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# ПРАКТИКА РЕЧИ

## ЖИЛЬЕ

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# SPEECH PRACTICE

## HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATION



Могилев  
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Учебно-методическое пособие состоит из трех частей («My Home is my Castle», «Chores and Errands» и «Home is where the Heart is»), каждая из которых включает несколько разделов. Учебно-методическое пособие может быть использовано как для работы в аудитории под руководством преподавателя, так и для самостоятельного изучения языкового материала.

Для студентов университетов специальности 1-21 05 06 Романо-германская филология, а также других специальностей, предусматривающих изучение английского языка как основного иностранного.

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## ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Учебно-методическое пособие «Основной иностранный язык. Speech practice: Housing and Accommodation» предназначено для студентов высших учебных заведений Республики Беларусь специальности 1-21 05 06 Романо-германская филология, изучающих английский язык как основной иностранный, и ориентировано на развитие у студентов навыков устной и письменной речи по теме «Жилье».

Содержание учебно-методического пособия отвечает требованиям Образовательного стандарта специальности 1 21 05 06 Романо-германская филология (утвержденного 30.08.2013 г., постановление Министерства образования Республики Беларусь № 88), типовой учебной программы для высших учебных заведений по специальности 1 21 05 06 Романо-германская филология по дисциплине «Основной иностранный язык (английский)» (утвержденной 14.06.2011 г., регистрационный № ТД-Д.171/тип.) и типового учебного плана по специальности 1-21 05 06 Романо-германская филология (утвержденного 16.02.17 г., регистрационный № ИН-15).

Пособие состоит из трех частей, отражающих основное содержание темы «Жилье». В первую часть «Мой дом – моя крепость» включены разделы «Типы домов и квартир», «Современные удобства», «Жилье в Беларуси, Великобритании и США» и «Благоустройство жилья и интерьер». Во второй части «Приятные хлопоты» нашли отражение разделы «Обязанности по дому», «Домашние животные» и «Дача: пережиток прошлого?». Третья часть «Дом там, где сердце» раскрывает содержание таких ситуаций, как «Идеальный сосед по комнате», «Мой дом» и «Дом моей мечты».

Содержание каждого раздела ориентировано на два академических часа (таким образом, работа с учебно-методическим пособием рассчитана на 20 академических часов). Каждый раздел включает упражнения, способствующие формированию и закреплению навыков и умений владения английской речью по заявленной теме. Все упражнения структурированы по секциям. Так, секция *Lead-in* содержит вводную информацию по теме занятия. В секции *Topical vocabulary* представлена активная лексика, которая тренируется и закрепляется в секциях *Focus on vocabulary* и *Focus on idioms*, включающих в том числе задания на перевод. Секция *Focus on reading* содержит задания для работы с текстом, ориентированные на отработку разных видов чтения. В секциях *Focus on speaking* и *Focus on writing* представлены задания творческого ха-

рактера, которые могут быть модифицированы преподавателем и предложены студентам в качестве домашнего задания. В некоторые разделы учебно-методического пособия также включена секция *Focus on listening*, аудио- и видеоматериалы для которой прилагаются на диске.

Учебно-методическое пособие может быть рекомендовано как для работы во время аудиторных занятий, так и для самостоятельного изучения студентами предложенного материала с последующим обсуждением на занятии.

Автор выражает искреннюю благодарность рецензентам пособия – кандидату филологических наук, доценту А. Р. Пайкиной (Могилевский государственный университет продовольствия), кандидату педагогических наук, доценту В. Ф. Толстоуховой (Белорусский государственный университет) за высказанные пожелания и замечания.

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PART I  
**MY HOUSE IS MY CASTLE**

UNIT 1  
**TYPES OF HOUSES AND FLATS**

**TOPICAL VOCABULARY**

**TYPES OF DWELLING**

(single-family) house	longhouse
adobe house	maisonette
apartment	mansion
attached house	mobile home / trailer
barracks	palace
blocks of flats	igloo
boarding house	penthouse
bungalow	ranch
cabin (log)	saltbox
caravan	semi-detached house
castle	shack
chalet	shelter
condominium / condo	skyscraper
cottage	split-level house
country house	stilt house
detached house	studio apartment / efficiency
dormitory / dorm	apartment
duplex / two-family house	summer house
dwelling	tenement
estate	tent
farmhouse	terraced house (BrE) / row house
flat (BrE) / apartment (AmE)	(AmE)
guest house	tipi (teepee / wigwam)
high-rise home	town house
houseboat	tract house
hut	treehouse
inn	triplex
lean-to	villa
lodge	yurt
loft	

## **LEAD-IN**

Answer the following questions.

1. Which type of house would you prefer to live in?
2. What kind of accommodation do most people live in your country?

## **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the following text about different types of houses.**

**II. State whether the following sentences are T (true) or F (false).**

**Correct the mistakes.**

1. Single family houses exploded after World War I.
2. A townhome is a row home sharing one or two walls.
3. The bungalow is derived from small houses in Thailand stemming from “Bengali house”.
4. Bungalows started being built in the USA at the beginning of the 20th century.
5. Chalets are vacation houses which are usually located in the mountains.

### **Different Types of Houses**

#### **Single family (detached)**

70% of Americans live in single family homes. It's a home that is not attached to another home in anyway. It sits on its own property and is completely separate from other houses. Most detached single family homes are located in suburbs throughout North America. This type of house exploded after World War II, when there was a mass migration to the suburbs.

#### **Condominium**

A condominium is a home among many within one building or series of buildings on a piece of land. Each owner has title to the unit.

**Duplex:** A duplex condo refers to a two story condo unit, often the result of joining two separate units and renovating them into one larger unit or built that way from the start.

**Triplex:** Same as duplex condo but three levels.

The terms duplex and triplex in the sense they are two or three floor condos, stems for its use in New York City. In other towns, duplex and triplex refers to two and three unit buildings side-by-side.

#### **Apartment**

An apartment is a group of housing units in one building all owned by one entity. In other words, all the units are owned by one entity. The units are

then rented out to tenants. This is the key difference between a condo and an apartment. With a condo, individual entities (i.e. person or corporation) own the units, whereas with apartments, all the units in the building are owned by one entity.

### **Townhome**

A townhome is like a row home sharing one or two walls. They are usually 2 or 3 stories tall. Some rise even higher. They are different than a condo in that owners of a townhome own both interior and exterior of the unit and are therefore financially responsible for maintenance of exteriors.

### **Bungalow**

The bungalow is derived from small houses in India stemming from “Bengali house”. In fact, since the cottage style house with thick walls didn’t work in India, the bungalow was developed.

A bungalow is a small, square, single-story home with front porch. The single floor is raised up with front steps leading up to the porch. Often there’s a single dormer window built into a pitched roof in the attic. These types of homes started being built in the USA in the early 1900’s.

### **Ranch-Style**

A ranch style home (aka rancher) is also a single story home, but has a larger, rectangular footprint (compared to a bungalow). The ranch home is a derivative of the wide Spanish hacienda. Ranchers grew in popularity in the 1950’s as huge tracts of land were turned into suburbs with larger plots than the typical urban plots.

### **Cottage**

The term cottage stems from England. While in today’s parlance it refers to a small vacation home, historically it’s a small home with a high thatched roof, thick walls and a single room.

### **Cabin**

There is no real consensus regarding the differences between a cabin and a cottage. Although, a cabin connotes simple, rustic and minimalist while a cottage, in current usage, does often refer to a more upscale vacation dwelling (but not historically).

### **Chalet**

Chalet stems from the structures that housed sheep and goat herders in Switzerland. Today it’s a vacation home, usually in the mountains. Now that skiing is popular globally, chalet often refers to a vacation home where there is access to skiing.

However, a chalet, technically speaking, has certain design characteristics. They include a steep roof and long overhangs.

## Mobile Home

A mobile home is a mobile structure that can be towed, but isn't designed for frequent towing like a recreational vehicle. Mobile homes are built in a factory, towed to the lot and remain in place. They are inexpensive. There are mobile home parks where the mobile home is owned by a person, but they rent the lot or pad. In other instances, people live in mobile homes on property they own.

## Yurt

The yurt is the primary housing structure used by the Mongols in Mongolia. They are a nomadic people. Since yurts can be packed up and moved easily, it's an ideal type of home for them.

A yurt is round. The wall and roof is a waterproof fabric. While traditional yurts are fairly rustic, you can have custom-built yurts built with pretty much all the amenities of a regular home. While some people in North America live in them year-around, other people have them as vacation homes.

## III. Answer the questions.

1. How many Americans prefer to live in detached houses?
2. What are the main features of a duplex/bungalow/yurt?
3. What are the differences between a condo and townhome?

## IV. Find the English equivalents in the text.

1. двухэтажная квартира
2. юридическое лицо
3. арендатор
4. обслуживание экстерьеров
5. крыльцо
6. мансардное окно
7. огромные участки земли
8. соломенная крыша
9. крутая крыша
10. дом на колесах
11. водозащитная ткань

## FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

V. Match the types of houses with the correct photo. Describe the features of these types of houses.

<i>barracks</i>	<i>condominium</i>	<i>chalet</i>	<i>wigwam</i>
<i>saltbox</i>	<i>tract house</i>	<i>estate</i>	<i>shack</i>





a.



b.



c.



d.



e.



f.



g.



h.

**VI. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.**

1. detached house	a. joined to one other house
2. villa	b. a large house with big gardens or a rented house in a holiday resort
3. studio flat	c. does not share facilities with any other
4. cottage	d. a small apartment for one or two people, usually with one large room for sleeping and living in, a bathroom and sometimes a separate kitchen
5. self-contained flat	e. not joined to any other house
6. terraced house	f. joined to several houses to form a row
7. semi-detached house	g. a house with only one storey (no upstairs)
8. bungalow	h. a small house in the country or in a village

**VII. Translate the following sentences from English into Russian.**

1. Cottages are small homes with asymmetrical architecture and steeply pitched roofs.

2. Victorian homes (in their day) were beautiful structures with ornate features, unique shapes and imperial porches.

3. These widespread, one-story modern ramblers rock an aesthetic that's a throwback to the days of raising and rounding-up cattle.

4. Stilt houses are raised up on planks in order to protect its inhabitants and their possessions from flooding.

5. Yurts – portable tents traditionally composed of animal skins—have been used by Central Asian nomads for centuries.

6. Though not as prevalent as they once were, igloos are used by outdoors enthusiasts as temporary shelters.

7. In Matmata, Tunisia, cave homes – ancient abodes that have been carved out of sandstone – keep people comfortable all year long.

8. In South Africa, rondavels – rounded, single-cell huts – are favored for their ability to be built from natural, locally sourced materials.

**VIII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Первые пять лет нашей семейной жизни мы жили на ферме.

2. Он заядлый путешественник и искатель приключений: ему даже довелось жить в деревянной хижине в горах совсем одному.

3. Этот дом на две семьи давно пора перестроить в просторный коттедж на одну семью.

4. Я слышал, ты давно хочешь приобрести собственное жилье, а моя сестра как раз продает свою квартиру в многоэтажном доме.

5. Вряд ли тебе удастся снять квартиру-студию дешевле, чем за 300 долларов в месяц.

6. Путники решили переждать ночь в небольшой лесной хижине.

7. Каково это – вернуться в цивилизацию после всех этих недель, проведенных в палатке?

8. Ресторан, в котором мы договорились встретиться, находился в здании одного из небоскребов в центре города.

9. Она унаследует поместье, когда достигнет совершеннолетия.

### **FOCUS ON WRITING**

**Write an opinion essay (15-20 sentences) to answer this question:**  
*“Apartments downtown are better than houses in the suburbs. Do you agree or disagree?”* Use at least 6 of the 15 words from the table below.

<i>basement</i>	<i>bathroom</i>	<i>bedroom</i>	<i>dining room</i>		
<i>downstairs</i>	<i>floor</i>	<i>furniture</i>	<i>garage</i>	<i>kitchen</i>	<i>landlord</i>
<i>living room</i>	<i>neighbourhood</i>	<i>upstairs</i>	<i>window</i>	<i>yard</i>	

## **UNIT 2**

### **HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES**

#### **TOPICAL VOCABULARY**

##### **DEVICES**

(flatscreen) TV  
air conditioner  
air purifier  
appliance plug / socket  
blender  
bulb  
centralized heating  
clothes dryer  
clothes iron  
coffee grinder  
coffee maker / machine  
computer  
cooler

deep fryer  
dishwasher  
electric drill  
electric kettle / hot pot  
fan  
food steamer  
freezer  
hair dryer  
hair iron / curling iron  
juicer  
kettle  
kitchen combiner / food processor  
kitchen hood

laptop  
lawn mower  
loudspeakers  
microwave (oven)  
mixer  
multicooker  
oven  
printer  
refrigerator / fridge  
remote control  
scales  
sewing machine

stove  
steam cleaner  
telephone  
toaster  
torch  
vacuum cleaner / Hoover  
vaporizer  
waffle iron / maker  
washing machine  
water cooler  
water purifier

### **WORDS AND PHRASES**

built-in  
energy-efficient  
handy  
modern conveniences / mod cons  
multifunctional  
to be plugged in  
to be turned on/off  
to connect  
to disconnect  
to increase the speed

to insert  
to press the start button  
to put a lid on smth  
to remove  
to stop working completely  
to take out  
to turn the speed down  
to turn up/down  
to unplug

### **LEAD-IN**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. What household appliances do you usually use?
2. What's the most useful household appliance that you have?
3. Do you think that household appliances will make people lazier?
4. Are household appliances expensive to buy in your country?
5. Do you have an electric or gas stove?

### **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the following text about the history of different household devices.**

**II. Check your comprehension: state whether the following sentences are T (true) or F (false).**

1. The first cooking stove appeared at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
2. Various radiation experiments caused the development of modern microwave oven.
3. Electric mangles and ironing machines were widely used in homes.
4. Electric floor scrubbers were the forerunners of the modern vacuum cleaner.
5. Humidifiers are used in order to dry the air in uncomfortably humid rooms.

### **The History of Home Appliances**

**Home appliance**, also called **Household Appliance**, any of numerous and varied electric, electromechanical, or gas-powered devices introduced mainly in the 20th century to save labour and time in the household.

#### ***Appliances for food preparation***

Efforts to take cooking away from the hearth and onto the **stove** – which was essentially a space heater and not a food cooker well into the 19th century – probably foreshadowed the housework revolution. Heating stoves were produced with holes whose covers could be removed and into which pots of various sizes could be set to boil. Finally, an effective cooking stove appeared by 1815. It burned wood on a contained hearth and had an iron top above with covered holes for pots. Kerosene stoves were created about 1875 and later modified for other liquid fuels, including gasoline. The electric range, experimented with very early in the 19th century, became popular in the 1930s and thereafter competed steadily with the gas range.

The ability of radio-frequency radiation to heat food quickly without heating the surrounding area had long been noted in various radiation experiments. This potential was harnessed in the development of the **microwave oven**, which became widely popular from the early 1970s, at first commercially, then in homes. It is particularly valued for its speed in cooking any food, especially quick-frozen food.

The electric hot plate was one offshoot of early electric-cooking experiments that had a continuing life of its own, and it helped spawn a bewildering variety of specialized small appliances – each with an electric heating element and a food container – including **electric skillets, griddles, pancake and waffle irons, woks, stockpots, grills, toasters, coffee makers, and warming trays**.

Automatic **refrigerators**, thermostatically controlled and operating either on electric power or on gas, became popular in the 1930s. The new age and the development of quick-frozen foods quickly led to home use of

combination refrigerator-freezers that could maintain freezer-compartment temperatures as cold as 15° F (-9° C) – cold enough to keep quick-frozen foods for weeks or months.

### *Appliances for cleaning*

Experiments with various clothes-washing mechanisms went on sporadically through the 19th century, and by early in the 20th century the electric motor had been harnessed to this effort. In the 1920s, manually controlled electric **washing machines** were marketed. The first automatic electric washer appeared in 1937. This development was soon followed by automatic electric or gas clothes dryers. Electric mangles and other **ironing machines** were early home-laundry developments, but they did not achieve the universal appeal of automatic washers and dryers, in large part owing to the marketing of increasingly sophisticated electric irons. These latter appliances offered a wide range of temperature controls and gave the user the choice of ironing fabrics dry, ironing with steam emitted from the iron's bottom surface.

To make the care of floors less burdensome, electric floor scrubbers and waxers were placed on the housewares market, sometimes in combination with the vacuum for cleaning rugs, and in 1908 a **vacuum cleaner**.

### *Appliances for comfort*

The electric **fan** was invented in 1892 by the simple expedient of fastening an impeller to the shaft of a motor, and the fan was the only electrically powered home appliance used for personal comfort in the first quarter of the 20th century. The fan coupled with electric refrigeration opened the way to room-sized **air-conditioning units** that could be mounted on a windowsill or in a wall opening.

To reduce the relative humidity in uncomfortably humid rooms, the **dehumidifier** was developed, using air-conditioning technology: room air is propelled by fan across a cooling coil on which moisture condenses and then drops into a container; the dried air is then warmed and circulated. Conversely, air whose relative humidity is too low for comfort can be moistened by a **humidifier**, which uses a fan to blow dry air through a moistened pad. Both of these devices may be installed centrally in a home, but they are widely used in console form as appliances for one-room or small-space use.

## **III. Answer the questions.**

1. What household appliances were mentioned in the article? Which of them do you use?

2. What specialized small appliances were created on the basis of the electric hot plate?
3. What temperature could the first automatic refrigerators maintain?
4. When was the first automatic electric washer created?
5. How did first dehumidifiers work?

**IV. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. работающий на бензине
2. котелок
3. быстрозамороженный продукт
4. электроплита
5. сковорода для приготовления на углях
6. с регулируемой температурой
7. обременительный
8. поломочная машина
9. подоконник
10. осушитель
11. увлажнять

**FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

**V. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.**

1. dishwasher	a. electric appliance for baking and heating food
2. dryer	b. electric appliance for cleaning laundry
3. fridge	c. electric appliance for cooking food quickly
4. freezer	d. electric appliance that washes dishes; can be “built-in” (under a sink) or “portable” (moved and attached to the sink when in use)
5. garbage disposal	e. electric appliance used for keeping food cold
6. microwave	f. electric appliance used for keeping food frozen (very cold)
7. oven	g. electric appliance used to dry laundry
8. stove	h. elements on top of an oven for heating, frying, and boiling food
9. washing machine	i. located inside a drain; chops up bits of food into small pieces

**VI. Sign the pictures of these household appliances. Describe the purpose of the devices in a few sentences.**



## VII. Translate the following sentences from English into Russian.

1. Prior to the invention of the common fridge, families had to receive large chunks of ice and place them into a container to keep their milk from going bad.

2. Anyone who has lived through a sweltering summer day will understand immediately how important the air conditioner is.

3. The modern washing machine has a dozen or more cycles that no one has ever used.

4. Today you can even buy a fridge with a built-in radio and voice recorder.

5. Posh kettles heat our water to a choice of temperatures, tumble dryers offer a variety of “dryness levels” and even fairly basic toasters now proudly boast a “bagel function”.



6. A cheap toaster will be toast within two years — but a high-end oven should still be cooking two decades after purchase.

7. Some appliances, in particular heaters, dryers, and electric blankets, can be hazardous if used incorrectly.

8. Keep small appliances such as toasters, kettles, irons, hairdryers, hair straighteners and shavers unplugged when not in use.

9. Never put any metal object, such as a knife or screwdriver, into any appliance – like toasters, heaters or dryers – especially if still plugged in.

10. If an appliance accidentally falls into water, always make sure it is switched off and unplugged before attempting to retrieve it from the water.

### **VIII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Мы пользуемся современными изобретениями в повседневной жизни, поскольку они принесли нам много комфорта.

2. Видеомагнитофоны, DVD-плееры или компакт-диски стали уже устаревшими, и им на смену пришли более современные устройства.

3. Сегодня мы с трудом можем представить нашу жизнь без таких современных стиральных машин, пылесосов, микроволновых печей.

4. Вчера я вышел из дома и вдруг вспомнил, что забыл отключить утюг от сети.

5. Я забыла накрыть блендер крышкой, и теперь на моей кухне ужасный беспорядок.

6. – Мне кажется, кофемашина не работает.

– Проверь, включил ли ты ее в розетку, а затем нажми кнопку «Старт».

7. На улице такая жара! Кажется, пора включить кондиционер или хотя бы вентилятор.

8. Мне кажется, пирог начал подгорать. Убавь, пожалуйста, температуру в духовке.

9. Бытовые приборы (пылесосы, кофе-машины, посудомоечные машины, кухонные комбайны и другие) помогают нам экономить время и энергию.

10. Если вы не хотите, чтобы ваш фен вышел из строя, **уменьшите скорость**, а затем **выключите** его.

## FOCUS ON IDIOMS

Complete the sentences with the idioms and phrases, connected with household appliances, from the box. Use the right form of the verbs, if it's necessary. Explain the meaning of each idiom and find the Russian equivalent.

*a good mixer, a storm in a teakettle, to be the toast of, to get freezer burn, to have a bun in the oven, to be a slave over a hot stove*

1. The disagreement between the brothers seemed to be nothing but \_\_\_\_\_.
2. One day I'll become famous, everyone will love me, I'll \_\_\_\_\_ this town.
3. For this position we are looking for someone who is \_\_\_\_\_, reliable and practical.
4. I want a vacation. I'm sick and tired of \_\_\_\_\_. I'm not a servant!
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ just looking at a sparkling diamond ring. She was a great thief and she could not just pass by.
6. She \_\_\_\_\_. In a month she's taking a maternity leave.

## FOCUS ON SPEAKING

**Look at the pictures and in pairs talk about:**

- A. the dangers children face at home
- B. how to make our houses safe for children



# UNIT 3

## ACCOMMODATION IN BELARUS, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE USA

### LEAD-IN

Look at the pictures. Try to guess the types of houses (you may use the information from Unit 1). Which of these types of dwelling are typical for Belarus, the USA, the United Kingdom?



a.



b.



c.



d.



e.



f.

### FOCUS ON READING

I. Read and translate the following text about accommodation in Belarus, the USA, the United Kingdom.

## **Accommodation in Belarus**

**Block of flats.** An apartment or flat is a self-contained housing unit that occupies only part of a building. Such a building may be called an apartment building, apartment house, block of flats or, occasionally mansion block, especially if it consists of many apartments for rent. Apartments may be owned by an owner/occupier or rented by tenants.

**Cottage.** In modern usage, a cottage is usually a modest, often cozy dwelling, typically in a rural or semi-rural location. However there are cottage-style dwellings in cities.

**Detached house.** A single-family detached home, also called a single detached dwelling or separate house is a free-standing residential building. It is defined in opposition to a multi-family dwelling.

**Semi-detached house.** Semi-detached housing consists of pairs of houses built side by side as units sharing a party wall and usually in such a way that each house's layout is a mirror image of its twin.

**Terraced house.** In architecture and city planning, a terrace(d) house, terrace, row house, linked house or townhouse is a style of medium-density housing that originated in Great Britain in the late 17th century, where a row of identical or mirror-image houses share side walls. The first and last of these houses is called an end terrace, and is often larger than those houses in the middle.

**Townhouses** on the territory of Belarus are still relatively a new kind of real estate just started to gain popularity. Townhouse – a mixture of an apartment and a house, actually - is the union of several houses in such a way that adjacent walls are common. Height is generally no more than 2-3 floors.

## **Most Popular Types of Houses in the United States**

**Ranch style homes** are extremely popular and are considered a great style of home for anyone, especially families. Ranches can come in such a wide variety of styles and designs that it is essentially endless in what you will see in a ranch. Ranches are one story and derived from original style of homes built on ranches, and although most people think of a ranch as a bit of a sprawling home, meaning that the square footage is spread out in a longer area over one story of living space, small, one story homes can also be considered a ranch.

**Craftsman homes** focus on the use of natural materials, including stone, wood and brick. This style of homes started popping up after the Arts and Crafts Movement that boomed in Britain from about 1880 to 1920 and you

can easily recognize the style of home due to its telling architectural design with deep front porches and large, squared-off columns that can be made of wood, brick or stone. Gentle sloping roofs are typical and most craftsman homes are one story, though some may have an added attic space with a dormer window. The Bungalow or Craftsman home is one of the most popular types of homes to this day.

**Log homes** originated as little cabins, and typically were built as one room structures using no nails in their construction, however, they've evolved quite a bit over the years. While log homes are most often thought of as little cozy getaways, they are also built to be permanent homes. You may imagine log homes in rural or mountainous areas, but in reality, they can be built just about anywhere, although the type of wood used to construct the home will vary depending on the climate they're built in.

**Tiny homes** have really boomed over the past recent years and were created for people who have decided to adopt the minimalist type of lifestyle. They can be constructed of a number of different materials and range in square footage, many are seen in the 300-600 sq. ft range. Due to their small size, amenities will vary, from kitchen appliances to the type of bathroom facilities installed in the tiny home. Storage space is often created in unusual places and if your lifestyle is one that is on the go, get your tiny home designed on wheels so you don't have to stay put in one place.

### **Types of Property That Exist in the UK**

**Flats.** From studio flats, to maisonettes and 2-storey flats, a flat is a living area that is self-contained and in one part of a building. A building is usually split into individual flats and the communal areas are those that are shared e.g. lifts, stairwells, receptions etc....

**Detached houses** are more likely to be the property types we all dream of owning. They tend to be more private as they are single standing properties, and do not share walls with other houses. Due to its privacy, detached houses are a lot more expensive and high in demand.

**Semi-detached properties** are a lot more common for homeowners to purchase/rent. There are a lot more semi-detached properties in the UK as they save a lot of space as they are houses paired together by a common wall. Semi-detached properties are fantastic options for homeowners to extend at the back and side and have an element of privacy too.

**Terraced houses** are common in old industrial towns and cities such as Manchester, Bath and areas of central London. Terraced houses became

extremely popular to provide high-density accommodation for the working class in the 19th century. Terraced houses are structurally built the same and both sides of each house shares walls with neighbours. When you think of a cottage, you automatically associate the British rural countryside and more times than not, cottages have and will always be in the rural regions of the UK.

*Cottages* were purposefully built to have thick walls to withstand the bitter cold weather, small windows, structural pillars, low ceilings and most distinctively a thatched roof. Cottages in the middle ages were built for agricultural workers and their families. Nowadays, cottages are houses that have one and a half storeys – the top floor is a lot smaller than the ground floor and the pillars are used to hold up the structure. Modern cottages now have the same comforts of any of the types of property that exist in the UK, including electricity and running water.

## **II. Answer the questions.**

1. What types of property are typical for each country?
2. What are the features of townhouses?
3. What is the synonym to the notion “Craftsman home”?
4. Where exactly in the United Kingdom you can meet terraced houses?

## **III. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. самостоятельный, отдельный
2. жилец
3. жилой дом
4. планировка
5. смежная стена
6. разрастающийся
7. площадь
8. крыша под наклоном
9. удобства
10. небольшой дом (мезонет)
11. лестничная клетка
12. опора

## **FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

**IV. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.**

1. craftsman homes	a. a house that usually has only one storey (= level), sometimes with a smaller upper storey set in the roof and windows that come out from the roof
2. maisonette	b. someone who lives or works on a particular room, building or piece of land
3. occupier	c. a strong column made of stone, metal, wood that supports part of a building
4. pillar	d. a level of a building
5. privacy	e. someone's right to keep their personal matters and relationships secret
6. property	f. a building or area of land
7. square footage	g. the size of an area or building in feet
8. stairwell	h. a long, vertical passage through a building around which a set of stairs is built
9. storey	i. a small apartment that is usually part of a larger building with two levels and that has its own entrance

#### V. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.

1. Особняки и коттеджи идеально подходят для увлеченных садоводов и больших семей с детьми.

2. Дома с общей стеной дешевле коттеджей, но также предлагают хороший уровень комфорта.

3. Бунгало – одноэтажные дома, которые особо популярны среди пожилых американцев, поскольку им не приходится справляться с лестницами.

4. Белорусы предпочитают жить в многоквартирных домах либо в частных домах за городом.

5. Только 20% британцев живут в многоэтажных домах, остальные предпочитают коттеджи и дома рядовой застройки.

6. В Британии 22 миллиона домов – особняков, коттеджей, новостроек.

7. Для типичной американской семьи нормально менять место жительства каждые 5-6 лет.

8. Более 10 миллионов американцев живут в домах на колесах. Они наиболее популярны среди молодых и пожилых пар с ограниченными финансовыми возможностями.

9. Цены на недвижимость в Беларуси довольно разумные, однако не каждый может позволить купить себе отдельную квартиру или дом.

## FOCUS ON SPEAKING

If you lived in the USA or the UK, what type of accommodation would you choose? Discuss in pairs.

## FOCUS ON IDIOMS

Read the text about the idioms related to building and entrances. Pay attention to the meanings and the examples. Do the exercises after the text.

### **Buildings**

To **build something/someone up** can be used metaphorically to mean to praise someone or something in a way that will increase expectations of them: *The press has **built up** the young footballer so much that it must be extra pressure on him.*

Note how **cement** is used to fix bricks firmly in place and to make relationships more solid. It can be used in this way both as a noun and a verb: *Let's have a drink together **to cement** our partnership.*

**To come up against a brick wall** is used metaphorically, meaning to meet a barrier: *When I tried to find out who had opened my letters, I **came up against a brick wall**.*

**Ceiling** can be used to suggest a limit to something: *They put a **ceiling** on the number of planned redundancies.*

The **glass ceiling** is a phrase used to refer to an invisible barrier that stops people, especially women, from rising to top positions at work.

**Roof** is used in a number of common metaphors: *The **roof fell in** on my world on the day he died.* [My world collapsed ...]

Conversely, the **floor** can **give way** metaphorically when you faint. The informal phrase **go through the roof** is used about prices, meaning to increase in a rapid, uncontrolled fashion.

**Hit the roof** means get very angry: *My mother will **hit the roof** when she sees what we've done.*

**Window**, both literally and metaphorically, means an opening. A **window of opportunity** is a chance to do something special: *If you see a **window of opportunity**, then take advantage of it.*

If a quality or idea **goes out (of) the window**, it means it departs: *Once the boys started going around together, common sense **went out of the window**.*

As a very tall building, **tower** conveys an idea of distance from ordinary people. If someone lives in an **ivory tower**, he/she does not know about the unpleasant and ordinary things that happen in life: *Academics are often criticised for living in their **ivory towers**.*



If a person is a **tower of strength**, they are extremely strong (in an emotional rather than a physical sense): *Our friends were a **tower of strength** when our house burnt down.*

If a person or thing **towers above** something or someone, they are either outstandingly tall or outstanding in some other positive way: *Lauren **towers above** all her classmates, although she is actually one of the youngest students.*

### Entrances

**Gateway** is used metaphorically in the phrase **be a gateway to**, meaning give an opportunity to get somewhere: *A degree in law is a **gateway to** a well-paid job.*

**Door** can also be used in a similar way to gateway above, but it is also used in many other metaphorical phrases as well: *Failing his final exams **closed/shut** a lot of **doors** for him. Knowing several languages **opens doors** when it comes to finding work. The new year gives us the opportunity to **close the door on** the past and make a fresh start.*

Doing something **through/by the back door** suggests doing it unofficially: *Jack came into the business **by the back door** – the manager knew him from university.* Doing something **behind closed doors** suggests secrecy: *Unfortunately, the decision was taken **behind closed doors** and no one knows exactly why it was made.*

**Key** can be used as a noun to suggest the importance of something: *This research may **provide/hold the key to** developing a cure for cancer. Knowing the right people is **the key to success** in that country.*

### I. Match up the words to make expressions. Explain what each expression means.

1. glass	a. strength
2. ivory	b. opportunity
3. brick	c. ceiling
4. back	d. tower
5. windows of	e. wall
6. tower of	f. door

### II. Complete these sentences with the appropriate verb.

- The price of fuel has \_\_\_\_\_ through the roof.
- We hope that this scientist's work may \_\_\_\_\_ the key to solving the problem.
- A degree in economics \_\_\_\_\_ the door to a number of interesting job opportunities.
- Whenever you try to initiate something in this company you find that, sooner or later, you \_\_\_\_\_ up against a brick wall.

5. Lucy's father \_\_\_\_\_ the roof when he saw that she'd dyed her hair purple.

6. Ben \_\_\_\_\_ over all the other lawyers in his firm. He is by far the most able.

7. Her argument with the board last year has, unfortunately, \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of doors for her in this company.

8. The roof \_\_\_\_\_ in on their world the day that war was declared.

### III. Rewrite the underlined parts of these sentences using one of the expressions from the text.

1. My brother is always enormously supportive whenever I have a problem.

2. We'll never know what the US and Russian Presidents said to each other when they met in private.

3. The fee for this work will depend on the time it takes, but cannot be more than \$20,000.

4. The cost of petrol has risen dramatically in the last six months.

5. Having children often makes a marriage stronger.

6. Winning an Olympic medal can provide an opportunity to develop a career in the media.

7. The most important decision we have to take now is where to locate our business.

8. The professor has spent all his life in one university or another and really finds it very difficult to cope in the real world.

9. Lena has always said what an incredible person Max is – I hope I won't be disappointed when I meet him.

## UNIT 4

### FURNISHING AND DECORATING

#### TOPICAL VOCABULARY

##### ROOMS

attic

box room

basement

cellar

bathroom

cloakroom

bedroom

closet

den  
dining room  
drawing room  
family room  
front yard  
garage  
guest room  
hall  
hallway  
kitchen  
larder  
laundry  
living room  
lobby  
master bedroom  
nursery

office  
pantry  
parlour  
patio  
playroom  
porch  
rec room  
spare room  
staircase  
study  
sunroom  
TV room  
utility room  
washroom  
workshop

### **FURNITURE AND DECOR**

armchair  
bar stool  
bath  
bed  
bed table  
bookcase  
bookshelf  
buffet  
cabinet  
carpet  
chair  
chandelier  
change table  
coffee table  
cot  
couch  
counter  
cupboard  
curtains  
cushion  
desk

desk chair  
dresser / bureau  
entertainment centre  
faucet  
fireplace  
flush toilet / water closet  
folding chair  
grandfather clock  
hammock  
hot whirlpool / Jacuzzi  
ironing board  
lamp  
louvers  
mirror  
pantry  
picture  
pillow  
rocking chair  
rug  
sconce  
settee

shelve  
shower cubicle  
sideboard  
sink  
sofa  
tub / bathtub

wallpapers  
waste basket  
window shades  
window sills / ledges  
writing desk  
table lamp

### **LEAD-IN**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. Do you leave alone or with your family/partner?
2. How many rooms do you have in your flat/house?
3. Do you take part in decorating your house?

### **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the following article about decorating tips.**

**II. Fill in the gaps with the missing titles from the table below.**

<i>Add Texture</i>
<i>Add Velvet</i>
<i>Choose The Right Curtain Length</i>
<i>Don't Skimp On The Sofa</i>
<i>Establish a Colour Scheme</i>
<i>Extend Your Backsplash</i>
<i>Fake Height</i>
<i>Fake Square Footage</i>
<i>Mix Metallics</i>
<i>Paint Your Ceiling</i>
<i>Paint Your Ceiling</i>
<i>Play With Textiles</i>
<i>Swap Chairs For Benches</i>
<i>Warm Up A Room With Mirrors</i>

### **14 Decorating Secrets Only The Pros Know – Until Now**

Some people have a natural eye for design, but we're more in the camp of those who can't do anything without consulting Pinterest board before making any major changes. And even then, expectations don't always meet

reality. We'd love to have an interior designer on speed dial before deciding just exactly where and how hang to hang that sweet new wall art we bought on a whim, but until we win the lottery, we'll have to settle for trusting our guts, and taking plenty of design tips where we can get them. We've compiled some secrets straight from the pros to help you with all your decorating needs.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

For a head-to-toe makeover, the first step is creating a palette. "I come up with a basic colour scheme for the whole house, and then I take that from room to room," reveals Gary McBournie, a designer based in Boston. "It plays itself out in different ways in different rooms."

2. \_\_\_\_\_

"Create strong verticals and avoid the horizontal," recommends designer Todd Romano. "I adore large mirrors because they add scale to a room. I also kept the furniture low-slung, so the rooms seem taller."

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Eye-catching tile can make a statement in the kitchen as well as in the bathroom. Cover as much of the wall as the budget allows, recommends designer Angie Hranowsky. Matthew Quinn, also a designer, agrees: "It feels more like a French bistro this way," he says of this blue-gray backdrop.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Neutral decor can be interesting – just include a variety of materials. "I used a range – from fine-gauge and open-weave linen, to raw silk and taffeta, to cotton velvet and distressed velvet," says California-based designer Ohara Davies-Gaetano. "Not only that, there's also the contrast of matte sheens that absorb the light, and lustrous sheens that reflect it."

5. \_\_\_\_\_

You might think of straw as an outdoor textile, but it'll look just as good indoors. "Straw, jute, rush – natural materials and neutral tones are they always chic," says Braff. "They're the white T-shirt of interior design."

6. \_\_\_\_\_

Dining room benches might not be conventional, but they sure are cozy. "You automatically feel more friendly when you're sharing a seat," points out designer Thom Filicia. "It could quickly become corporate if you were looking at a room full of chairs." Vicente Wolf, also a designer, agrees on mixing it up: "You wouldn't have eight identical chairs in your living area."

8. \_\_\_\_\_

Mirrored panels like the ones lining this alcove can be elegant – but don't just slap them up, designer Jan Showers warns. Large sheets of mirror

will look commercial, so try a sectioned pattern in the traditional French style instead.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

“I don’t think it will last too long, but the look of velvet is a big trend,” says TV personality and designer on the new season of *Trading Spaces*, Sabrina Soto. She embraced this material by buying a deep blue velvet couch for her formal living room, but if you want a safer choice, go with a soft gray.

10. \_\_\_\_\_

Don’t postpone a makeover because of messy kids. “Put your money into a comfortable, well-made sofa that you’ll have forever,” advises Krista Ewart, a designer based in California. “You don’t have to deny yourself that expensive designer fabric you love – just put it on something small, like a pillow.”

11. \_\_\_\_\_

“For classic side panels, you really have to go *all* the way to the floor,” designer Scot Meacham Wood says. “If you’re looking at ready-made drapes, make sure that they touch the floor, even if you have to buy the next size up and have them hemmed.”

12. \_\_\_\_\_

Kitchens with floor-to-ceiling cabinets can look dark, but here’s how to fool the eye: Designer Caitlin Moran will paint the ceiling a slightly paler version of the walls, so the room seems brighter even with just a few windows.

13. \_\_\_\_\_

Metallic finishes already add plenty of sparkle, but the sheen will make a bigger impact in a variety of colours. “I don’t know why people don’t mix gold with silver more often – they look so smart together,” says designer John De Bastiani. “The key is to use a lot of both; you can’t be shy with one or the other.”

14. \_\_\_\_\_

Most people opt for a frosted glass or an opaque curtain for extra privacy, but there’s something to be said for transparency. Glass shower doors, like in this guest bathroom by designer Amy Meier, add instant square footage. To complete the illusion, run the floor tiles straight into the stall. “It makes the room feel larger,” adds designer Alla Akimova. “If I had changed materials, it would have interrupted the space.”

### III. Answer the questions.

1. What should you do in order to add scale to a room?
2. What fabrics can be used in decoration?

3. What can you do to make the rooms seem brighter?
4. What can you do to make your bathroom more spacious?

**IV. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. прихоть
2. безупречный
3. палитра
4. низкоразположенный
5. кафель, черепица
6. декорации
7. матовый
8. глянцевый
9. ниша
10. непрозрачный

**FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

**V. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.**

1. attic	a. area in the front entrance for hanging coats and placing shoes
2. basement	b. long narrow area that joins one room to another
3. bathroom, washroom	c. place for preparing food; sometimes has a table and chairs for eating informal meal
4. bedroom	d. place where family spends leisure time; often has a TV, also used for entertaining
5. dining room	e. room for baby or young child
6. hallway	f. room off the kitchen for keeping dry foods and storage items
7. kitchen	g. room with a table and chairs for eating; in some houses this room is only used on special occasions
8. living room	h. storage room at the very top of the house
9. lobby	i. the largest bedroom in the house; used by parents
10. master bedroom	j. the lowest level of the house
11. nursery	k. the room for bathing and using the toilet
12. pantry	l. the room where people sleep

**VI. Complete the table with the following items for each room.**

*wardrobe crockery bath tub soap dish  
sheet sofa bedside table cutlery  
pillow sink sideboard cupboard towel  
coffee table washbasin bookcase*

bathroom	kitchen	living room	bedroom

**VII. Match the words from the table with correct pictures. Do you have these pieces of furniture and decor in your house?**

*louvers sideboard chandelier hammock sconce grandfather clock*



**VIII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Я купил *гамак* и повесил его в комнате для отдыха, потому что на улице слишком холодно.

2. У моего дедушки было старое кресло-качалка, в котором он любил проводить вечера.



3. Я вынес из подвала весь ненужный хлам, в том числе сломанный складной стул, старый журнальный столик, разбитую люстру.

4. Раньше в кладовой она хранила соленья, теперь она сделала там ремонт, и кладовая превратилась в маленький уютный кабинет с письменным столом и парой книжных шкафов.

5. Я разрешила ему переночевать в главной спальне, а сама провела ночь на неудобной раскладушке.

6. Его дом был очень старомодным: в гостиной стояли высокие напольные часы, старый сервант, маленький диванчик и несколько выцветших кресел.

7. Он приподнял жалюзи и взглянул на передний двор, однако никого не увидел: было слишком темно и туманно.

8. Он зашел в спальную, однако не обнаружил там никого, кроме черного кота, сидящего на подоконнике.

9. Давно пора купить новые шторы и мусорное ведро в кухню.

10. В новой квартире раковина, унитаз и ванна были сделаны из качественного испанского фаянса.

### **FOCUS ON SPEAKING**

**Work in pairs. Find all eight differences in the pictures, describe them in detail.**





### FOCUS ON WRITING

Describe your living room / kitchen / bedroom in detail (10-15 sentences). Try to use as many words from your focus vocabulary as possible.

PART 2  
PLEASANT CHORES

UNIT 1  
HOUSEHOLD DUTIES

**TOPICAL VOCABULARY**

**ADJECTIVES**

allergic  
clean  
clogged / plugged  
damp  
dirty  
dusty  
environmentally friendly  
filthy  
messy  
neat / tidy  
slippery  
soapy  
wet

**VERBS**

beat (the rug)  
change (the sheets)  
clean (up)  
do the dishes / the laundry  
drill  
dry  
dust (off)  
finish / complete  
fold  
freshen up  
hang (up)  
iron  
make (the bed)  
mop (up)  
nail  
organize

polish  
repair  
rinse  
sanitize / sterilize  
scrub  
set (the table)  
sweep  
take out (the rubbish)  
tidy (up)  
vacuum  
wash  
wipe (off)

**NOUNS**

baking soda  
bleach  
broom  
carpet cleaner  
cloth  
deodorizer  
dishwashing / laundry detergent  
dust rag  
duster  
dustpan  
feather duster  
furniture polish  
garbage / trash bag  
garbage / trash bin  
gloves  
hose  
ironing board  
mop

recycling bin  
scouring pads  
scrub brush  
sponge  
stain remover

toilet brush  
vacuum cleaner  
vinegar  
window / toilet cleaner

## **LEAD-IN**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. Do you handle your household chores with pleasure?
2. Do you have your most and least favorite household chores?

## **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the following text about household chores.**

### **The Ultimate Household Chore List**

Show of hands: Who loves having a clean house? Now another show of hands: Who enjoys having to do the chores that'll keep your home clean?

Even though we all love when our home is tidy, having to actually do the work to get there is a whole different story. Household chore lists can help you iron out (pun intended) what needs cleaning and how often.

So, if you often find yourself climbing Mount Laundry, or waking up to a counter full of dinner dishes, give this approach a shot and see if it helps you streamline your process.

### **Daily household chores list**

Daily household chores help you stay on top of clutter and make your home guest-ready at any time. The daily chore list should be shared among family members so no one has to do it all.

Here are some examples of daily household chores:

#### ***Bedrooms***

- Make the beds.
- Put things in their place.
- Clean up spills, dirt, and other messes (as needed).

#### ***Kitchen***

- Wash your dishes after every meal.
- Clean all kitchen countertops. This includes your stove top.
- Clean the outside of appliances. For example, wipe the outside of the microwave, dishwasher, coffee maker and refrigerator, etc.
- Vacuum high-traffic areas.

- Put things in their place. For example, put all used ingredients, food and dishes away.

**Main living spaces** (e.g., living room, TV room, dining room, office etc.)

- Vacuum high-traffic areas. You should focus specifically on any main entries.

- Clean up spills, dirt, and other messes (as needed).

- Put things in their place. For example, stack books, fold blankets, and have kids put their toys away.

- Take out the trash, compost and recycling (as needed).

### **Bathroom**

- Do a quick wipe-down of bathroom surfaces. This includes sinks, counters, mirrors and faucets.

### **Weekly household chores list**

One of the best ways to tackle weekly chores is to assign each chore a day of the week. For example, Sunday might work best as laundry day, so everyone has clean clothes for the coming week.

### **Bedrooms**

- **Wash clothes and put them away.** Lightly organize the inside of your drawers and your closet.

- **Wash and replace bed sheets.**

- **Vacuum or sweep.**

### **Kitchen**

- **Vacuum or sweep all floors.** This includes all of the hard surfaces in your home.

- **Mop all floors.** This includes any hard floor surfaces in your house. If you have hardwood floors, make sure to dust-mop them first.

- **Show your refrigerator and freezer some love.** Throw out unused leftovers, pitch anything spoiled and do a quick wipe of the inside.

- **Wipe down the rest of the kitchen.**

- **Dust all surfaces.** A quick dusting once a week helps reduce allergens and protects surfaces from scratches and wear.

### **Main living spaces**

- **Vacuum high-traffic areas.**

- **Put things in their place.** For example, stack books, fold blankets, and have kids put their toys away.

- **Take out the trash, compost and recycling (as needed).**

### **Bathroom**

- **Give your bathroom a scrub.** Thoroughly clean all surfaces in your bathroom(s), including the toilet, shower, and mirror.

- **Replace and wash bathroom rugs and towels.**
- **Scrub sink and clean drain.**
- **Scrub the toilet seat and toilet bowl.**
- **Clean the tub and shower walls.**

### **Monthly household chores list**

Add these monthly tasks to your chore list.

Here are some examples of monthly household chores you'll want to consider adding to your list:

#### ***Bedrooms***

- Thoroughly clean and organize the inside of your drawers and closet. Reorganize and fold clothes.
- Vacuum and sweep. This time, clean under your furniture – especially your bed – and in any hard to reach places.

#### ***Kitchen***

- Clean the inside of your oven.
- Clean the inside of your trash cans and recycle bins.
- Clean out your dishwasher.

#### ***Main living spaces***

- Clean your furniture. Vacuum cloth furniture, such as sofas.
- Wash your bedding. This includes comforters and duvets.
- Wash ceiling light fixtures and wipe fan blades.
- Wipe down light switches, door handles and the surrounding wall area.
- Clean the inside of your washer and dryer machines.
- Don't forget your windows. Make sure to dust, vacuum, or wash window coverings.
- Wipe down baseboards, moldings, doors and door frames.
- Vacuum under furniture.

#### ***Bathroom***

- Scrub the tub and shower walls and floor.
- Sweep and mop the bathroom floor.

It may help to make family members their own lists so everyone knows what is expected of them. Just remember to keep kids' chores age appropriate.

**II. Answer the question “How often do you handle the following household chores?” Complete the table. Compare your answers with the article.**

- *Vacuum or sweep all floors*
- *Make the beds*

- *Mop all floors*
- *Wash your dishes*
- *Wash your bedding*
- *Wash clothes and put them away*
- *Put things in their place*
- *Dust all surfaces*
- *Wash the windows*
- *Wipe down light switches, door handles*
- *Clean the inside of your trash cans and recycle bins*
- *Take out the trash, compost and recycling*
- *Replace and wash bathroom rugs and towels*
- *Clean the inside of your oven*

Every day	Every week	Every month

### III. Find the English equivalents in the text.

1. беспорядок
2. столешница
3. водопроводный кран
4. преодолевать
5. ящик (стола)
6. простыня
7. паркетный пол
8. остатки еды
9. канализация
10. тщательно
11. покрывало
12. пуховое одеяло
13. плинтус
14. рама двери

## FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

**IV. Tick the household jobs you and your family do at home. Who handles most of household chores in your house?**

HOME SURVEY	You	Your mother	Your father	Your brother / sister / others	Nobody
Do the shopping					
Do the dishes					
Cook					
Sweep/mop the floor					
Do the ironing					
Lay/clear the table					
Take out the rubbish					
Do the washing up					
Water the plants					
Clean the window					
Do the hoovering					
Do small repairs					
Sew/mend clothes					
Collect the mail					
Dust the furniture					
Feed / walk the pets					
Decorate the house					
Answer the door					
Answer the phone					
Change the toilet paper roll					
Clean the bathroom					
Organize cupboards					

**V. Fill in with the correct form of the verb (either “make” or “do”).**

**DO** suggests an action of some kind and has a very strong connection with work. Therefore almost all household chores use the verb “do”. The exception is “**MAKE THE BEDS**”.

**MAKE** gives the idea of constructing something with your hands and creating something that wasn't there before. In the home you use “make” with cooking for eg. **MAKE A CUP OF TEA, MAKE A CAKE, MAKE A SANDWICH, MAKE SUPPER.**

1. I need to \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of housework this weekend.



2. I've \_\_\_\_\_ such a mess!
3. I haven't \_\_\_\_\_ the dishes since Monday!
4. Yesterday the sun was shining, so I \_\_\_\_\_ 4 loads of washing.
5. My brother enjoys \_\_\_\_\_ the ironing.
6. – Where's Janet?  
– Oh, she's \_\_\_\_\_ the beds.
7. After every meal she \_\_\_\_\_ the washing-up.
8. Her boyfriend \_\_\_\_\_ the drying-up.
9. Our place looks spotless! We \_\_\_\_\_ al the cleaning yesterday.
10. This carpet is full of crumbs! I'll have to \_\_\_\_\_ the vacuuming.
11. The furniture is dusty. Could you help me \_\_\_\_\_ the dusting and polishing please?
12. He had a shower, got dressed and then \_\_\_\_\_ his bed.

#### **VI. Translate the following sentences from English into Russian.**

1. Doing chores helps children learn about what they need to do to care for themselves, a home and a family.
2. Getting children into the habit of pitching in around the home can begin as young as age two, by having them put away their toys when they're done playing with them.
3. Women do twice as much housework as men even when they have done a full day in the office, according to new research.
4. It found that women spend an average 10 hours per week on household tasks, while men spend only five.
5. Teens are capable of doing practically any chore that adults can do, but they need direction and guidance as they learn how to do household chores appropriately.
6. Only several years ago women spent much more time on house work, when they didn't have such household appliances as microwave, washing machine, vacuum cleaner, blender and others.
7. My chores include washing the dishes, cleaning the dust and vacuum cleaning and my husband is responsible for repairing some devices and objects in our flat.
8. To avoid spending time sorting clothes into different colours before loading into the machine, have separate laundry baskets for each colour.
9. Use good quality vacuums, brooms, and mops to keep your floors clean, because poor models will not do a good job, and so you will spend more time trying to get a clean and tidy finish.

## VII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.

1. У нашей дочери аллергия на это моющее средство, больше его не покупай.
2. Мне кажется, кухонная мойка засорилась картофельными очистками.
3. Я повесила твой костюм в шкаф, но он всё еще немного влажный.
4. Дети вошли в дом в грязной обуви, и теперь мне снова нужно мыть пол!
5. Пожалуйста, вытри посуду полностью, прежде чем убирать ее в шкаф.
6. Посудомоечная машина затопила кухню, и мне пришлось вытирать пол.
7. Мне кажется, мое платье забыли прополоскать в химчистке. На нем остались разводы от порошка.
8. Детские бутылочки следует стерилизовать в кипящей воде.
9. Растения погибли! Ты что, забыл их полить?
10. Не имею понятия, сколько мне понадобится времени, чтобы отчистить ванну.
11. Правильнее всего начинать уборку комнаты с пылесоса и только потом протирать пыль.

## FOCUS ON SPEAKING

### **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)*

## UNIT 2

## PETS

### TOPICAL VOCABULARY

#### **DOMESTIC ANIMALS**

bird  
budgie

canary  
cat  
chinchilla

cockatoo  
dog  
domestic pig  
donkey  
ferret  
fish  
gecko  
gerbil  
guinea pig  
hamster  
hedgehog  
horse

### **VERBS**

to bark  
to bite  
to crawl  
to feed  
to groom  
to hop

### **WORDS AND PHRASES**

adorable  
allergic  
aquarium  
bowl  
breed  
cage  
canine teeth  
claws  
chirp  
collar  
feathers  
fetch  
fur  
groomer  
ID tag  
kennel  
kitty litter

iguana  
kitten  
lizard  
mouse  
parrot  
pigeon  
puppy  
rabbit  
rat  
snake  
spider  
turtle / tortoise

to pet  
to ride  
to slither  
to stroke  
to tie up  
to wag  
to walk

lead  
leash  
paws  
pet owner  
pet shop  
playful  
purr  
raccoon  
rodent  
scales  
shy  
spines  
tail  
treats  
vet (veterinarian)  
whiskers

## **LEAD-IN**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. Do you have a pet? (if no, what kind of pet would you like to have?)
2. Where did you get it from?
3. What is its name? How did you choose this name?

## **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the following articles about benefits of owning pets.**

**II. Make up plans to the texts. Retell the articles according to the plans.**

### **1. Why Owning a Pet Makes You “Happier and More Likely to Live Longer”?**

Owning a lively pet may sometimes prove exasperating, but it appears all the effort is worth it.

Pet owners are healthier, have greater self-esteem and are less lonely than those who don't have animals at home, according to a study.

Not only that, but they are also more conscientious, extroverted and less fearful, researchers at the American Psychological Association said.

They believe that pets serve as important sources of social and emotional support for the average person, and not just individuals facing significant health challenges.

Lead researcher, Allen R McConnell, of Miami University in Ohio, said: ‘We observed evidence that pet owners fared better, both in terms of well-being outcomes and individual differences, than non-owners on several dimensions.

“Specifically, pet owners had greater self-esteem, were more physically fit, tended to be less lonely, were more conscientious, were more extroverted, tended to be less fearful and tended to be less preoccupied than non-owners.”

Pet owners are just as close to key people in their lives as to their animals, the study found.

This indicates no evidence that relationships with pets come at the expense of relationships with other people, or that people relied more on pets when their human social support was poorer.

The scientists, from Miami University and Saint Louis University in Missouri, conducted three experiments to examine the potential benefits of pet ownership among what they called “everyday people”.

They questioned 217 people with an average age of 31 and family income of \$77,000, 79 per cent of whom were women.

The group answered a survey aimed at determining whether pet owners differed from people without pets in terms of well-being and personality type.

Several differences between the groups emerged - in all cases, pet owners were happier, healthier and better adjusted than were non-owners.

A second experiment involved 56 dog owners with an average age of 42 and family income of \$65,000, 91 per cent of whom were women.

This group were questioned about whether they benefit more when their pet is perceived to fulfill their social needs better.

The researchers here found greater well-being among owners whose dogs increased their feelings of belonging, self-esteem and meaningful existence.

The last group, made up of 97 undergraduates with an average age of 19, found that pets can make people feel better after experiencing rejection.

Subjects were asked to write about a time when they felt excluded. Then they were asked to write about their favourite pet, or to write about their favourite friend, or to draw a map of their campus.

The researchers found that writing about pets was just as effective as writing about a friend when it came to staving off feelings of rejection.

‘The present work presents considerable evidence that pets benefit the lives of their owners, both psychologically and physically, by serving as an important source of social support,’ the researchers wrote.

‘Whereas past work has focused primarily on pet owners facing significant health challenges...the present study establishes that there are many positive consequences for everyday people who own pets.’

### **Questions:**

1. What are the differences between pet owners and those who don't have animals at home according to American Psychological Association?

2. Describe the features of three experiments conducted by the scientists from Miami University and Saint Louis University in Missouri?

## **2. How Dogs Keep You in Good Health**

Many studies have suggested that having dogs as pets is associated with better physical health, as reviews of the existing literature show.

*Medical News Today* reported on a study that showed that owning a dog reduces a person's risk of premature death by up to a third. Also, researchers at the University of Harvard in Cambridge, MA, suggest that dog owners have a lower risk of heart disease.

Why is that? It is difficult to establish a causal relationship between owning a dog and enjoying better health.

However, the benefits may appear thanks to a series of factors related to lifestyle adjustments that people tend to make after they decide to adopt a canine friend.

The most prominent such lifestyle factor is physical activity. There is no way around it: if you own a dog, you have to commit to twice daily walks – and sometimes even more.

According to a paper published in *The Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, dog owners are more likely to walk for leisure purposes than both non-pet owners and people who own pet cats.

The results were based on studying a cohort of 41,514 participants from California, some of whom owned dogs, some of whom owned cats, and some of whom did not have any pets.

Moreover, several recent studies – including one from the University of Missouri in Columbia and another from Glasgow Caledonian University in the United Kingdom – found that adults aged 60 and over enjoy better health thanks to the “enforced” exercise they get by walking their dogs.

*“Over the course of a week, this additional time spent walking may in itself be sufficient to meet [World Health Organization] recommendations of at least 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity.”* Philippa Dall, Glasgow Caledonian University

Dogs can strengthen our health not just as we grow older, but also much, much earlier than that: before we are even born.

Research published last year suggests that children who were exposed to dogs while still in the womb – as their mothers spent time around dogs during pregnancy – had a lower risk of developing eczema in early childhood.

Also, children exposed to certain bacteria carried by dogs also experienced a reduction of asthma symptoms, the researchers noted.

### **Questions:**

1. What are the benefits of owning a dog?
2. How can dogs strengthen our health before our born?

### **III. Find the English equivalents in the texts.**

1. раздражающий
2. добросовестный
3. поглощенный мыслями
4. наполненное смыслом существование
5. неприятие
6. предотвращать

7. последствие
8. преждевременная смерть
9. активный
10. утроба матери

**FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

**IV. Look at the pictures. What exotic pets are presented here? Which of them you would like to have? Choose one and find some information about keeping and caring for these pets.**



**V. Find and circle as many pet words as possible. Words may be found across, down and diagonally.**



## **VI. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Рано или поздно каждый ребёнок просит родителей купить щенка или котёнка.

2. Воспитание кошек требует особого терпения, так как наказания они не понимают.

3. Кошка подходит вашей семье, если: вы любите спокойно проводить время дома и готовы тратить деньги на хороший корм, игрушки, наполнитель для туалета, регулярные прививки и другое лечение.

4. Хозяева собак ведут более активный образ жизни и реже подвержены тревожности и депрессии.

5. Морские свинки, кролики, шиншиллы и другие крупные грызуны в среднем живут 5–7 лет.

6. Крысы очень привязываются к хозяевам при регулярном общении.

7. Грызуны не подходят вашей семье, если вы не готовы убирать клетку пару раз в неделю.

8. Рептилии подходят для тех, у кого ограничено пространство, но не ограничены финансы.

9. Поведение хорьков и енотов не всегда предсказуемо, а в случае болезни питомца труднее найти квалифицированного ветеринара.

10. Прежде, чем покупать питомца, попробуйте репетицию регулярных выгулов собаки, уборку горшка или клетки, а также сдайте анализ крови, чтобы узнать, есть ли у вас аллергия на каких-либо животных.

### **FOCUS ON WRITING**

**Write a short essay (10-15 sentences) on the topic “My pet” OR “A pet I’d like to have”. Try to use as many words from your focus vocabulary as possible.**

### **FOCUS ON LISTENING**

**Watch the video “What Kind of Pet Matches Your Personality”. Answer the questions from the video and find out which animal would make your life better.**



## UNIT 3

### DACHA: A RELIC OF THE PAST?

#### LEAD-IN

**Answer the following questions.**

1. Do your parents have a dacha/summer house? Where is it located?
2. Do you prefer to spend your holidays in the city or in the country?

#### FOCUS ON READING

**I. Read and translate the following article about the history of Russian dachas.**

**II. State whether the following sentences are T (true) or F (false). Correct the mistakes.**

1. Dachas were forbidden during the rule of Peter the Great.
2. Josef Stalin had no dachas, because they were forbidden after October Revolution of 1917.
3. In the 60s people had large plots of land with big luxurious houses.
4. In the 60s people could grow some products for sale.
5. It was not so easy to build a house because of lack of construction materials.

**III. Make up a plan to the text. Retell the article according to the plan.**

#### **Dacha – More Than a Country House, Rather a Passion**

The word “dacha” comes from a verb – “dat” – to give and the noun “dar” – gift. Since many years, receiving a plot of land for personal usage was a great and very much appreciated gift – whether it came from Tsar government or Soviet government. But the way people used that land did differ much in different times. One cannot fully understand Russia without understanding the cultural context behind Russian dacha.

First dachas in Russia appeared in the beginning of 18th century under Peter the Great. He wanted his subordinates to stay close to him even on vacations, so he granted them plots of land near St’Petersburg.

In 1803 the famous Russian historian Karamzin wrote that in Summer Moscow gets empty, since people go to dachas. And by the mid 19th century, dachas became a favorite place to rest and to have fun for all aristocrats, who could afford such a pastime. Dachas were often simple wooden houses, but always had a terrace, where the inhabitants could dine, drink tea and entertain in the long summer evenings.

October Revolution of 1917 brought with it a law, which forbade private ownership of land in Russia “forever”. The idea behind it was that all citizens of the country will be able to use all the country resources, all people will be equal and none would be able to exploit other people or be more rich than they are. However, Josef Stalin, who ruled the country from 1924 till 1953, was fond of a good countryside recreation himself. He had many dachas in the most picturesque parts of Russia – from Moscow region to the Black Sea. These were huge mansions, fully stuffed and ready to welcome him any time he decided to show up.

In the 60s, during Nikita Khrushchev’s time at power – ordinary people were finally allowed to get dachas. But it was not so easy to get one. Distribution was merit-based, one needed to fully comply with the ideology and wait in a long line, sometimes for many years.

These dachas were not as luxurious – it was usually just a tiny plot of land with a permission to build a small one-floor house there. Inhabitants still did not own it, but could use it for growing produce strictly for family consumption (not for sale).



Building a house was not easy as well. There was a deficit of construction materials. It is difficult to imagine that now, but one could not just go to a store and buy wood or bricks or anything else, one needed to “get” the needed materials somehow through his network of contacts or pay triple at the black market.

There was the time when the function of dacha started to morph – it became a place of hard work in the field rather than a place to rest and entertain. That function of dacha came in very handy in the turbulent times of the 90s, when food was scarce in the stores and people really supported their families by growing potatoes, cucumbers, fresh produce, berries and apples at their land. A lot of home-grown produce was conserved for winter in either pickled or salted form or as home-made jams.

Now, finally, the industry works as well as in any other country and if you want to build a beautiful house of any style – it will be built for you. But it will be pricey.

So, how do people spend time at dachas now? That does vary. A lot of people still work all day, growing potatoes, cucumbers, strawberries etc. The majority of these people have full-time jobs in the city, they are not agricultural



workers, but every Friday evening they leave the city to have a weekend of really hard work in the field. Needless to say – they have to cope with huge traffic jams on the way to dacha and back. Sometimes getting to a dacha which is 50-100 km from the city can take 3-4 hours. It is not possible to give a rational explanation of

why they still continue growing potatoes, although they can easily buy them in any store. Economically it does not make sense, but people are irrational. For some growing produce is a habit, some (mostly older people) enjoy to cultivate land with their own hands, some like the idea of organic produce or say that potatoes, grown in your own garden just taste better.

Another phenomena, which we, locals, call “Balcony, dacha, garbage can”. It is a story of frugality, caused by deficit of things in stores during Soviet times and scarcity of storage areas in urban apartments. Russians do not like to throw things away, even if they do not need some things – they still keep them. This stuff first lands at the balcony, then moves to dacha and only if it is really old or completely broken, ends up in garbage. As a result of that, a lot of people wear old clothes at dacha. And the majority have stacks of old clothes at dachas even though there is no shortage of clothes in store any more.

Still, many people do think of dacha as place to have fun. These people mow their lawns and plant flowers, so they still have to do their share of field work to make their dacha look presentable. But instead of spending all time in the garden, they invite friends and entertain them, grill meat, eat strawberries sitting in gazebos, play sports and enjoy other recreational activities. Hopefully this will become a mass trend and more people will enjoy resting at dacha rather than working there!

#### **IV. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. ценный подарок
2. земельный участок
3. веранда
4. житель, обитатель
5. на основе заслуг
6. роскошный
7. потребление
8. превращаться

9. маринованный
10. культивировать
11. бережливость
12. лужайка
13. беседка

**V. Read and translate the following article. Do you agree with these statements?**

### **Dacha or 5 Reasons Why Belarusians Love Their Summer Country Houses So Much**

*A dacha (the term that doesn't have exact counterpart in English) for the Belarusians is not just an ordinary summer country house. Actually, it is a perfect place to escape from the suffocating city, get back to nature and give a rest to your body and soul.*

#### **1. Get away from big city life**



Life in the city can be exhilarating, vibrant, life-affirming and full of opportunities. But then there's suddenly a moment when busy streets, car horns beeping and crowds are so irritating you want to run for dear life. This is when a dacha seems to be the best option to leave the hustle and bustle behind and spend some time with yourself.

#### **2. Unite with nature**

Waking up to birds singing, having hearty breakfast with fragrant herbal tea, isn't it the best way to start your day?

Being surrounded by nature and greenery clears your head, reduces your levels of stress and shows what really matters.

Both genteel and wild, there's nothing quite like the Belarusian countryside for rural escapes. There, in the embrace of nature, people enjoy simple pleasures – fishing, swimming, picking mushrooms and berries.

#### **3. Fresh veggies and fruits**

Those who love gardening see dachas as some kind of GMO free haven where you can grow your own organic food. Ever noticed that potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots, strawberries, and greens



from your garden always taste better than those bought at the supermarket?

And there's nothing better than the moment when you open a home-made jar of berries jam or pickled cucumbers on cold winter day recalling summer vibes.

#### 4. Spoil yourself

No wonder, so many of us have that dacha longing every summer.

Sleep till noon, read your favourite books, sunbathe, go to banya (a traditional steam bath), eat till full or do just nothing at all.

Dacha is the place where you can leave all your worries behind and just let life be.

#### 5. Relax with friends



Instead of spending all time in the garden, some people invite friends to play table-top games, sports or have endless talks about life and universe. They grill meat, eat strawberries sitting on terraces during long summer evenings. These people mow their lawns and plant flowers, hang hammocks and just enjoy themselves.

What about you, what kind of a Belarusian dachnik are you?

### VI. Find the English equivalents in the text.

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. удушающий      | 8. благородный        |
| 2. волнующий      | 9. объятия природы    |
| 3. динамичный     | 10. без ГМО           |
| 4. раздражающий   | 11. убежище           |
| 5. шум и суета    | 12. страстное желание |
| 6. сытный завтрак | 13. гамак             |
| 7. душистый       |                       |

### FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

#### VII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.

1. Хотя подавляющее большинство британцев сейчас проживают в городах, сельская местность для многих жителей Британии остается идеальным местом для жизни и отдыха.

2. Жизнь за городом предлагает очень многое: чистый воздух, красивую природу, более умеренный образ жизни и шанс возвращения в природу.

3. Наши бабушки и дедушки ездят на дачи, чтобы посадить фрукты и овощи, которые будут намного полезнее, чем те, что продаются в магазинах.

4. Рядом с нашей дачей находится большой пруд и лес, в котором мы часто собираем грибы и ягоды.

5. Мы сидели в беседке, ели клубнику, разговаривали о жизни, и нам казалось, что лето никогда не закончится.

6. Первые дачи начали появляться во времена правления Петра Первого.

7. Молодежь предпочитает ездить на дачу, не для того чтобы работать, а чтобы отдохнуть.

8. Вместо того, чтобы бесцельно тратить свободное время, сидя в городе, мы с мужем и детьми решили отправиться в наш загородный летний дом.

**VIII. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.**

1. fragrant	a. a flat area outside a house, restaurant, etc where you can sit
2. gazebo	b. a plant or animal in which scientists have changed the genes
3. GMO (genetically modified organism)	c. someone who lives in a particular place
4. haven	d. food that has been put into vinegar or salt water for a long time and has a sour taste
5. inhabitant	e. a piece of land, often for growing food or for building on
6. longing	f. a small decorated building or temporary structure, usually in a garden, that can be used for relaxing or entertaining guests
7. pickled	g. with a pleasant smell
8. plot	h. a safe or peaceful place
9. terrace	i. a feeling of wanting something or someone very much
10. horn	j. a piece of equipment used to make a loud sound as a warning or signal
11. exhilarating	
12. hammock	
13. lawn	

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | k. making you feel very excited and happy<br>l. a large piece of cloth or strong net that you hang between two trees or pole to sleep on<br>m. an area of grass that is cut |
|--|---|

### **FOCUS ON SPEAKING**

**Divide into two groups. The Group A makes up a list of advantages of living in the countryside. The Group B makes up a list of disadvantages of living in the countryside. Discuss your arguments.**

#### **ADVANTAGES**

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#### **DISADVANTAGE**

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Могилевский государственный университет имени А.А. Кулешова

PART III  
**HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS**

UNIT 1  
**AN IDEAL NEIGHBOUR: MOVING OUT**

**TOPICAL VOCABULARY**

**RENTING ACCOMMODATION**

apartment, unit, flat

balcony

bond

communal areas

condition report

contract

deposit

estate agent, letting agent

eviction

fixtures and fittings

for lease

furnished

garden

guarantor

house

inspection

insurance

keys

landlord

lease

maintenance

neighbours

open house

renovated

rent

roommate / flatmate

run-down

schedule

semi-furnished

spacious

tenant

to let a room

to live on one's own

to move in utilities

to pay a rent

to rent a room

to share a flat

to sign an agreement / a contract

to take turns

unfurnished

viewing

**A LIST OF USEFUL QUESTIONS**

1. I would like to rent a flat/apartment please.
2. I would like to be close to the town centre, with a view of the beach.
3. What does the flat/apartment contain?
4. Is bed linen available?
5. Are towels provided?
6. Is there a cleaning/housekeeping service?
7. Are there any sports facilities?
8. How much does it cost?



9. How far is it from the airport?  
10. Could you send me a brochure, please?

### **LEAD-IN**

1. Do you rent your flat?  
2. Why share a flat? Give some reasons.

### **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the dialogues.**

**II. Choose one of the dialogues as an example and make up your own dialogue. Work in pairs.**

#### **Looking for an Apartment**

**A:** How did you find your apartment?

**B:** You can check on the bulletin boards at school for local housing.

**A:** What if I need a roommate?

**B:** There are websites that can hook you up with a roommate.

**A:** How much do apartments cost around here?

**B:** It depends on what you want. Do you want a one- or two-bedroom apartment?

**A:** I just need a one-bedroom apartment.

**B:** That will probably cost you around twelve hundred dollars a month.

**A:** Would you come with me to look at apartments?

**B:** I would be happy to look at apartments with you.

#### **Situation: Lucy calls Jeff about his Flat Rental**

**Lucy:** Hello. My name is Lucy Smith, and I'm calling about the flat rental you have advertised in the newspaper. Is it still available?

**Jeff:** Hi, Lucy. My name is Jeff, and I am the owner. Yes, the apartment is still available.

**Lucy:** Great! Would you mind telling me a little about it?

**Jeff:** Sure. It has one bedroom and one bathroom. Every room has carpet except for the kitchen and bathroom which have hardwood floors.

**Lucy:** Okay. Is it a newer building or an older one?

**Jeff:** It is located in an apartment complex and the building is about six years old, so it's quite modern.

**Lucy:** That sounds lovely. How far away is it from downtown London?

**Jeff:** Well, it is about a thirty minute drive from the city center.

**Lucy:** Wonderful. What about the price? I didn't see one listed in the advertisement.

**Jeff:** It's a thousand pounds a month not including utilities.

**Lucy:** Alright. That's in my price range, so I'm very interested in looking at it.

**Jeff:** Excellent! I'd be happy to show you the flat. I'm sure you will love it. Would you be able to come and see it tomorrow?

**Lucy:** Absolutely! I could come right after work. Is six o'clock okay with you?

**Jeff:** Yes. That's fine. Do you need me to give you the address?

**Lucy:** No, thank you. I see it here in the advertisement.

**Jeff:** Okay. I'll see you tomorrow then, Lucy.

**Lucy:** Sure. See you then!

### **Responding to an Ad for Roommates**

**A:** Hey, I was wondering about the ad you have.

**B:** What ad are you referring to?

**A:** I'm calling about the ad for a new roommate.

**B:** Oh, yeah. Were you interested in being a roommate of mine?

**A:** I actually would like to be your new roommate.

**B:** That's great. Would you like to meet me sometime today?

**A:** Tell me where, and I'll be there.

**B:** Let's meet at Starbucks at 5:30.

**A:** Starbucks at 5:30 will be fine.

**B:** I'll fill you in on all the details when we get together.

**A:** All right, that sounds great.

**B:** I'll see you at Starbucks.

### **Eviction Notice**

**A:** I received an eviction notice from you, and I don't understand what it means.

**B:** Well, you are behind in your rent; it's a 30-day notice to vacate.

**A:** You can't make me move just for being late with my rent.

**B:** You have been late with your rent several times now. I am filing suit for back rent to protect myself.

**A:** Are you throwing me out?

**B:** This notice is to let you know that you will be evicted by a sheriff if you don't make good on your rent.

**A:** If I catch up on my rent, can I stay?

**B:** You can stay if you catch up and stay caught up. Otherwise, I will find another renter.

**A:** I will go get the money right now.

**B:** Thank you. Please make sure that you pay with cash or a cashier's check.

### III. Find the English equivalents in the text.

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. бюллетень           | 6. объявление   |
| 2. арендная плата      | 7. выселение    |
| 3. доступный           | 8. освобождать  |
| 4. коммунальные услуги | 9. кассовый чек |
| 5. ценовой диапазон    | 10. выбрасывать |

### FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

#### IV. Choose the right variant.

1. Does the flat contain all the furniture I will need? I'm looking for a place which is \_\_\_ please.

- A. spacious
- B. furnished
- C. semi-furnished

2. This room is really tiny. Are there any \_\_\_ ones?

- A. renovated
- B. furnished
- C. spacious

3. Apparently the owner has spent a large amount of money on \_\_\_ the whole house. It looks as good as new now!

- A. refurbishing
- B. utilities
- C. furnishing

4. I can't wait to \_\_\_ my new flat! I'm super excited about living on my own!

- A. move out
- B. renovate
- C. move in

5. How much do you spend on \_\_\_?

- A. refurbishment
- B. utilities
- C. spacious

6. Do people actually live there? The house looks terribly \_\_\_... It looks like it needs a few months of maintenance.

- A. run-down
- B. unfurnished
- C. renovated

V. Complete the 10 sentences with the words on the left.

animals	apartment	children	friendly		
highway	hospital	rent	repair	stairs	windows

10 Important Things to Think About  
Before You Move into a New Home

*It's a fact nowadays that most people will move to a new location many times in their lives. Below are 10 important things to consider before choosing to move into a new home.*

1. **Location** means where the home is. For example, is it located near your work, school, or a perhaps a \_\_\_\_\_?

2. **Affordability** means your ability to pay the monthly \_\_\_\_\_ or (if you want to buy the home) mortgage payments.

3. **Neighbourhood** means the area around the home. Are your neighbours \_\_\_\_\_? Is the area clean? Is there much crime?

4. **Sunlight**, of course, means the natural light from the sun. Does the home have many \_\_\_\_\_?

5. **Security** means safety. An \_\_\_\_\_ on the third floor is probably safer than one on the ground floor.

6. **Age** means how old the home is. You may have to spend lots of money to \_\_\_\_\_ an old home.

7. **Noise**, of course, can be a problem. You probably don't want to live next to a noisy \_\_\_\_\_.

8. **Elevators** are important if you are injured or elderly and can't walk up \_\_\_\_\_.

9. **Pets** are not allowed in some rented homes, but some small \_\_\_\_\_ like fish might be okay.

10. **Size** is something to think about, especially if you plan have more \_\_\_\_\_ in the future.

VI. Match the words in the left-hand column with the description in the right-hand column.

1. contract	a. an apartment/house which is complete with furniture
2. deposit	b. an apartment/house which doesn't have furniture
3. furnished	c. an apartment/house which has some furniture, but not all you need
4. mortgage	d. big; offering lots of space

5. renovated/ refurbished	e. used to describe a building which is not in good condition - old-looking and not well-maintained.
6. run-down	f. everything has been fixed/redesigned, and made new
7. semi-furnished	g. enter an apartment/house to live there
8. spacious	h. basic needs e.g. water, electricity and heat
9. tenant	i. a legal agreement between 2 people or organization
10. to move in	j. a payment that you make immediately when you decide to buy something
11. unfurnished	k. money that you borrow to buy a home
12. utilities	l. someone who pays rent to live in a room/house

**VII. Look at the advertisements and answer the questions. Work in pairs.**

**FOR RENT**

<p><b>DETACHED HOUSE</b></p> <p>4 bedrooms Garden Unfurnished Parking Pets welcome (extra 100\$) RENT 600\$ DEPOSIT 800\$ AGENCY 250\$ No guarantor needed</p>	<p><b>TERRACED HOUSE</b></p> <p>2 bedrooms Small garden furnished No parking No pets RENT 450\$ DEPOSIT 450\$ AGENCY 200\$ No guarantor needed</p>
<p><b>APARTMENT</b></p> <p>2 bedrooms No garden Unfurnished Parking No pets RENT 400\$ DEPOSIT 800\$ No agency fees No guarantor needed</p>	<p><b>SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE</b></p> <p>3 bedrooms Large garden (extra 100\$ deposit) Unfurnished Parking No pets RENT 500\$ DEPOSIT 700\$ AGENCY 225\$ Guarantor needed</p>

1. Which is the cheapest to rent?
2. Which is the most expensive?
3. Which house / flat needs no guarantor or agency fees?

4. Which house is the best if you have a large family?
5. Which is the best to rent if you are on a low income?
6. Which is the best house if you have problems walking?
7. Which house would you choose for renting?

### **VIII. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.**

1. Прежде чем искать идеальную квартиру или дом, надо определиться, какое жильё вам необходимо, и сколько реально вы можете за него заплатить.

2. Наилучший вариант, если у Вас достаточно средств, это снять квартиру через риелтора.

3. Лучше не иметь достаточно близких отношений с людьми, у которых вы собираетесь снять квартиру, поскольку финансовые вопросы проще и легче обсуждать с незнакомыми людьми, чем с друзьями.

4. Можно искать подходящий вариант и пробовать снять квартиру через газеты с объявлениями или через Интернет.

5. Одним из самых главных факторов цены при съеме жилья является близость квартиры к центру города.

6. Необходимо всегда интересоваться, когда именно был сделан ремонт в квартире, которую вы собираетесь снимать.

7. Если вы снимаете жильё с несколькими комнатами, убедитесь в том, что вы единственный, кто будет жить в этой квартире.

8. Если вы снимаете жильё, пользуясь услугами риелтора, обязательно свяжитесь и с самим хозяином квартиры.

### **FOCUS ON SPEAKING**

**People often look for cheap apartments or condominiums to rent when going off to college. Other students choose to stay with a homestay family, but this isn't always possible. Therefore, what are three things you look for in selecting a place to live? Put them in order of importance to you and discuss them with a partner.**

### **FOCUS ON WRITING**

**As an international student, deciding on a place to study is only the first step to living overseas. The next step is finding a place to live, but which is better: living on campus in a dormitory or off campus in an apartment? Use the Internet to compare these two possible living arrangements. Describe the results of your research in 10-15 sentences.**

## UNIT 2

### MY HOUSE. HOUSE HUNTING

#### TOPICAL VOCABULARY

##### **STYLE**

traditional  
modern / contemporary  
apartment / flat  
(semi-) detached house  
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**

cozy  
comfortable  
secure  
luxurious  
well-maintained  
fully furnished  
airy  
noisy  
cold  
well-appointed  
rustic  
vintage  
charming  
elegant  
picturesque  
minimalistic

##### **BUYING A HOUSE**

accept an offer  
auction  
balcony  
bank  
buyer  
contract  
deposit  
estate agent  
exchange of contracts  
for sale  
garden  
guarantor  
housewarming  
insurance  
keys  
make an offer  
mortgage

mortgage broker  
open house  
seller, vendor

sign  
solicitor  
viewing

### **LEAD-IN**

1. Are you satisfied with the place where you live?
2. How can you describe your house / flat?
3. Have you (or your parents) ever had to choose and buy a new house?

### **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Read and translate the dialogues.**

**II. Choose one of the dialogues as an example and make up your own dialogue. Work in pairs.**

#### **First Meeting with a Realtor**

**A:** I have been thinking of buying a house and would like to speak with you.

**B:** I have time to speak with you. Where would you like to purchase your house?

**A:** I am most interested in Pasadena or Arcadia, but would be open to other suggestions.

**B:** How many bedrooms and bathrooms do you need?

**A:** We have several generations of family living in our household and so need a very large home.

**B:** Do you need to be located in a particular school district?

**A:** It doesn't matter, as we do not have any children.

**B:** Is a view important to you, or would you rather be located on a lakeshore lot?

**A:** In a perfect world, we would like a home with a view of the lake.

**B:** Thank you for all of the information. I will help you find the perfect house for you.

#### **Moving into a New House**

**A:** When can I move into my new house?

**B:** The current owners will be moving out on Tuesday, so technically you could pick up the keys and move in on Wednesday.

**A:** Will the utilities be turned on?

**B:** You need to contact the utility company and make arrangements to transfer the utilities to your name.



**A:** I really want to paint the walls right away and get the carpet cleaned.

**B:** If I were you, I would take a few days to take care of those things before you move in.

**A:** I was thinking that I should have my new appliances delivered as we are moving in.

**B:** That would be perfect. That way, someone will be there, but you will have them right away.

**A:** Can you help me on my move-in day?

**B:** I think that I have something else really important to do on that day. I just can't remember what it is.

### **Living in a New House**

**John:** How are you settling into your new home, Ann?

**Ann:** Fine, thanks John. Now I've got the home I've always wanted, a traditional cottage in the country.

**John:** Sounds lovely. How big is it?

**Ann:** Oh, it's only small, but it's really cheap.

**John:** It sounds great.

**Ann:** It is. And it is very comfortable, too.

**John:** Does it need a lot of fixing up?

**Ann:** No, actually it is quite well maintained. The only problem I have is that it's rather cold. Anyway, how's your house hunting going? Have you found anywhere yet?

**John:** I have actually, thanks for asking. I'm moving into my nice new modern flat next month.

**Ann:** That's great news! Tell me about it.

**John:** Well, it's part of a 3 storey building in the suburbs.

**Ann:** Is it far from the city?

**John:** No, not at all. It's really spacious, too. There's huge living room.

**Ann:** It sounds expensive.

**John:** Well, it is a bit expensive, but it's worth it because it's very luxurious.

**Ann:** I suppose it comes fully furnished?

**John:** It certainly does. You'll have to come round and see it when I've moved in.

**Ann:** I'd love to.

### **III. Find the English equivalents in the text.**

1. приобретать
2. конкретный

3. берег озера
4. забирать что-либо
5. коммунальная компания
6. приготовления
7. день новоселья
8. обосноваться
9. поиск жилья
10. отремонтировать

### **FOCUS ON VOCABULARY**

#### **IV. Fill in the gaps with the words from the table.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>put in an offer</i></li> <li>• <i>arrange a mortgage</i></li> <li>• <i>view the property</i></li> <li>• <i>vendor (seller)</i></li> <li>• <i>legally binding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>pull out</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>a structural survey</i></li> <li>• <i>qualified surveyor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>damp</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>first time buyers</i></li> <li>• <i>drainage</i></li> <li>• <i>solicitor (a lawyer)</i></li> <li>• <i>conveyancing (the legal paperwork)</i></li> <li>• <i>a chain (waiting for other people to buy their house before they can buy their next house)</i></li> <li>• <i>contracts</i></li> <li>• <i>house-warming party</i></li> <li>• <i>an estate agent</i></li> </ul>
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It's a good idea in the UK to \_\_\_\_\_ with a bank before you start looking. This is when the bank tells you how much money they will lend you so you have a good idea of how much you can afford.

The next step is to go to \_\_\_\_\_ to see what sort of properties they have available in your budget range and in your area. If you see something you like, the estate agent will arrange for you to \_\_\_\_\_, so that you can see the house or flat for yourself.

If you see something that takes your eye, you \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ can accept or decline this offer, and if the vendor accepts it, you can move forward with the sale. However, as you don't pay any money at this point, the offer isn't \_\_\_\_\_, and in theory, you can \_\_\_\_\_ of the offer at any time that you like.

Your next step will probably be to get \_\_\_\_\_ done. A \_\_\_\_\_ will inspect the house and write a report that illustrates any structural problems, like \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ problems.

If you still want to go ahead with the sale, you need to \_\_\_\_\_ to do the \_\_\_\_\_. If you already own a house, you might also be busy trying to sell it. Many house owners prefer to sell to \_\_\_\_\_ (those people who don't already own a home), as they are not in \_\_\_\_\_.

Finally, once the \_\_\_\_\_ are signed and **exchanged**, you **complete** on your house. You get the keys and you can move in whenever you want. Then you might want to **throw a** \_\_\_\_\_. Congratulations!

**V. Imagine that you're looking to buy a house for you and your family. Read your information below. Go around and interview the "Sellers". Write down the information for the houses they are selling. Decide which house you would like to buy and why.**

*You*  
**Family members** 3  
**Money** \$600.000  
**Other things you would like** a large living room and a study area, balcony, garage

What kind of home?	How many bedrooms / bathrooms?	What is it made from?	What are other features?	How much is it?

## VI. Translate the following sentences from Russian into English.

1. Я бы с удовольствием пришла к вам на новоселье, однако должна заниматься продажей своего дома.

2. Мне бы хотелось жить в просторном доме, потому что мое нынешнее жилье не годится для большой семьи.

3. Агент по недвижимости не сказал нам о протекающей крыше и дырах в полу нашего нового дома.

4. Раньше он жил в шикарном особняке, однако теперь мечтает перебраться в скромный уютный домик за чертой города.

5. К сожалению, мы не смогли купить дом, не взяв ипотеку.

6. Очаровательная вилла с тремя спальнями, двумя ванными, полностью меблирована, чудесно декорирована – вот дом, о котором я всегда мечтал.

7. Ты можешь пока что поселиться у меня: мой дом довольно просторный, находится в центре города; в нем 3 спальни, так что ты сможешь выбрать любую.

8. Я ищу небольшой уютный домик на отшибе в каком-нибудь живописном месте.

9. Когда я был студентом, я смог позволить себе купить небольшую квартиру в старом трёхэтажном доме.

10. Риелтор оказался очень полезен: не думаю, что мне бы удалось купить этот коттедж без помощи агентства.

### **FOCUS ON LISTENING**

**Watch the video “Seven steps to buying a house”. Make a plan to the video and retell it.**

### **FOCUS ON WRITING**

**You are going to sell your house / flat. Write a description of your house for an advertisement using at least 10 words from your topical vocabulary.**

**\* Draw a schematic picture of your house/flat, sign all the rooms, point out all the strong points of your accommodation and try to “sell” it to the groupmates.**

## UNIT 3

### A HOUSE OF MY DREAM

#### **LEAD-IN**

1. Are you satisfied with the house / flat you live in?
2. Do you think it is good or bad to live in a small apartment?

#### **FOCUS ON READING**

**I. Look at the title of the article. What do you think it is about?**

**II. Read and translate the article. Explain the words in bold, then suggest synonyms for the highlighted words.**

#### **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 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 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 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.

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 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.

“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 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 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 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 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, you can always do something to make sure your house says something about who you are.

### FOCUS ON VOCABULARY

#### III. Find the English equivalents in the text.

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. совершенно новый  | 9. склон холма        |
| 2. древний           | 10. верхушки деревьев |
| 3. ров               | 11. ель               |
| 4. подъёмный мост    | 12. предприятие       |
| 5. эксцентричный     | 13. сенная лихорадка  |
| 6. непрактичный      | 14. ориентиры         |
| 7. уникальный        | 15. стекловолокно     |
| 8. переоборудованный |                       |

IV. 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.

#### 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. 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.

**4. Why did Dan 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.

**5. The 'Headington shark'**

- A was created by Bill Heines.
- B crashed into the roof of Bill Heines' house one night.
- C was immediately popular with everyone in the town.
- D was built without any warning.

**V. List the advantages and disadvantages of Mew's, Ridd's and Garner's dwellings, then talk about them.**

**ADVANTAGES**

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**DISADVANTAGE**

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**VI. Read some students' opinions about the concept of an ideal house. Whose ideas are close to yours? Whose "dreamhouse" is too romantic and unreal?**



*My dream house is an apartment with a balcony. It will be big enough for me to live in; it should be spacious, not stuffed. I would like to have 3 rooms: one for me, the second for office or kind of library and the other for visitants; a kitchen, a living room, a balcony, and a bathroom.*

*Jack*

*My dream house is a mansion. There should be a ground floor, a first floor, an attic and a basement. There would be two bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen, a study, a toilet, a living room, a dining room, a garden, a garage, a Jacuzzi, a swimming-pool, a water park, a playground and a dog house. I believe, my dream house would be somewhere in Provence.*



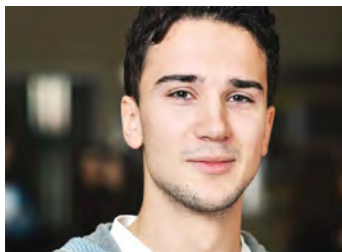
*Selena*



*My dream house definitely would be small, but I would try to leave much space because I love being in a spacious place that make me feel free. The only things in my dream house that would be big are the kitchen and dining room. I would like to have a movie room with comfortable sofas and a big flat screen T.V. with good speakers. It would have a pool and a Jacuzzi in my bedroom's bathroom. Five bedrooms would be more than enough and the most important thing is a dance studio with many mirrors where I would be able to practice dance.*

*Jessica*

*My dream house would be big because I like to live in a roomy house. It would have a huge backyard so that I can put a basketball court, and a swimming pool. I will have 2 game rooms, one living room, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (one for me and another for guests), a big kitchen so that I can cook my favorite dishes, and a dining room to have dinner. My dream house would be located somewhere in Europe.*



*Nick*



## FOCUS ON WRITING

Write a description of your ideal house (10-15 sentences). Use the plan:

- What would your dream home be like?
- What would it look like on the outside? How big would it be?
- What about the interior – how would you decorate it? What kinds of rooms would you have?
  - Where would you want your dream home to be located – in your hometown? Another city, state or even country?
  - What else would make your dream home special?

## FOCUS ON IDIOMS

Complete the sentences using the expressions:

**GET ON LIKE A HOUSE ON FIRE** = *get on very well with somebody*

**HOME AND DRY** = *successful*

**HOME TRUTH** = *an uncomfortable fact*

**HOMESICK** = *missing home*

**ON THE HOUSE** = *free (in café)*

**SAFE AS HOUSES** = *very safe*

**THE LIGHTS ARE ON BUT THERE'S NOBODY HOME** = *used to mean somebody is stupid or daydreaming*

**TO HIT HOME** = *force somebody to understand something difficult/unpleasant*

**TO HOME IN ON** = *become closer to the target*

**TO MAKE ONESELF AT HOME** = *make oneself comfortable*

1. This plan is as \_\_\_\_\_. It can't fail!
2. I'm glad we've got that new client. We're \_\_\_\_\_ now.
3. He only went away for two weeks, but was terribly \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Police are \_\_\_\_\_ the suspects.
5. Come in! \_\_\_\_\_ Can I get you a drink?
6. She's going to sit down and hear some \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Those two \_\_\_\_\_, they are always laughing together.
8. Don't expect John to answer, look at him! - \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The criticism of her performance really began to \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Sorry we brought you the wrong meal, this one is \_\_\_\_\_.

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