a woman talking about home safety. Which of these words do you expect to hear and in what context? Listen and check.

- headache • falling • burning • drowning
- choking • toothache • poisoning • scalding
- cutting • electrocution • indigestion

I wouldn't expect to hear the word 'headache'.

I would expect to hear the word 'falling'.

Falling down the stairs is a common household accident.

- b. Listen again and for questions 1-7, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- Marsha Ward**
    - A has written several books.
    - B has personal experience of child safety.
    - C is an expert in home security.
  - Every year, accidents in the home**
    - A are becoming more common.
    - B happen because children stay away from school.
    - C send more than a million children to hospital.
  - Marsha says most accidents in the home**
    - A are caused by carelessness.
    - B need not have happened.
    - C are unavoidable.
  - The majority of home accidents happen to**
    - A young children. B older children. C parents.
  - Children in a bath**
    - A should use a rubber mat.
    - B should never be left unsupervised.
    - C enjoy playing in the water.
  - Where does Marsha think accidents are most likely to happen?**
    - A on the stairs B in the bathroom
    - C in the kitchen
  - According to Marsha, children**
    - A must never play in the kitchen.
    - B should not be allowed in the kitchen.
    - C must be kept away from dangers in the kitchen.
- 4 Look at the pictures of dangers children face at home. In pairs, talk about the danger involved in each situation. Then say what can be done to make houses safer for children. Use the ideas below to help you.



- electrical sockets/hot cookers – safety covers
- chemicals/cleaning products/medicine – locked cupboards
- cupboards & drawers – safety catches on
- swimming pools – guard rails
- staircases – safety gates
- knives/irons – keep out of reach

A: Hot cookers are very dangerous because children can get burnt.

B: That's true. Kids should never be left alone in the kitchen when the cooker is on.



- 5 Mrs Smith who has got four children, has inherited £10,000. In pairs, talk about what home improvements she can make with the money, and decide which would be the best choice for her, and why.



A: She could have her kitchen enlarged to include a dining area, couldn't she?

B: Yes, she's got four children so the extra space would be very useful.

## Deciding on a house

- 6 a. Listen to the dialogue. Where does it take place?
- b. Complete the dialogue, then use the prompts to act out similar dialogues.
- A: How do you 1) ..... it, then?
- B: Well, it's nicely decorated and the garden is lovely, but the kitchen is very 2) .....
- A: That's true. But it is 3) ..... equipped.
- B: And there are only two bedrooms.
- A: Mmm, yes. But we can use the 4) ..... as another bedroom.
- B: I think it will suit our needs. And it's not so expensive, either.
- A: Okay, then. Let's tell the estate agent that we are definitely 5) .....
- nice area (+) • four-bedroomed (+) • a long way from the shops (-)
  - a bus stop nearby (+) • no central heating (-) • log fire (+)
  - well maintained (+) • garden (+) • no garage (-)
  - park on the street (+) • no fence (-) • modern security system (+)

## Requesting services

- 7 a. Listen to the dialogue. Who's worried? Now match the exchanges.

- 1 b Brown & Sons. How can I help you?
- 2 Hello, Ms Smith. What can I do for you?
- 3 What's wrong with it?
- 4 I'll send someone to look at it right away.
- 5 What is your address, please?

- a Well it doesn't lock properly.
- b Hello. My name's Ann Smith.
- c 21, Market Street.
- d I've got a problem with my front door.
- e Thank you, that would be great.

- b. In pairs, use the prompts to make up similar dialogues.

A		B
name of company	→	full name
ask for problem	→	describe the problem
suggest sending sb	→	thank
ask for address	→	give address

## Expressing sympathy

- 8 a. Listen and say what each dialogue is about.
- b. Read the exchanges and underline the phrases that express sympathy.
- 1 A: I'm afraid that the plumber won't be able to come today. He's had a car accident.  
B: How awful! Will he be all right?
- 2 A: Oh, no. I locked myself out!  
B: That's too bad.
- 3 A: The Smiths are going to be evicted.  
B: I'm sorry to hear that.
- c. Work in pairs. Use the phrases to make up dialogues expressing sympathy in the following situations.

### Express sympathy

- How terrible/awful/sad!
- That's terrible/awful/a pity/a shame/too bad!
- You must be very worried/upset.
- I'm (really) sorry about that/ to hear that

- 1 fire in the basement
- 2 an aunt fell down the stairs
- 3 not getting the flat you wanted
- 4 a friend's daughter burnt her hand on the cooker.

## Intonation

- 9 Listen, then, read out the exchanges in pairs.

- A: I have to move out!  
B: That's a shame.
- A: My flat was broken into last night.  
B: I'm sorry to hear that.
- A: I can't afford the rent.  
B: You must be very worried.
- A: My antique table is ruined.  
B: How sad!

# The Charming Past

## Reading

- 1 a. How does the title relate to the pictures?  
b. In what context do you expect to find the following words in the texts?

### Blarney Castle

- tourist attraction • in ruins • battlements
- well-kept grounds • interesting historical site

### Dunnottar Castle

- cliffs • exciting past • the Scottish Crown Jewels
- the strongest fortresses • lodgings • stables
- storehouses • popular with birdwatchers

*Blarney Castle is a famous **tourist attraction**.*

- 2 a. Think of three questions you would like to ask about each castle. Read the texts and see if you can answer them.  
b. Read the texts again and answer the questions. Write **A** (for Blarney Castle) or **B** (for Dunnottar Castle).

Which of the castles ...

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 was used to hide sth precious?                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 has a special stone?                          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 is associated with a famous film star?        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 has something that nobody really understands? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 stands on a cliff?                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- c. Explain the words in **bold**. Which words are similar to words in your language? Where could you read such pieces of writing?  
d. Find the synonyms.

#### Text A

- payment (l. 9)
- endure (l. 13)
- merit (l. 24)

#### Text B

- situated (l. 3)
- deserted (l. 11)
- modern (l. 15)

Ⓐ

## BLARNEY CASTLE

- Eight kilometres north of the city of Cork you will find Blarney Castle, home of the famous Blarney Stone. This stone is traditionally believed to give whoever kisses it the gift of **eloquent** speech. **Built**  
15 **in** 1446 by Dermot McCarthy, King of Munster, Blarney Castle has a **rich history**. It is believed that a past king of Munster sent 4,000 men to help Robert the Bruce win the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. His reward was said to be half of the Stone of Scone,  
20 which was **renamed** the Blarney Stone.

- Blarney Castle today is a very popular tourist attraction although most of it is in ruins. Many **features** remain, though, like the tower and the narrow **spiral** staircases. Visitors who wish to kiss  
15 the stone must climb up a very narrow **winding** staircase to the top of the battlements, then lie on their back and lean slightly over the edge of the tower to reach the stone. Visitors can also enjoy a walk through the beautiful, **well-kept grounds**,  
20 where they will find the Rock Close. This is a mysterious place with ancient stones and trees that were used by the **druids**.

- Blarney Castle is a very interesting historical site and definitely well worth a visit. It is one place you  
25 must not miss if you get the chance to go to Southern Ireland.





B

## DUNNOTTAR CASTLE

Scotland is full of castles, each with its own **myths** and **legends**. One such castle is Dunnottar Castle on Scotland's east coast, 15 miles from the city of Aberdeen. Located on a huge **outcrop** of flat rock with **sheer cliffs** on three sides, it is the perfect place for a **fortress**, and there has been one here since the 13th century.

Dunnottar has a long and **exciting past**. William Wallace, Mary Queen of Scots, King Charles II and the Marquis of Montrose have all played a part in its rich history. The Scottish Crown Jewels, the "Honours of Scotland", were hidden here in the 17th century so that Oliver Cromwell couldn't destroy them.

Dunnottar used to be one of the strongest fortresses in Scotland. However, the castle was abandoned in the 18th century and it fell into **decay** until 1925, when Viscountess Cowdray began repairs. Visitors can see the 14th century keep, which was built by Sir William Keith in 1392 and is still **intact**. There are also **barracks**, **lodgings**, stables and storehouses.

The castle has become a lot more popular in recent years since the site was used as one of the locations for the film "Hamlet" starring Mel Gibson. It is also popular with **birdwatchers** because of its location. Whatever the reason for your visit, it will certainly be memorable.

- 3 a. **THINK!** Which of the two buildings would you most like to visit? Why?
- b. **ICT** Are there any buildings like these in your country? Talk about them. Think about:
- location
  - historical details
  - exterior/interior

### Writing

- 4 **ICT** Collect information, then write a short article for your school magazine about a famous historic building in your country. In the first paragraph, write its *name* and *location*. In the second paragraph, write its *historical details*. In the third paragraph, write a *description of its exterior/interior*. End your article with a *recommendation*. (140-190 words)



# Writing an informal letter/email describing a house for rent



When we write an informal letter/email to a friend describing a house for rent, we can divide it into five paragraphs. We start our letter with ***Dear + our friend's first name.***

In the **first paragraph** we write our **opening remarks** and the **reason** for writing our letter.

In the **second paragraph** we describe the **location** of the house and give details of the **rent**.

In the **third paragraph** we describe the **exterior** of the house (what it is made of, garden, etc).

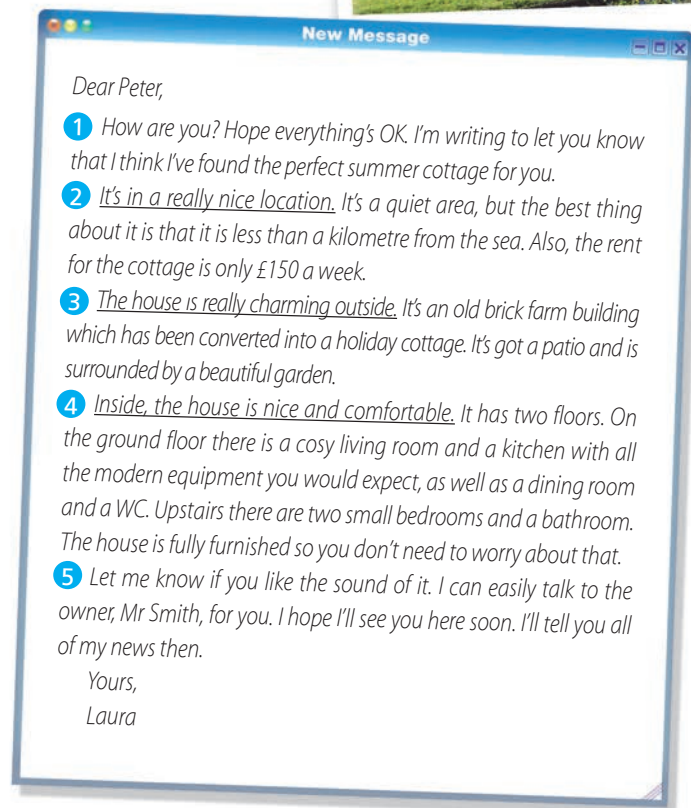
In the **fourth paragraph** we describe the **interior** of the house (e.g. floors, rooms, furniture, special features, etc). We start each main-body paragraph with a topic sentence i.e. a sentence which introduces or summarises the paragraph.

In the **last paragraph** we write our **closing remarks** and sign off using ***Yours, Best wishes, etc + our first name.***

We can use a variety of adjectives to make our descriptions more interesting to the reader.

## Analysing a Model Text

- 2 a. Read the letter and replace the underlined sentences with your own sentences.



## Analysing the Rubric

- 1 Read the rubric, look at the underlined phrases and answer the questions.

Peter has been looking for a summer house to rent on the coast for August. He has asked his friend, Laura, to find a house for him. Laura has found a suitable house and is going to write Peter a letter describing the house and giving rental details (140-190 words).

- Who is going to write a letter? To whom? What is their relationship?
- What style is appropriate?  
formal – to someone in authority  
semi-formal – to someone you do not know very well  
informal – to someone you know very well
- Which of the following would you expect to find in Laura's letter? Tick (✓) accordingly.
  - description of the outside ☐
  - description of the inside ☐
  - location of the house ☐
  - historical details ☐
  - weather conditions ☐
  - rent ☐

- b. Which words/phrases does Laura use to describe the interior/exterior of the house? In which paragraphs does she mention these?

## Style

- c. Study the table, then find examples of informal style in Laura's letter.

### Informal style

- abbreviations e.g. *I've got*
- simple linking words e.g. *but, so, and, etc.*
- shorter sentences e.g. *I'd like to see you*
- personal tone e.g. *I've got some great news*
- everyday expressions e.g. *Thanks a lot.*

### Formal style

- no abbreviations e.g. *I have got*
- formal linking words e.g. *despite*
- longer sentences
- impersonal tone e.g. *passive*
- formal expressions e.g. *I look forward to hearing*

## Opening/Closing Remarks

d. What are Laura's opening and closing remarks?  
Which of the following can you use instead?  
Why can't you use the others?

- a Thanks for your letter.
- b I feel obliged to write to inform you ...
- c Sorry I haven't written for so long.
- d Get in touch with me soon.
- e Looking forward to hearing from you.
- f I look forward to receiving a prompt reply.

## Descriptive Writing

**3** Use the phrases to describe the building where you live.

*thatched, tiled, flat*

roof

*double-glazed, French*

windows

*vegetable, front, back, rose*

garden

*sliding, front, back, glass*

door

*dining, cosy, spare, living, comfortable, spacious*

room

*modern, antique, old fashioned, classic*

furniture

*I live in a detached house. It's got ...*

## Discuss & Write

**4** a. Read the rubric and underline the key words. Then, answer the questions.

- You have received this email from your English-speaking friend, Peter.
- From: Peter
- Subject: Help!
- I want to move to your area and I'm looking for a house to rent. Can you tell me about a house that might be suitable? Then what should I do next?
- Thanks,
- Peter

- 1 What type of writing is it?
- 2 Who is sending the email? What is the relationship between you and the recipient of the email?
- 3 What style is appropriate? Justify.
- 4 What information do you need to include?
- 5 What opening and closing remarks can you use?

b. Listen to the conversation you had with an estate agent and complete the table.

Location	1) ..... Beech Lane, Deighton
Exterior	large 2) ..... at the front; garage
Interior	fully-furnished; upstairs: two bedrooms; a 3) ..... downstairs: bathroom; living room; old 4) .....; dining room; large kitchen
Rent	5) £ ..... a month

c. Use your notes to ask and answer questions, as in the example, then talk about the house.



A: Where is the house located?

B: It is located ...

**5** **Portfolio:** Use the information in Ex. 4b to answer the questions in the plan. Then write your email. You can use the email in Ex. 2a as a model (140-190 words).



Dear (your friend's first name)

## Introduction

(Para 1) opening remarks

## Main Body

(Para 2) Where exactly is the house? How much is the rent?

(Para 3) What is the exterior like? (material, garden, etc)

(Para 4) What is the interior like? How many floors/rooms/furniture?

## Conclusion

(Para 5) What should you do next: give phone number/book it?

closing remarks

Yours,  
your first name

**6** **THINK!** Explain the sentences below in your own words.



A man travels the world over in search of what he needs, and returns home to find it.

George Moore (Irish author/poet)

Strength of character may be learned at work, but beauty of character is learned at home.

Henry Drummond (1851-1897) (Scottish naturalist)