

# Express Publishing **Exam Booster**

Preparation for  
**B2+ Level Exams**

**Student's Book**

Virginia Evans – Jenny Dooley



**Express Publishing**

# CONTENTS

|                        |   |        |
|------------------------|---|--------|
| <b>Module 1</b>        | People .....                                | p. 4   |
| <b>Module 2</b>        | Houses & Homes .....                        | p. 14  |
| <b>Culture I</b>       | Singapore: <i>The Lion City</i> .....       | p. 24  |
| <b>Module 3</b>        | School .....                                | p. 26  |
| <b>Module 4</b>        | Work .....                                  | p. 36  |
| <b>Module 5</b>        | Family & Social Life .....                  | p. 46  |
| <b>Culture II</b>      | Australia: <i>The Land down under</i> ..... | p. 56  |
| <b>Module 6</b>        | Food .....                                  | p. 58  |
| <b>Module 7</b>        | Shops & Services .....                      | p. 68  |
| <b>Module 8</b>        | Travelling & Tourism .....                  | p. 78  |
| <b>Culture III</b>     | Wales: <i>Land of castles</i> .....         | p. 88  |
| <b>Module 9</b>        | Culture .....                               | p. 90  |
| <b>Module 10</b>       | Sports .....                                | p. 100 |
| <b>Module 11</b>       | Health .....                                | p. 110 |
| <b>Culture IV</b>      | South Africa .....                          | p. 120 |
| <b>Module 12</b>       | Science & Technology .....                  | p. 122 |
| <b>Module 13</b>       | The Natural World .....                     | p. 132 |
| <b>Module 14</b>       | State & Society .....                       | p. 142 |
| <b>Culture V</b>       | India .....                                 | p. 152 |
| <b>Speaking Bank</b>   | .....                                       | p. 154 |
| <b>Vocabulary Bank</b> | .....                                       | p. 164 |
| <b>Grammar Section</b> | .....                                       | p. 193 |
| <b>Skills Practice</b> | .....                                       | p. 315 |
| <b>Audioscripts</b>    | .....                                       | p. 322 |

# MODULE 1 People

## Vocabulary Facial features

1 Fill in: *oval, full, fair, puffy, freckled, broad, dark, clear, hollow, pale, thin, spiky, hooked, rosy, upturned, thick, spotty.*

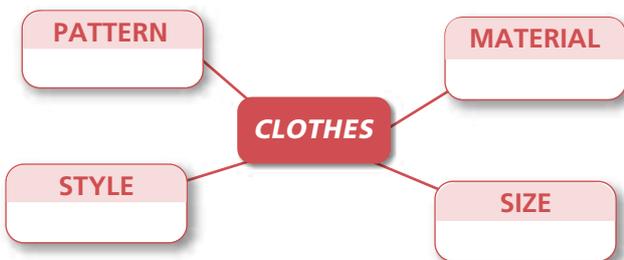
- |         |            |         |        |
|---------|------------|---------|--------|
| 1 ..... | nose       | 5 ..... | lips   |
| 2 ..... | shoulders  | 6 ..... | cheeks |
| 3 ..... | complexion | 7 ..... | hair   |
| 4 ..... | eyes       | 8 ..... | face   |

2 Fill in the gaps with the words *crossed, dropped, flare, purses, raised, shrugged.*

- Mark's jaw ..... when he heard the shocking news.
- If Jane frowns and her nostrils ....., then you know she's angry.
- Having your arms ..... is supposed to show that you are being defensive.
- You can tell that Amy disapproves of something when she ..... her lips.
- I didn't know the answer to the question, so I just ..... my shoulders.
- Mr Jones ..... his eyebrows in surprise when I told him I was moving to France.

3 Use the words in the list to complete the spidergram.

- short • loose • multi-coloured • baggy
- floral • cotton • large • tight-fitting • smart
- polka-dot • woollen • casual • striped
- formal • denim • small • trendy • checked
- linen • over-sized • plain • knitted • long
- leather • high-heeled • polo-neck
- long/short-sleeved



Use words from the spidergram to describe what your classmates are wearing.

## Feelings & emotions

4 a) Match the feelings (1-5) to the physical sensations (a-e). Then make sentences.

| Feelings  | Physical sensations      |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> embarrassed | a tears welling up       |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> anxious                | b adrenalin rush         |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> excited                | c hot, red face          |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> nervous                | d heart pounding         |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> sorrowful              | e butterflies in stomach |

*I was so embarrassed, my face went red.*

b) Label the pictures.

- clench your fists • wink • yawn • bite your nails
- shrug your shoulders • drop your head
- blush • stroke your chin • fold your arms
- scratch your head • cross your legs • frown



5 What possible feelings might someone in your country have when they: *clench their fist? cry? frown? sweat? tap their fingers? tremble?*

*When someone clenches their fist, it usually means that they are angry.*

## Character

6 Match the words (1-10) to the people (a-j) they describe.

|                 |                  |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 conservative  | 5 gullible       | 8 self-righteous |
| 2 impatient     | 6 reliable       | 9 sentimental    |
| 3 moody         | 7 self-confident | 10 sociable      |
| 4 perfectionist |                  |                  |

- a George always wants things to be done without mistakes.
- b Katie loves going out and meeting new people.
- c Angie is very tender-hearted and likes to remember nice moments.
- d Mr Lyons is a trustworthy neighbour.
- e Joe is always in a rush and can never wait for anything.
- f It's easy to play jokes on Elaine; she believes everything you tell her.
- g Mrs Cook hates the idea of anything changing in the world.
- h Chris never has any doubts about himself or what he is capable of.
- i My sister is really temperamental – one minute she's happy and the next she's sad.
- j Sarah is so proud of her beliefs that it annoys everyone who knows her.

7 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- Lucy is a ..... (**passion**) follower of the latest fashion trends.
- David is quite shy and lacks ..... (**confident**) when speaking in front of crowds.
- The boys are so easily ..... (**distract**) that they always get sidetracked from their homework.
- I recognise that boy's face, but I've got no ..... (**recollect**) of meeting him before.
- Chris is a very kind person whose heart is full of good ..... (**intent**).
- Everyone admired Linda for her ..... (**know**) of the subject.

## Emphasising feelings

8 Replace the words in bold with their emphatic synonyms: *miserable, appalled, furious, exhilarated, petrified, devastated*.

- Billy was **scared** when a big dog appeared. ....
- Joanne felt **excited** when she rode her new motorbike for the first time. ....
- Ruth was **shocked** when she saw the dirty hotel room. ....
- Martin's **sad** because he failed his exams. ....
- Harriet's cat is seriously ill and Harriet's **upset**. ....
- I spilled cola all over the new carpet this morning and my mum was **angry**. ....

## Ethical issues

9 Fill in: *future, free, racial, freedom, ill, immigration, will, minorities, human, right, death, security, sexes, growth*.

In the 19th century, you might have said the civilised countries were those which provided 1) ..... education to their children. In the next century equality of the 2) ..... was a big issue, with women fighting for the 3) ..... to vote and the same wages as men, for example. In today's globalised world, perhaps a nation's 4) ..... rate is a good indicator of how well it treats the people within it, as it shows how many people have chosen to live there. Some would say, however, that the amount of 5) ..... discrimination faced by people from ethnic 6) ..... is a better measure of a country's values. There are many more questions we could ask about any modern society. For example, does the state provide enough social 7) ..... for the poor, infirm and the unemployed? Is there 8) ..... of speech that allows people to protest against the government? Do people who are terminally or mentally 9) ..... receive decent healthcare? Is the country taking the right steps to protect the environment for 10) ..... generations? In China, for example, the government allows people to have only one child to try to control its rapid population 11) ..... . Is this a responsible policy, or an infringement of people's 12) ..... rights? There are people who would say that the abolition of the 13) ..... penalty is the best indicator of how civilised a country is. But what if a democratic country puts the issue to the vote and people say yes to a system of state killing for serious criminals? Isn't following the 14) ..... of the people the mark of a civilised society?

# Meet the Lion Whisperer

Every once in a while a courageous person comes along and breaks down established barriers by doing something truly exceptional. They sometimes even manage to change the world by changing the way people think.



## Reading Multiple choice cloze

- 1 Look at the picture and the title of the text. What do you think a lion whisperer is? Read through to find out. How does the picture make you feel?

### Study Skills: Multiple Choice Cloze

Read the text quickly to see what it is about. Read it again sentence by sentence. Pay attention to the words before and after each gap as they will help you decide on your choice. Read the completed text again to see if it makes sense.

Read the text and complete the gaps with the correct option A, B, C or D.

Kevin Richardson is a talented animal **behaviourist** who interacts with some of the wildest animals in a way most of us would never even **1)** ..... . Believe it or not, Kevin cuddles and horseplays with hyenas, leopards, and lions, and even swims with lionesses. In fact, he has **2)** ..... a close relationship with these wild predators that he has earned himself the name 'The Lion Whisperer'.

'The Lion Whisperer' raises and **trains** wild animals in a wildlife conservation area outside Johannesburg in South Africa, but instead of using **whips** and chains to control the animals, Kevin uses love, patience, and trust to develop a special **bond** with them. His **3)** ..... method of getting to know each creature individually has led these normally unfriendly animals to accept him **willingly** into their **pride**.

Kevin says that his secret lies in understanding what makes each animal happy, angry, upset, or irritated, just like a mother with her child. Some people think Kevin is crazy while others **4)** ..... him a hero. What is certain is that his interaction with these animals proves that they have individual characters, can show emotion and are capable of developing a relationship with people.

The Lion Whisperer is **5)** ..... of the dangers involved in his work. Having learnt his lesson years ago when an aggressive four-year-old lion attacked and **mauled** him, Kevin says he uses his gut feeling to **gauge** situations and decide whether to approach an animal or not. Kevin has been bitten and scratched numerous times while playing around with these animals, but he believes that it was never **malicious** on their behalf and accepts it as part of the job. Kevin's unconventional method has attracted attention from around the world, including that of scientists and film directors. He has recently completed a film about the lions he works with entitled *White Lion: Home is a Journey*, which he hopes will **6)** ..... by a large number of people and will raise awareness of the need to protect these **majestic** creatures.

- 2 Read the rubric and do the task. Which words helped you decide?

- |              |              |                |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1 A perceive | 3 A single   | 5 A knowing    |
| B realise    | B unique     | B aware        |
| C imagine    | C only       | C familiar     |
| D suppose    | D alone      | D informed     |
| 2 A so       | 4 A consider | 6 A being seen |
| B much       | B view       | B to see       |
| C too        | C regard     | C be seen      |
| D such       | D hold       | D to be seen   |

### 3 Read the text again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why is Kevin Richardson called 'The Lion Whisperer'?
- 2 How does Kevin bond with the animals?
- 3 What is special about his method?
- 4 What conclusions about lions can we draw from Kevin's work?
- 5 What does Kevin hope to achieve by his work?

### 4 Match the words in bold in the text to their synonyms: *obstacles, relationship, judge, nasty, teaches, group of lions, injured, psychologist, dignified, readily, lashes*. What part of speech is each?

### 5 Choose the correct word.

- 1 To gain the animals' trust, he **deals/treats** them with respect.
- 2 He has a very **close/attached** relationship with the lioness.
- 3 Kevin aims to **rise/raise** awareness of the need to protect the animals.
- 4 You need patience if you want to **tie/bond** with a wild animal.
- 5 The lions would never attack and **sting/bite** him.

### 6 Fill in: *truly, attract, willingly, feeling, barriers, earn, lies, unconventional*. Make sentences about Kevin using the completed phrases.

- 1 to break down .....
- 2 ..... exceptional
- 3 to ..... himself a name
- 4 to accept sb .....
- 5 the secret ..... in
- 6 gut .....
- 7 ..... method
- 8 to ..... attention

### 7 Tell the class three things you have learnt from the text.

### 8 **Think!** Would you like to do Kevin Richardson's job? In three minutes write a few sentences. Tell the class.

### 9 **ICT** Find out more about Kevin Richardson's work. Visit his website and click on 'about'. Takes notes. Present them to the class.

## Listening True/False statements

### 10 Read the rubric and the sentences, then do the listening task.

Listen to a specialist talking about training pets. Mark the statements (1-5) *T* (true), or *F* (false).

- 1 Animal and human psychologists use similar methods.
- 2 Training methods used on animals in the past differ from those of today.
- 3 Dogs seldom obey when they feel their trainer is in charge.
- 4 A good pet psychologist would not use the same approach on a horse as they would on a cat.
- 5 Pets often develop bad behaviour for no reason whatsoever.

| True | False |
|------|-------|
|      |       |
|      |       |
|      |       |
|      |       |
|      |       |

## Speaking Dialogue

### 11 Read the rubric and do the task in pairs. Use the language in the box.

You and your friend are planning to buy another friend a small pet for their birthday. You have different ideas about which pet would be suitable and easiest to look after. Discuss your ideas and reach a consensus.

- 1 Give your ideas and arguments.
- 2 Find out your partner's ideas and arguments.
- 3 Try to persuade your partner to accept your ideas.
- 4 Try to reach a compromise.

## Useful Language

### Making suggestions

Why don't we buy ... ? How about buying ... ?  
 Why don't we ... ? We could ...  
 I think we should ...

### Agreeing/Disagreeing

- I guess you're right. That's a good idea.
- I don't quite agree with you.
- I don't think this is a good idea.
- That's not a bad idea.

## Use of English Tenses

- I've never met such a friendly girl.  
**She's the most friendly girl I've ever met.**
- I've never given a speech before.  
**It's the first time I've ever given a speech.**
- It's a long time since she wrote to me.  
**She hasn't written to me for a long time.**
- She came to England two years ago.  
**She has been in England for two years.**
- The last time I spoke to him was a month ago.  
**I haven't spoken to him for a month.**
- How long ago did he get married?  
**How long is it since he got married?**
- He hasn't found a job yet.  
**He still hasn't found a job.**
- She started dyeing her hair a few months ago.  
**She's been dyeing her hair for a few months.**

### 1 Complete the sentences using the word in bold. Use two to five words.

- It's a long time since he last visited grandpa.  
**FOR** He .....  
..... a long time.
- How long ago did he meet his wife-to-be?  
**SINCE** How long .....  
..... his wife-to-be?
- She has never been to a funeral before.  
**EVER** It's the first time .....  
..... to a funeral.
- The last time he had a haircut was three months ago.  
**HAD** He .....  
..... for three months.
- They got married last year.  
**BEEN** They .....  
..... for a year.
- I've never met such an argumentative person before.  
**MOST** He is the .....  
..... ever met.
- She hasn't lost any weight yet.  
**STILL** She .....  
..... any weight.
- He started working for a company three months ago.  
**BEEN** He .....  
..... a company for three months.
- They are the most devoted parents I've ever seen.  
**NEVER** I .....  
..... devoted parents.
- How long is it since you moved house?  
**AGO** How .....  
..... house?

### • Lexicogrammatical word transformations

### 2 Complete the sentences using the word in bold. Use two to five words.

- Karen isn't similar to her mother.  
**AFTER** Karen .....  
..... her mother.
- I lost touch with Ben after I moved house.  
**TALKED** I .....  
..... since I moved house.
- She didn't start crying until everyone had left.  
**BEFORE** She waited until everyone .....  
..... into tears.
- You should have asked for your friends' advice.  
**PITY** What .....  
ask for your friends' advice.
- Those trousers are not very fashionable any more.  
**FASHION** Those trousers .....  
..... for quite some time.
- My parents' 20th anniversary is in September.  
**HAVE** This September my parents .....  
..... 20 years.
- As he gets older, he becomes more caring.  
**THE** The .....  
caring he becomes.
- Jane described the burglar's appearance in detail.  
**DESCRIPTION** Jane .....  
..... the burglar's appearance.
- It was wrong of her to reveal his secret.  
**GIVEN** She shouldn't .....  
..... his secret.
- He can't decide whether to accept the offer or not.  
**MIND** He can't .....  
..... whether to accept the offer or not.
- He was in his late forties when he decided to take up writing professionally.  
**BECOME** He didn't .....  
..... he was in his late forties.
- Considering that she's so young, Mary is very mature.  
**AGE** For .....  
....., Mary is very mature.
- David used to play the guitar, but he doesn't any more.  
**GIVEN** David .....  
..... the guitar.
- Laura didn't know any of the people at the party.  
**NOBODY** There .....  
..... at the party.
- You can buy very cheap birthday cards in this shop.  
**NOTHING** It costs .....  
..... birthday gifts in this shop.

• **Word formation**

**3** Read the text and complete the gaps by putting the verbs in brackets in the appropriate form.

What do Elizabeth I, Napoleon, Thomas Jefferson and Winston Churchill all have in common? Well, apart from the fact that they were four of the most renowned **0)** *leaders* in world history, they were also all 'redheads'! Red hair is the rarest **1)** ..... hair colour in humans and today only around 1% of the world's **2)** ..... is redheaded. Throughout history, **3)** ..... have always been fascinated by people with red hair. For example, Botticelli depicted the goddess Venus with red hair in his **4)** ..... painting *The Birth of Venus*. In modern times, red hair has even become a fashion trend, with many people choosing to dye their hair red. On the other hand, **5)** ..... in Britain, redheaded people continue to be the victims of **6)** ..... Redheaded schoolchildren are often called **7)** ..... names and even some redheaded adults claim to have suffered bullying in the workplace. Most people think that joking about redheads is **8)** ..... fun, but redheaded Britons can sometimes get upset when they are teased about their hair.

LEAD

NATURE

POPULATE

ART

FAME

PARTICULAR

DISCRIMINATE

OFFENCE

HARM

**Multiple choice cloze**

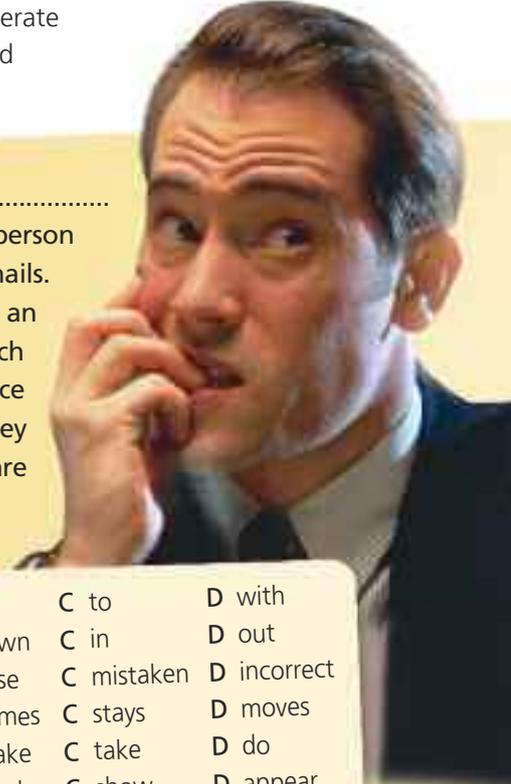
**5** Read the text and choose the correct answer.

Many people claim to be able to know when someone is lying. According **1)** ..... popular belief, all you have to do is look at a person's body language; when a person is lying he becomes nervous and fidgety, touches his nose, and bites his nails. However, a researcher at Portsmouth University, England, has arrived at an entirely different conclusion. Dr Samantha Mann carried **2)** ..... research on the behaviour of suspects who had given **3)** ..... statements in police interviews. Mann discovered that liars actually stay quite still. This is because they are aware that people are looking for body language that could suggest they are lying. Therefore, liars actually touch their noses 20% less than people who tell the truth. The same **4)** ..... for eye contact. While it is generally thought that liars avoid eye contact and blink rapidly, in reality, people who are lying **5)** ..... sure to maintain eye contact and control their blinking. With the findings of her research in mind, Mann claims that the best way to spot a liar is to look for people who are trying too hard to **6)** ..... truthful.

• **Lexical multiple choice items**

**4** Choose the correct answer.

- My teacher feels ..... of my getting good grades in the final exams.  
A safe B confident C secure D definite
- Does she ..... believe that I'll help her after the way she spoke to me?  
A seriously C steadily  
B genuinely D earnestly
- Peter couldn't utter a(n) ..... word after he learnt he had won the award.  
A single B particular C only D unique
- I know ..... how John felt when he scored the winning goal for his team.  
A distinctly C particularly  
B essentially D exactly
- Jason felt tired and ..... after working out all afternoon.  
A weary B restless C angry D soothed
- He treats the ..... customers with respect.  
A plain B regular C primary D normal
- Parents have to ..... a good example for their kids.  
A set B place C show D put
- Karen constantly ..... about her children.  
A annoys B bothers C disturbs D worries
- We ..... her for her sister.  
A misunderstood C confused  
B mistook D misinterpreted
- His rudeness could ..... to him being dismissed.  
A raise B generate  
C lead D build

- 
- |   |         |           |            |             |
|---|---------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| 1 | A from  | B by      | C to       | D with      |
| 2 | A up    | B down    | C in       | D out       |
| 3 | A wrong | B false   | C mistaken | D incorrect |
| 4 | A goes  | B comes   | C stays    | D moves     |
| 5 | A keep  | B make    | C take     | D do        |
| 6 | A view  | B display | C show     | D appear    |

## Writing A descriptive essay about a person

A **descriptive essay about a person** is an essay in which we describe someone. It consists of:

- an **introduction** in which we state who the person is, as well as when, where, and how we first met them.
- a **main body** consisting of three paragraphs in which we describe their physical appearance, personal qualities, and hobbies and interests.
- a **conclusion** in which we give our general comments and express how we feel about the person. We mainly use the **present simple** tense when describing a person we know or see. When describing a person who we do not see any more or who is no longer alive, we use the **past simple** tense.

Descriptions of people can be found in narratives, articles, letters, etc and the writing style depends on the context and the audience. The style in essays should be formal.

### Notes:

- When we describe someone's **physical appearance**, we start with the general features (*i.e. height, build, age*) and move on to the more specific ones (*e.g. nose, eyes, hair, etc*). *Peter is a tall, well-built man in his late thirties. He has got short curly brown hair, blue eyes and a small nose.*
- When we describe someone's **personal qualities**, we should support our description with examples or details. When we talk about a person's **negative qualities**, we should use mild language (*e.g. seems to, can be ... at times*). *John's very friendly. He behaves in a pleasant way and likes to be with other people. He can be impatient at times. For example, he gets really annoyed when he has to wait for someone.*

### 1 Read the rubric and answer the questions.

An international teenage magazine is running an essay writing competition. Write an essay (200-250 words) about a person you know who has impressed or influenced you. Describe their appearance, personality, hobbies and interests and explain how they have impressed or influenced you.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Who is going to read your essay?  | 5 Which of the following should you use? |
| 2 What style should you use?  | A a variety of adjectives                |
| 3 What tenses should you use?   | B linking words                          |
| 4 Which of the following people should you not write about: <i>a teacher? a relative? a pop star?</i> | C colloquial expressions                 |

### 2 Read the model essay. Which paragraph:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 describes the person's character?           | 4 describes your feelings for the person? |
| 2 describes the person's physical appearance? | 5 describes the person's interests?       |
| 3 describes how you met the person?           |   |

1 I first met Coach Andrews when I joined the local sports club when I was only sixteen years old. He has been an inspiration to me ever since.

2 Coach Andrews is tall, well-built and very strong. He is in his mid-forties with short dark hair and bright blue eyes and he has got a very nice smile. Coach Andrews usually wears very casual clothes such as tracksuits, or jeans and T-shirts and trainers.

3 Coach Andrews is very energetic and outgoing and is always running around doing various things. He is an excellent coach. He is hard-working, good-natured and patient and he is very good at motivating athletes. He is also very friendly and loves meeting new people and he is great at cheering people up. However, he can be a bit tough and insensitive at times. For example, he doesn't hesitate to criticise athletes when they do something wrong or if he thinks they are being lazy.

4 It goes without saying that Coach Andrews is a fan of most sports and spends most of his time coaching tennis and squash. He also plays a lot of sport himself. He particularly likes watersports and often goes windsurfing and kite surfing.

5 In conclusion, I think Mr Andrews is a fantastic person and I am delighted to have him as my coach. He has helped me become a great basketball player and continues to inspire me to work at my game. He is a great person that I deeply respect and admire.



**3** Read the essay again. List all the adjectives used to describe appearance and character.

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Appearance | <i>tall</i> |
| Character  |             |

**4** Match the character adjectives to the definitions. Use them to talk about people you know.

- |                             |           |   |                                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/>  | cheerful  | a | doesn't like working            |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/>  | outgoing  | b | doesn't talk or act politely    |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/>  | popular   | c | tells people what to do         |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/>  | sensitive | d | likes to spend time with people |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/>  | generous  | e | everyone likes them             |
| 6 <input type="checkbox"/>  | patient   | f | doesn't like to share things    |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/>  | selfish   | g | is always happy & enthusiastic  |
| 8 <input type="checkbox"/>  | lazy      | h | doesn't mind waiting            |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/>  | rude      | i | likes to give things to people  |
| 10 <input type="checkbox"/> | bossy     | j | can be easily hurt              |

*My friend Jenny is a cheerful person who is always happy and enthusiastic.*

**5** Complete the descriptions using the adjectives: *intelligent, ambitious, amusing, polite, impatient, kind-hearted, sociable, talkative.*

- Mary is so ..... She never stops chatting.
- Enya is a very ..... lady. She takes care of the old people on her street.
- David is always ..... and treats everyone with respect.
- Diana is extremely ..... and will do anything to succeed.
- Charlie is the most ..... guy I know. He can make anyone laugh.
- I don't think anyone is more ..... than Martin. He gets straight As in all his subjects.
- Liam is very ..... and likes going out and meeting new people.
- Mrs Green is very ..... and loses her temper when she has to wait for something.

**6** Fill in with *good, well* or *kind*. Check in your dictionaries.

- |         |          |         |           |
|---------|----------|---------|-----------|
| 1 ..... | -built   | 5 ..... | -dressed  |
| 2 ..... | -hearted | 6 ..... | -mannered |
| 3 ..... | -looking | 7 ..... | -behaved  |
| 4 ..... | -natured | 8 ..... | -humoured |

Use the phrases in sentences of your own.

*My uncle is well-built. He's very strong and has large muscles.*



• **Your turn**

**7** Read the rubric and answer the questions.

Your teacher has asked you to write an essay describing your best friend. Write your essay (200-250 words) describing your best friend's appearance, personality, hobbies and interests, and say how you feel about them.

- Who is your best friend?
- What do they look like?
- What kind of person are they?
- What are their interests and hobbies?
- Why do you like them so much?

**8** Use your answers from Ex. 7 and phrases from the Useful Language box to write your essay. Follow the plan below.

### Plan

- (Para 1) *name, where/when you met*
- (Para 2) *appearance*
- (Para 3) *personality*
- (Para 4) *hobbies/interests*
- (Para 5) *your feeling and comments about him/her*

### Useful Language

- I first met ...
- ... has been my close friend for ...

#### Appearance

- ... is quite good-looking/attractive, etc.
- ... tall and slim with blue eyes and fair hair.

#### Character

- ... is very outgoing.
- ... is always friendly and loves ...
- ... has a great sense of humour.
- ... but can be aggressive/lazy/bossy, etc at times.

#### Feelings

- ... is very special to me.
- It's a pleasure to be with ...
- I am glad to have ... as my friend.

# 1

## Reading Missing sentences

- 1 a) Describe your personality to the class using as many adjectives as you can.
  - b) How many types of personalities do you think there are? Read the text and find out.
- 2 Read the text again and for each gap choose from the sentences A-I the one which best fits each gap 1-6. There are two extra sentences.



## Just the four of us

If we are all so unique, why is it that we are always trying to sort people by personality type? From the beginning of time, man has been putting people into **categories** by analysing their similarities and differences; and the number and variety of classifications of personality types is impressive to say the least.

[0] **D** This theory has its roots in antiquity and is based on the four natural elements, earth, air, fire and water. Over time, various forms of this basic theory developed. The ancient Greek physician Hippocrates believed that human emotions were caused by **fluids** in the body, which he called 'humours'. According to him these humours were responsible for the health and personality of an individual. [1] He suggested the sanguines, for example, had an excess of blood, were **extrovert** and made friends easily, but were often late, forgetful, and sometimes sarcastic. This theory achieved great success and dominated Western thinking for over two thousand years until the 1700s, when physicians **proposed** the idea that people's **moods** were affected by chemicals in the blood. Despite the decline in **popularity** of the theory of fluids, a large number of modern-day experts believe in the idea of four types of personality. [2] Nowadays, the sanguines are known as extroverts, but they actually **retain** much of the same characteristics described by Hippocrates. They are **outgoing** and energetic and love to party, but are not punctual, can be **messy** or **disorganised**, and prone to carelessness. Another modern-day category that many psychologists use is the analytical type, or what some of us refer to as the 'gadget-man'. The analytical personality is the one who likes to have every 'i' dotted and every 't' crossed. Punctuality and order is of **prime** importance to them. [3] However, they tend to think too much and can be **gloomy** and irritable at times. A very common **label** given to another

group of people is the dominant or pragmatic type. As the name suggests, the dominant personality type is self-confident and authoritarian. [4] They are hands-on people and like to get the job done. Finally, there is the **amiable** type who loves peace and quiet and will do anything to avoid conflict and arguments. [5] They are **loyal**, **trustworthy** and helpful and find it very hard to say no. Studying personality types may not be a pure science [6] We all have various strengths and qualities and are valuable members of society. Putting people into categories may not always seem very wise but at the same time it does develop an understanding of different characters and shows that everyone should be **treated** with care and respect.

- A In fact, to a large extent, only the names given to the categories have changed.
- B The four personality types share some characteristics, though.
- C They are rarely ambitious because they tend to put others first far too often.
- D One of the most commonly followed methods of classification divides humans into four groups based on our **temperaments**.
- E They are neat and organised and have enormous self-discipline.
- F Studying personalities isn't the easiest of tasks.
- G However, it may help us appreciate our differences.
- H They might listen to others' opinions out of courtesy but they like to do things their own way.
- I He divided them into four categories: choleric, sanguine, melancholic, and phlegmatic.

**3** Match the words in bold in the text to their synonyms: *dispositions, put forward, keep, characters, favour, title, types, foremost, liquids, handled.*

**4** Match the highlighted words in the text to their antonyms: *shy, tidy, cheerful, unfriendly, unfaithful, introvert, unreliable, organised.*

**5** Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the list: *affect, avoid, dominate, achieve, propose, retain, know, treat.*

- 1 Certain personalities will always try ..... and control others.
- 2 In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, a new theory ..... a lot of success.
- 3 The new theory still ..... some of the old ideas.
- 4 It is very important ..... people with respect, regardless of their weaknesses.
- 5 Is it true that chemicals in the blood ..... people's moods?
- 6 Amiable people ..... conflicts.
- 7 Hippocrates ..... the idea that moods were caused by fluids in the body.
- 8 People who put others first are ..... as amiable personality types.

**6** Tell the class three things you have learnt from the text.

**7** **Think!** Why do you think the study of personalities is important to so many people? Can you think of any practical uses for it? In three minutes write a few sentences on the topic. Tell the class.

**8** **ICT** Which of the four personality types are you? Visit this site: <http://www.allthetests.com>, type the four temperaments into the search bar and then do the quiz.

## Listening Multiple choice

- 9**  You will hear people speaking in four different situations. Listen and choose the best answer, A, B, or C.
- 1 Two friends are talking about an event. How does the girl feel about it?  
A sad                      B scared                      C shocked
  - 2 Listen to a girl talking on the telephone. Why is she complaining about her sister?  
A she's moody                      C she's impatient  
B she's unreliable
  - 3 You are in a clothes shop. Which does the customer want?  
A a short skirt                      C a long dress  
B a pair of shorts
  - 4 Listen to a girl describing a friend. What does she like?  
A pale complexion                      C rosy cheeks  
B freckled nose

## Speaking Role-play

- 10** a) Read the rubric, then brainstorm for ideas under the headings in the rubric (e.g. *character strengths: kind, funny etc.*).

You are at an English summer school. Discuss with your friend a famous singer or musician you really admire. Include the four pieces of information below in your conversation.

negative qualities

character strengths

appearance

reasons you like them

- b)  Listen to two people doing the task. Which person are they talking about? Have all the points in the rubric been covered? What objections does the schoolfriend raise and how are they dealt with?
- c) In pairs, use your ideas from Exs. 10a and 10b to do the task.

## Quotations

*Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it, the tree is the real thing.*

Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa  
(1994-1999)

# MODULE 2 Houses & Homes

## Vocabulary Rooms & furniture

1 a) Match the furniture from the list to the correct number. Describe the photographs.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> gilt-framed mirror | <input type="checkbox"/> bedside cabinet  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> crystal vase       | <input type="checkbox"/> wall cabinet     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> glass coffee table | <input type="checkbox"/> built-in shelves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> striped rug        | <input type="checkbox"/> draped curtains  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> mantelpiece        | <input type="checkbox"/> French windows   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> blinds             | <input type="checkbox"/> fireplace        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tiled floor        | <input type="checkbox"/> headboard        |



b) Compare your living room to the one in photograph A.

2 Fill in: *built-in, central, double, private, alarm, entrance, spiral*.

- We have a real fire in the living room, but the rest of the house has ..... heating installed.
- There are ..... wardrobes with sliding doors in both bedrooms.
- ..... glazing in all the windows ensures the house stays warm and quiet.
- Just wait in the ..... hall and I'll come downstairs to help you with your bags.
- You should install a(n) ..... system to improve home security.
- We don't need a garage as we've got ..... parking in our street.
- There's a(n) ..... staircase that takes you up to the roof garden.

3 a) Complete Anne's description of her dream home with the correct form of the words in brackets.

My dream home would be a villa by the sea. It would be a **1) (peace)** ..... place where I could relax. The house would be very **2) (space)** ....., so I'd have enough room for all my **3) (style)** ..... furniture. It would also have a **4) (build)** ..... -in kitchen with every **5) (electric)** ..... appliance I could ever need. There would be a bright, **6) (air)** ..... living room with a fireplace and a huge bookcase. The bedrooms would have **7) (wood)** ..... floors and French windows. My dream home would never be **8) (mess)** ..... . I would also have a huge garden full of flowers, where I could unwind by doing some gardening.

b) Compare Anne's dream house to your dream house.

## Types of homes

4 Fill in: *mansion, studio, loft, bedsit, prefab house, basement, maisonette, mobile home, penthouse*.

- Mr Stephens is a wealthy man who lives in a huge ..... in the countryside.
- The most expensive property in the building is the ..... because of its spectacular view of the city.
- Jeff spends all his holidays at his ..... on the coast and he plans to live there in his old age.
- None of my rooms get much sunlight because I live in a ..... flat.
- The kitchen and bedroom in Gemma's flat used to be separate but she decided to turn it into a .....
- June wanted something bigger than a flat but couldn't afford a house, so she bought a ..... in a nice building.
- Richard likes to tell people his home was built in a factory and then explain that it's a .....
- The only place to rent I can find for less than £50 a week is a tiny .....
- In London many old industrial buildings are being converted into ..... apartments.

## 5 Fill in: *do, get, clean, move*.

- We'll have to ..... up the mess before the new tenants arrive.
- You can ..... into your flat on Sunday.
- Unfortunately, we don't ..... on with our neighbours.
- Our new place is really bare at the moment, but once we ..... it up, it'll become quite cosy.

## Renting a flat

### 6 Fill in: *landlord/landlady, flatmate, estate agent, tenant*.

- I agreed to meet the ..... at the flat at 3 pm on Tuesday to view it.
- The ..... is raising the rent by £30 from next month.
- The ad says the ..... can't have pets.
- I need to speak to my new ..... about the mess he makes in the bathroom every day.

### 7 Choose the correct preposition.

- I live in a lovely place **on/at** the outskirts of the city.
- We saw some really nice loft conversions **in/on** the heart of the city.
- She rents a bedsit close **from/to** the centre.
- I found an apartment that's **within/with** walking distance of the train station.
- We found a fully-furnished flat **in/on** the suburbs.

### Useful phrases

### 8 Complete the exchanges with: *give a month's notice, fall behind on the rent, be paid in advance, let the flat, signed the lease*.

- A: The first two months' rent must .....  
.....  
B: No problem. Can I write you a cheque?
- A: What do you think will happen if I .....  
..... again?  
B: The landlord might evict you.
- A: I decided to rent the flat in Kent Street.  
B: Congratulations! Have you .....  
..... yet?
- A: The landlord won't .....  
to us for 6 months.  
B: Yes, most leases are for a 12-month period.
- A: You must .....  
when you decide to leave the flat.  
B: OK, I'll be sure to do that.

## Buying & selling property

### 9 Fill in: *rate, offer, detached, form, mortgage, price, credit*.

- A:** Good morning, Mr Lawrence. How can I help you?  
**B:** Well, I'd like to ask some questions about how I can take out a(n) **1)** ..... for a house I want to buy. It's a two-storey **2)** ..... house in Kent Street.  
**A:** OK. And what price is the property?  
**B:** Well, it's £300,000, but I hope I can negotiate the **3)** ..... and get a better deal.  
**A:** Yes, that's a good idea. I think you should make a(n) **4)** ..... of around £275,000 and see what happens.  
**B:** And what interest **5)** ..... could you offer me for the mortgage?  
**A:** Well, you would have to fill in a(n) **6)** ..... for us to check your **7)** ..... history, but generally we can offer you an interest rate of around 5%.  
**B:** That sounds like a very reasonable offer.  
**A:** I hope so, Mr Lawrence.

### 10 a) Jane and Greg are trying to sell their property online. Fill in the gaps with the correct words from the list.

- suburbs • condition • amenities • centrally
- off-street • block • central

### Property for Sale One-bedroomed flat in North London – £150,000

The flat is on the second floor of a modern **1)** ..... of flats in the northern **2)** ..... of London. Although it isn't **3)** ..... located, it is close to local **4)** ....., such as a supermarket and a fitness centre. Residents of the building have **5)** ..... parking. The flat includes features such as **6)** ..... heating and a balcony with great views of the River Thames. The flat is in very good **7)** ..... Should you like to view the property, call 097-3232346.



### b) Write an advert for your house similar to the one in Ex. 10.

## Reading Missing sentences

- 1 Describe your house to the class. Try to be as detailed as possible.

*I live in a flat on the third floor of a huge block of flats. There are ... rooms in my house. The living room is ...*

Read the text, from which seven sentences have been removed. Match the sentences (A-I) to the gaps (1-6) so that the text makes a coherent and logical whole. There are two extra sentences that do not match any gap.



## Go with the flow! Go with Feng Shui!

### Using an ancient art to make a happy home.

Feng shui (pronounced fung shway) is an ancient Chinese **philosophy** based on the belief that we are surrounded by a **constant** flow of life-giving energy, called chi, that directly affects how we feel and act. It **promotes** the idea that by understanding and organising the environment in which we live, we can invite health, happiness, and **harmony** into our lives. Feng shui home decorating **revolves around** the theory that by designing and arranging the space in which we live, we can create a balanced and harmonious flow of energy and consequently improve our lives.

**0 F** It is map of feng shui, which is used to evaluate our living space. The ba-gua is an octagon-shaped map divided into eight sections corresponding to the main areas of life such as health, family, money and career. **1** At the centre of the ba-gua is the Earth, which represents unity and you. According to feng shui, the objects within the different areas affect how the energy flows through the home and they can be moved and re-arranged to bring about positive change.

To know whether your home has good feng shui, place the ba-gua over a plan of the house to see if they match. **2** For example, if the **prosperity** area doesn't fit or doesn't cover any space in your house, it could explain why you are having financial problems or are simply not good with money. Don't **panic** though! **3** In this case, feng shui says that by adding a large mirror to the room you can extend its space into the missing area. Adding lights or chimes can also help create positive energy in this direction

and consequently improve finances in your life.

Feng shui is all about creating a balanced and harmonious flow of energy around your home. **4** In feng shui, the centre of the house affects all other areas and is **essential** to maintaining good health. Keep this area clear of clutter because too many objects in the one place can create a **barrier** and prevent energy from flowing freely around the building. Positioning of items in an appropriate place is of **utmost** importance. You should place chairs and sofas to face doors and have an even number of chairs around a dining table as even numbers bring good luck. **5** In the bedroom, never sleep with your feet facing directly in line with the door. This is called the 'coffin position'. When it comes to the kitchen, never place the cooker directly opposite the sink as this causes the elements of fire and water to clash and result in family arguments. **6**

In fact, in most cases you only need to make a few **subtle** changes in your home in order to achieve positive results and improve your life in many ways.

- A Never leave only one standing alone in a room, as it is a symbol of loneliness.
- B You won't have to move house as there are, more often than not, simple solutions to the problem.
- C They are spatially represented by the different living spaces in your home.
- D The map should contain all the sections in the house.
- E If not, you will need to move the furniture around.
- F One of the most important **concepts** of feng shui is ba-gua.
- G It is very important to feng shui philosophy.
- H Finally, placing flowers and candles as well as mirrors and chimes around the house can greatly improve the positive flow of energy.
- I How you decorate your space is **vital** to your well-being.

2 Do the reading task. Which words helped you decide? Now, explain the highlighted words.

3 Find words in the text which mean:

- |                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1 influence                   | ..... |
| 2 in good and even proportion | ..... |
| 3 measure the value of        | ..... |
| 4 not present                 | ..... |
| 5 keep at same state or level | ..... |
| 6 stop from doing             | ..... |

4 *Clean* or *clear*? Complete the phrases. Check in your dictionaries.

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 ..... environment | 5 ..... conscience   |
| 2 ..... sky         | 6 ..... argument     |
| 3 ..... break       | 7 ..... voice        |
| 4 ..... air         | 8 ..... instructions |

5 Choose the correct preposition.

- We are surrounded **of/by** energy.
- Her life revolves **around/about** her children.
- The building is divided **in/into** four sections.
- The different sections are represented **by/of** various symbols.
- Changing the position of an object can bring **about/up** change.
- The arrangement of certain objects can result **to/in** family arguments.

6 **Think!** Tell the class three things you have learnt from the text.

7 **Think!** Which feng shui ideas have you already put into practice in your home? Which ones are you planning to use? In three minutes, write a few sentences. Tell the class.

8 **ICT** In groups collect more information about feng shui. Present it to the class.

## Listening True/False statements

9  Do the listening task.

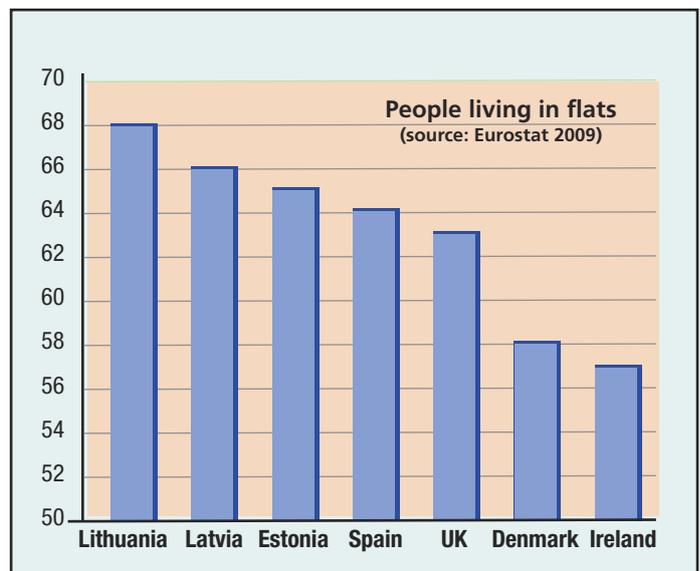
You will hear a radio interview about home decorating. Mark the statements (1-5) *T* (true), or *F* (false).

- The interviewer is unfamiliar with the word 'Zen'.
- Zen designers try to make a home as quiet as possible.
- One important factor in arranging a Zen-style home is the usefulness of objects.
- The interviewer says bamboo furniture is fashionable.
- Zen style involves the use of bright colours in the home.

|   | True | False |
|---|------|-------|
| 1 |      |       |
| 2 |      |       |
| 3 |      |       |
| 4 |      |       |
| 5 |      |       |

## Speaking Monologue

10 Look at the graph. Interpret the data and answer the questions below.



- How does Lithuania compare to other EU countries with regard to the percentage of population living in flats? Explain.
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a house or a flat?
- Do you prefer to live in a flat or a house? Give reasons.

## Use of English **Infinitive/Gerund/ Participles**

- It is exciting to live in the city centre.  
**Living in the city centre** is exciting.
- This room is too small to fit a double bed into.  
**This room isn't spacious enough** to fit a double bed into.
- She made him do the washing-up.  
**He was made to do** the washing-up.
- I prefer living in the country to living in a city.  
I prefer **to live in the country rather than (in)** a city.
- Could you turn the heating on?  
**Would you mind turning** the heating on?
- They were amazed at the luxury of the hotel.  
The luxury of the hotel **was amazing**.
- She had difficulty (in) paying the rent.  
**She found it difficult to pay** the rent.
- They let tenants use the common gardens.  
**Tenants are allowed to** use the common gardens.

### 1 Complete the sentences using the word in bold. Use two to five words.

- 1 They let residents use the parking spaces free of charge.  
**ALLOWED** Residents .....  
the parking spaces free of charge.
- 2 Could you change the light bulb?  
**MIND** Would .....  
the light bulb?
- 3 Converting the loft into a studio flat was expensive.  
**CONVERT** It was expensive .....  
a studio flat.
- 4 He prefers growing plants to growing trees.  
**GROW** He prefers to .....  
trees.
- 5 John's mother makes him tidy up his room.  
**MADE** John .....  
his room by his mother.
- 6 She found it difficult to pay off the mortgage.  
**DIFFICULTY** She .....  
the mortgage.
- 7 The Skyscraper Museum in New York was fascinating.  
**FASCINATED** They .....  
the Skyscraper Museum in New York.
- 8 This wooden armchair is too uncomfortable to sit in.  
**ENOUGH** This wooden armchair .....  
sit in.

### • *Lexicogrammatical word transformations*

### 2 Complete the sentences using the word in bold. Use two to five words.

- 1 The children can't wait to meet their new neighbours.  
**FORWARD** The children .....  
their new neighbours.
- 2 She made him stay in.  
**WAS** He ..... stay in.
- 3 He earns too little to be able to afford such a big house.  
**MAKE** He doesn't .....  
money to be able to afford such a big house.
- 4 Could you please help me move this furniture?  
**HAND** Could you give .....  
this furniture?
- 5 I don't think the property owner will accept our offer.  
**LIKELY** The property owner .....  
down our offer.
- 6 Have you decided whether to move yet?  
**MIND** Have you made .....  
move yet?
- 7 Although they own property, they live in rented accommodation.  
**SPITE** In .....  
they live in rented accommodation.
- 8 They finally managed to book a holiday in Lapland.  
**SUCCEEDED** They finally .....  
a holiday in Lapland.
- 9 Buying this antique sofa must have been very expensive.  
**FORTUNE** It must have .....  
this antique sofa.
- 10 She spent ages sorting out her clothes in the wardrobe.  
**TOOK** It .....  
out her clothes in the wardrobe.
- 11 You don't have to cook dinner as I have already ordered a takeaway.  
**POINT** There ..... dinner  
as I have already ordered a takeaway.
- 12 You'll have no difficulty using this burglar alarm.  
**EASY** You'll .....  
this burglar alarm.
- 13 That five-star hotel is so expensive that we can't stay there for even one night.  
**TOO** It is .....  
that five-star hotel for even one night.
- 14 They are going to demolish the old block of flats next week.  
**DOWN** The old block of flats is going .....  
next week.
- 15 I didn't mean to break their expensive crystal vase.  
**INTENTION** I .....  
their expensive crystal vase.

### • Word formation

**3** Read the text and complete the gaps with the correct form of the word given at the end of each line.

Alexander Remizov has two major **0) objectives** in his architecture. The first aim is to protect the natural world from mankind and the second is to protect mankind from extreme **1) .....** conditions caused by climate change. His firm, with support from the *Architecture For Disaster Relief* programme, has designed a **2) .....** hotel called the Ark. It is an impressive **3) .....** of arches and cables that looks like a giant shell. It is almost **4) .....** as it is built to withstand phenomena such as earthquakes and **5) .....** waves. On top of that, power is provided by solar panels and water is supplied by a rainwater **6) .....** system. The hotel is also **7) .....** to have its own ecosystem, which means it can sustain itself with food, water and power while also being **8) .....** to natural disasters.

OBJECT

ENVIRONMENT

FUTURE  
CONSTRUCT

DESTRUCT

TIDE

COLLECT  
DESIGN

RESIST

### Multiple choice cloze

**5** Read the text and choose the correct word.

### • Lexical multiple choice items

**4** Choose the correct answer.

- The lease ..... next month, so I'm going to find a new flat.  
A cancels B expires C closes D finishes
- Their house is in a great ..... overlooking the lake.  
A post B situation C station D position
- Any tenant who fails to comply with the rules and ..... will be evicted.  
A instructions C laws  
B orders D regulations
- Do you ..... to know where Peter's house is?  
A occur B happen C chance D come
- The balcony has a great ..... of the sea.  
A vision B sighting C seeing D view
- The holiday cottages have all the ..... of home.  
A advantages C comforts  
B conveniences D utilities
- They were ..... of money, so they couldn't afford to buy new furniture.  
A short B limited C poor D small
- You can go to the party, but ..... home by midnight.  
A take B make C be D go
- He won't leave the flat, and the owner is threatening legal .....  
A force B steps C measures D action
- She couldn't ..... the noise from next door any more.  
A survive B carry C bear D manage

## The LEGO House

Ask people about their favourite childhood toys and quite a few will mention Lego. However, some children don't abandon Lego when they grow up. Take James May, whose idea to build a life-size Lego house received so much public interest that, in July 2009, he began construction. Over 1,000 volunteers helped make the bricks, **1) .....** one consisting of 272 Lego pieces, and put the two-storey house together. Apart from a 'safety frame' made out of wood, the rest of the structure was made entirely from Lego, **2) .....** a staircase, a shower and a toilet! May even stayed overnight in the house, though he found **3) .....** far from comfortable on the Lego bed! Initially, the Lego house was a huge success, but problems arose when the landowners where the house was built needed their land back. At first, Legoland, a theme park in Berkshire, planned to relocate the house to its premises, but the deal fell **4) .....** because of the transport costs involved. **5) .....** further efforts to find a private collector to take it, the house was eventually dismantled and its 3.3 million pieces were donated to charity. Nevertheless, the Lego house was a marvellous architectural achievement for **6) .....** involved in its construction.

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1 A any       | 4 A out      |
| B all         | B through    |
| C each        | C back       |
| D some        | D off        |
| 2 A inspiring | 5 A Although |
| B indulging   | B Though     |
| C inserting   | C Regardless |
| D including   | D Despite    |
| 3 A sleeping  | 6 A these    |
| B slept       | B that       |
| C to sleep    | C those      |
| D sleep       | D this       |

## Writing An opinion essay

**Opinion essays** are discursive essays in which we present our personal opinion on a particular topic. They are normally written in a formal style. An opinion essay consists of:

- an **introduction** in which we introduce the topic and state our opinion clearly.
- a **main body** which consists of two or more paragraphs, each presenting a separate viewpoint supported by reasons/examples. We can include a paragraph giving the opposing viewpoint supported by reasons/examples.
- a **conclusion** in which we restate our opinion using different words.

We start each main-body paragraph with an appropriate topic sentence that states the main idea of the paragraph. Each topic sentence is followed by supporting sentences that further explain the main idea of the paragraph.

We use present tenses in this type of essay. We also use appropriate linking words & phrases to join our ideas.

**To list viewpoints:** *To start with, Firstly, In the first place, In addition, Besides, Furthermore, Moreover, Also, etc*

**To introduce supporting sentences (examples):** *for example, for instance, in particular, such as/like, etc*

**To introduce opposing ideas:** *On the other hand, However, etc*

**To conclude:** *All in all, Lastly, Taking everything into account, To sum up, All things considered, etc*

**Formal style** is characterised by:

- formal expressions, advanced vocabulary, longer sentences. *First-time buyers need to consider their financial circumstances carefully before committing to a mortgage.*
- formal linking words/phrases. *Moreover, steps should be taken to ...*
- no use of short forms. *There is always something ...* (NOT: *There's always something....*)
- impersonal tone i.e. use of the passive. *Tenants are required to contribute towards the upkeep of the garden.*

### 1 Read the rubric and answer the questions.

You have had a class discussion about the following statement: *Living in a house is better than living in a flat.* Now write an essay (200-250 words) giving your opinion and reasons to support your views.

- 1 Who is going to read your essay?
- 2 Should you use formal or informal language?
- 3 Do you prefer living in a house or in a flat? Why?

### 2 Read the model and match each heading to a paragraph.



## Living in a flat: the right choice

1  When given the choice of living in a house or flat most people would prefer the house. To me, however, living in a flat is more appealing.

2  Firstly, flats are often located in or near the city centre and are therefore very convenient. They are often in close proximity to shopping and entertainment facilities so there is always something to do. Moreover, it is easier to access public transport or get around on foot.

3  Furthermore, living in a flat is usually less expensive than living in a house. For example, rent is often lower for a flat and some of the bills such as maintenance are shared. In addition, living in the same building with others means that if you need help you can easily knock on a neighbour's door.

4  On the other hand, some people say that living in a flat has a number of drawbacks. Flats tend to be smaller and often don't have balconies or gardens. Moreover, they can sometimes be noisy, especially if located on a main street. Blocks of flats also lack privacy and any rules imposed by the majority of the people in the building usually have to be respected.

5  All in all, I believe that living in a flat is better than living in a house. Although flats are smaller and have less privacy than houses, they are more centrally located and cheaper to live in.

- A subject & opinion
- B restate opinion
- C first viewpoint & examples
- D opposing viewpoint
- E second viewpoint & examples

**3** What viewpoints does the writer put across? How do they support each viewpoint?

**4** Find the linking words the writer uses to: *list viewpoints, introduce examples, introduce opposing ideas, conclude*. Replace them with synonymous ones.

**5** Replace the words in bold with synonymous ones.

1) **Furthermore**, having a cat as a pet is more convenient. 2) **For instance**, cats don't need as much attention as dogs do and can be left alone more easily. Dogs can get very lonely and anxious if their owners are away for too long. 3) **What is more**, cats don't need to be walked at all; all they need is a simple litter box.

**6** Find the topic sentences in the essay. Replace them with appropriate similar ones.

**7** Think of appropriate topic sentences for the following.

1) .....  
Going to school on an empty stomach can make it difficult to concentrate during lessons. This is because the brain needs energy from food to work properly. Even eating something simple before going to school, like a banana with a glass of milk or a bowl of cereal, can make you more alert.

2) .....  
For one thing, if you take a train you don't have to deal with traffic jams. Furthermore, travelling by train can be much faster than travelling by car. What is more, it is possible to work, read and study on a train, which is not possible if you are driving a car.

**8** Read the topic sentences and suggest suitable supporting ones.

- Living in the countryside is more peaceful.
- Learning a foreign language can bring people more job options.
- Volunteering helps you make new friends.

• **Your turn**

**9** Read the rubric and match the reasons (A-D) to the viewpoints they support (1-4). Use them to write your essay. Follow the plan below. Use phrases from the Useful Language box.

You have had a class discussion about the following statement: Living on campus is the best option for students. Write an essay (200-250 words) giving your opinion and reasons to support it.

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | easier to reach lessons/library, etc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | better social life                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | lack of privacy                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | have limited space                   |

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>A</b> | share bedroom, bathroom, etc                                |
| <b>B</b> | no waste of time and money travelling to university/college |
| <b>C</b> | meet more people to make friends with                       |
| <b>D</b> | rooms are small so you can only take bare essentials        |



• **Plan**

- (Para 1) *state the topic & your opinion*
- (Para 2) *first viewpoint & reason/example*
- (Para 3) *second viewpoint & reason/example*
- (Para 4) *opposing viewpoint & reason/example*
- (Para 5) *restate your opinion*

**Useful Language**

- Some people believe that living ... • To me, ...
- Firstly, living on campus ... • Moreover, it is ...
- In addition, living on campus is ...
- On the other hand, some people say that ...
- All in all, I believe that living on campus ...

## Reading Multiple matching

1 a) Read the rubric, then read the four texts through quickly. What is each text about?

You will read four short texts about people and their idea of a perfect home. Read the descriptions (A-D) and the questions (1-6) and choose which descriptions match the questions. The descriptions may be chosen more than once.

b) Do the task. Compare your answers with your partner. Justify your answers.

**A** I never really felt at home in any of the flats I rented so you won't be surprised to learn that I always dreamed of having my own place that I could decorate in my own **style**. When I finally **came across** my dream house and got the money together for a deposit on a **mortgage**, I was thrilled and once I moved in, I set to work on decorating. I soon realised though that decorating a house isn't an easy task. Firstly, I found it to be a far more expensive enterprise than I had imagined it would be and so I couldn't buy exactly what I wanted. I had to be patient and I ended up making a number of compromises. After a while I got quite frustrated as I felt it just wasn't coming together fast enough and I sort of gave up on it, for the time being at least.

**B** *Both my parents are architects and so as I was growing up, I learnt a lot about their profession and **developed** an interest in buildings. They are a little disappointed that I didn't choose to be an architect too but they still appreciated my choice to become teacher of history of art and even encouraged me. In a way, it is related to architecture after all. Anyway, I am particularly interested in American colonial houses and, of course, I am now the proud owner of a small 17th century town house, which I **restored** with the help of my dad and decorated with my mum and now live in. I absolutely love it and have spent a lot of money on it. It is definitely my dream house and I feel very much at home in it. Now, I think I am ready to have my own family.*

**C** I had a pretty good idea for a long time of what the perfect home would be for me and I was set on having it. I started saving from the minute I got my first job and I knew that it would only be a matter of time before I had the necessary **funds**. I have **mates** in the real estate business and they had their eyes open for something for me. Then one day, I got a call about this beach house and I just knew that it was an opportunity I didn't want to miss. When I saw it, I simply knew that it was made for me. It is perfectly located on the beach and so I can walk my dog and go surfing any time I like; and of course it is perfect for having guests around for barbecues and what not. It couldn't be better.

**D** As a child I had to change flats a lot as my parents moved quite often for work. In a way I was used to not really having a real base and I guess I never really could or did get attached to anywhere. Yet, as time passed by, I got a bit tired of moving all the time and perhaps I suffered from a lack of security; I guess deep down inside I **longed for** a place of I could call home. What I have now is not what you would call a luxury home and nothing compared to some of the classy apartments my parents rented but for me it is a dream home. I finally have my own space that I know is mine and no one is going to come and tell me that I have to move tomorrow or the next day. I can say I am quite content here.

### Who:

- |   |   |       |
|---|---|-------|
| was helped by friends?                                      | 0 | C     |
| chose their home based on their lifestyle?                  | 1 | ..... |
| had to make changes to their original plan?                 | 2 | ..... |
| has settled for a simpler home than what they were used to? | 3 | ..... |
| combined their professional interest with their home?       | 4 | ..... |
| was disappointed with how things turned out?                | 5 | ..... |
| felt they needed more stability in their life?              | 6 | ..... |

2 Match the words in bold to their synonyms.

- brought to its previous condition
- way • formed • money
- wanted very much
- found by chance • friends
- money you get from a bank in order to buy a house

3 *Miss or lose?* Complete the phrases.

- ..... my way
- ..... breakfast
- ..... a contest
- ..... money
- ..... a bus
- ..... patience
- ..... the opportunity
- ..... a payment

### Listening Note-taking

4  You are going to hear a telephone conversation between a landlord and a potential tenant. Listen and complete the table.

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Name of owner           | 0) <i>Mr Newton</i>   |
| Type of accommodation   | 1) .....              |
| Address                 | 12 Raglan Road        |
| Floor                   | 2) .....              |
| Heating                 | electric              |
| Monthly rent            | 3) .....              |
| Pets allowed            | 4) Yes ..... No ..... |
| Caller's name           | 5) .....              |
| Caller's contact number | 6) .....              |

### Speaking Dialogue

5 Read the rubric and do the task in pairs. Use the language below.

You and your friend would like to organise a holiday with a group of your friends. However, you have different ideas about where to go and what type of accommodation to choose. Discuss your ideas and reach a consensus.

- Give your ideas and arguments.
- Find out your partner's ideas and arguments.
- Try to persuade your partner to accept your ideas.
- Try to reach a compromise.



### Useful Language

- I wouldn't choose ... because I don't ... • I wouldn't like ...
- On the other hand, ... has a lot of amenities.
- ... looks nice so ... • We could all ...
- I would definitely choose ...

### Key Vocabulary

**camping:** hard ground; can go kayaking and camping; no facilities (showers, restaurants); be in the open air.

**hotel:** lots of amenities (swimming pool, restaurants); luxurious

**cabin by the lake:** nice & convenient; sleep comfortably; balcony; nice view; do water sports; go for walks; isolated; not expensive

# Culture I

- 1 Look at the pictures. What kind of a place do you think Singapore is? Read to find out.
- 2 Read the text again and for each gap (1-6) choose from the sentences A-I the one which best fits each. There are two extra sentences.

- A Of the five million people who live in Singapore, only three million are native.
- B For example, the Malay verb 'makan' is often used to mean 'eat'.
- C In 1834, Singapore officially belonged to the British East Indian Company and in 1864 it became a British Crown Colony.
- D Many people come from afar to get a taste of what it has to offer.
- E At the same time, wealthy merchants built magnificent private houses and giant warehouses near the port.
- F Singapore enjoys one of the highest standards of living in the world.
- G In reality, though, lions never inhabited the island.
- H You never get bored in Singapore with so many things to do.
- I In 1965, it became totally independent and has enjoyed continuous peace and economic prosperity since.

**3 Fill in:** *backgrounds, immigrants, destination, links, merchants, prosperity, record.*

- 1 Singapore has experienced a period of economic ..... in the last few decades.
- 2 ..... from other countries decided to live in Singapore.
- 3 People of diverse ..... live in Singapore.
- 4 The first written ..... of the island dates to the 3rd century AD.
- 5 Wealthy ..... used to own private houses in Singapore.
- 6 Singapore has become a very popular tourist .....
- 7 Many Singaporeans have cultural ..... to other Asian countries.

**Country Fact File**

**Name:** Republic of Singapore  
**Location:** southeastern Asia  
**Size:** 710 sq km  
**Population:** 5,076,700  
**Capital:** Singapore



# Singapore

## The Lion City

The earliest written record of Singapore is a Chinese account dating to the 3rd century AD in which the island is referred to as 'the island at the end'. It is said that the country got its current name in the 13th century when a visiting Malay prince thought he saw lions there and founded a settlement called Singa Pura, which means *Lion City* in Sanskrit.   In time, Singapore became an important trading post, and a stopover for ships sailing between China and India. Consequently, it was considered a strategic military outpost and over the centuries came under the control of various powers, including the Buddhist kingdom, the Muslim empire of Malacca, the Portuguese, the Dutch, and finally the British.

During the second half of the 19th century, Singapore continued to prosper and became a very important city. It developed industrially and its population grew rapidly as immigrants arrived from China, Malaysia and Indonesia. The British erected splendid public buildings, including beautiful churches and hotels, and the immigrant communities constructed mosques, temples and shrines.   By the turn of the 20th century, Singapore had become the biggest trading post in the East. It continued to prosper until World War II, when it was taken over by Japanese forces and then re-occupied by the British. Singapore declared independence from Great Britain in 1963 and briefly joined the Federation of Malaysia.





Singapore does not have one unique national identity and Singaporeans have various cultural links to countries such as China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Great Britain. Today, the population is made up of 76.8% Chinese, 13.9% Malays, 7.9% Indians, and 1.4% other. English is the administrative language of Singapore and the medium of instruction in schools. However, the country has four official languages: English, Malay, Mandarin, and Tamil. Many people in Singapore speak 'Singlish', which is based on both American and British English but has a number of differences including borrowed words from Malay and Mandarin. **4** Education is very important to Singaporeans and their society is a true meritocracy where good results at school and university mean a good job with a good salary. People in Singapore sometimes joke about their desire to have the 'five Cs'; condominium, car, credit card, club membership and career.

**5** It has also become a very popular tourist destination, which is not surprising as it has so much to offer the visitor, from beautiful beaches to beautiful buildings. It also has a diverse wildlife despite its rapid urban development. It is home to a number of birds, reptiles and mammals, such as the long-tailed macaque, the dugong and the dolphin.

There are also a lot of things to do in Singapore. Shopping and dining are considered to be national pastimes. **6** Singapore's cuisine is influenced by both Asian and Western styles, and is an expression of its cultural diversity. Singapore is an interesting example of how people of diverse backgrounds and culture can live together in harmony.

**Did you KNOW?**

■ The merlion, a mythical creature with the head of a lion and the body of a fish, is the official symbol of the city and a reminder of the country's connection to its legendary past.

■ One of Singapore's most popular dishes is chilli crab, a dish of mud crab stir-fried in a sweet tomato and chilli-based sauce.

**4** Fill in: *public, standards, trading, turn, national, current, declare, diverse, harmony, urban.*

- 1 ..... name
- 2 ..... post
- 3 ..... buildings
- 4 by the ..... of the century
- 5 to ..... independence
- 6 ..... identity
- 7 ..... wildlife
- 8 high ..... of living
- 9 ..... development
- 10 live in .....

**5** Find phrasal verbs in the text which mean:

- 1 started being controlled or managed by
- 2 taken control of
- 3 consists of

**6** Complete the sentences.

- 1 Singapore is located .....
- 2 It got its name .....
- 3 Singapore became very important as a .....
- 4 By the turn of the 20th century .....
- 5 The population consists of .....
- 6 Singapore is a popular .....
- 7 The cuisine .....

**7** **Think!** Compare your country to Singapore in terms of: *location, history, language, animals, culture, and attractions.*

**Proverbs**

- *Where there is a sea, there are pirates.*
- *If the mountain goat is in a good mood, even having no grass is fine.*
- *The big fish sees the mountain top, the small fish sees the big fish.*

