

# Upstream

INTERMEDIATE

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B2

Student's Book



Express Publishing



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## Grammar

## Listening

## Speaking

## Writing

present tenses; adverbs of frequency; state verbs  
Phrasal verbs: *BREAK, BRING*

multiple choice; matching speakers to statements

compare types of houses; suggest ways to make houses safe for children; renting a house; expressing sympathy; requesting services

- an advertisement/email  
- an informal letter describing a house for rent

past tenses; used to/would  
Phrasal verbs: *CARRY, COME*

matching speakers to statements; T/F statements

discuss important things in life; express opinions on family matters; spreading the news; describing people; introducing people

- famous people's profiles  
- a narrative

future tenses; Conditionals Type 0 & 1; the definite article  
Phrasal verbs: *CUT, DO*

note-taking; multiple choice

discuss weekend activities; speculations; holiday experiences; accepting/refusing invitations; cancelling a hotel reservation; renting a vehicle

- a letter of complaint  
- a semi-formal letter/email

comparisons; too/enough; -ing form/infinitive  
Phrasal verbs: *FALL, GET*

note-taking; matching speakers to statements; identifying speakers

suggest solutions to improve the environment; complaining; offering solutions to problems; expressing hesitation

- a set of rules  
- an essay providing solutions to problems

-ing/-ed participles; modal verbs; making deductions; question tags  
Phrasal verbs: *GIVE, GO*

multiple choice; matching speakers to statements

discuss ways to relax; speculating; give advice; losing your temper; making an appointment; describing symptoms

- an informal email describing a personal problem  
- a for-and-against essay

order of adjectives; the passive; relatives; relative clauses  
Phrasal verbs: *HOLD, KEEP*

multiple matching; note-taking; matching speakers to statements

discuss pros & cons of using computers; discuss effects of modern technology on our lives; "filler" phrases; reporting a theft; giving instructions

- a news report  
- an opinion essay

causative form; reported speech (statements, questions, orders)  
Phrasal verbs: *LET, LOOK*

note-taking; multiple choice

ask for information; discuss pros/cons of advertising; expressing opinions; making complaints; buying clothes

- describe clothes for a fashion magazine  
- an article describing a visit to a place

quantifiers (some, any, no, (a) little, (a) few); countable/uncountable nouns; reported speech (special introductory verbs)  
Phrasal verbs: *MAKE, PUT*

multiple choice; matching speakers to statements; T/F statements

give advice; decide on a menu; accepting/refusing invitations; doing your shopping; ordering a meal/fast food

- a recipe  
- an assessment report

Conditionals Type 2 & 3; wishes; would rather  
Phrasal verbs: *RUN, SEE, SET*

multiple choice; matching speakers to statements

give opinions; guess content; talk about hobbies; asking for permission & polite requests; taking a phone message; inviting a friend to a sporting event; intonation – regrets

- instructions for a magic trick  
- a letter to the editor

future perfect; linkers & quantifiers (either/neither, although, both, all, none)  
Phrasal verbs: *STAND, TAKE, TURN*

matching speakers to statements; Yes/No statements; note-taking

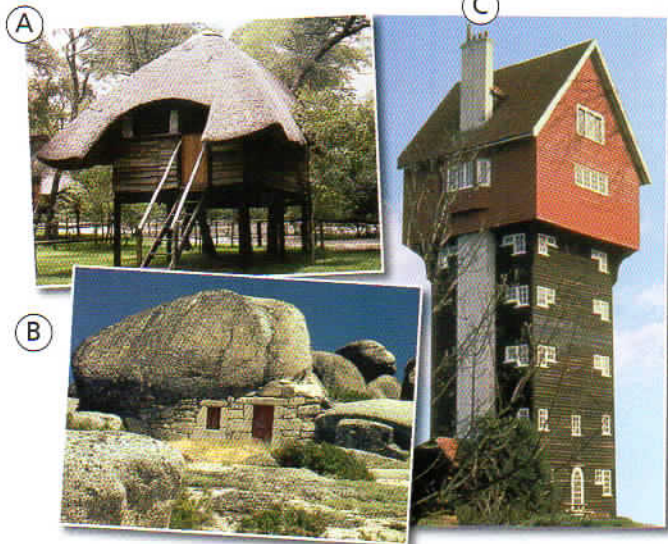
compare types of films; express preferences; talk about disasters; gossip; making arrangements; making excuses

- a news report  
- a formal letter/email

# My Home is my Castle

## Lead-in

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

## Reading

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



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

## In Search of the Perfect Home

How would you like to live in a castle, a tree house or even underground? This might not be as unusual as you think. It seems that these days more and more people want to live somewhere special and **out of the ordinary** and if they can't buy what they want they are quite 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** and has 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 was 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 **fibreglass** 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, **eventually** thinks that this is the way to go up in the world. 35

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

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

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

- 1 More and more people build their own home
  - A so that they can live underground.
  - B so that they can have exactly the home they want.
  - C because it is cheaper than buying a new house.
  - D because they want all the modern luxuries you find in a new home.
- 2 John and Josephine Mew
  - A know that their choice of home is unusual.
  - B found that creating their dream home was easy.
  - C wanted to live like people would have in traditional castles.
  - D converted an ancient building into a modern home.
- 3 According to the text, what could be a disadvantage of the Mews' home?
  - A It might not be very comfortable.
  - B It was very expensive to build.
  - C Tourists often mistake it for a historic building.
  - D It doesn't have enough luxury items.

4 What do Jonathan Ridley-Jones and Shanon Ridd say about their home?

- A It's just a ordinary house.
- B They always wanted to live underground.
- C It doesn't harm the environment.
- D They don't pay anything for heating and lighting.

5 Why did Dan Garner build a tree house in his garden?

- A He wants to persuade people to buy one.
- B His family wanted to live in a tree house.
- C He builds them for a living.
- D His family needed more room.

6 What does Dan Garner aim to do in the future?

- A build more tree dwellings in his garden
- B invite more people to visit his tree house
- C open a business selling tree houses
- D design a tree house to suit all tastes

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

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

### Follow-up

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

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

# Vocabulary Practice

## Dwellings and Appliances

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

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

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

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

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

**A**

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

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

**B**

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

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

- 3 a. Which of these items are in your house? In which room?

- refrigerator • vacuum cleaner • electric heater
- washing machine • microwave • humidifier
- air conditioner • hairdryer • dishwasher • cooker

*refrigerator - kitchen*

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

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

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

*We haven't got ...*

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

### Writing Project

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

### Household Chores

6 a. Match the verbs to the nouns.

- wash
- dust
- make
- iron
- vacuum
- clean
- mop
- mow

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

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

*I sometimes wash the dishes in the evenings.*

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

*Mum always does the ironing on Saturday.*

### Colours & Rooms

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Present tenses

Grammar Reference

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

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

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

State verbs

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Percentage	Frequency Adverb	Feature
100%	always	running water
75%	usually	a garden or yard
50%	often	a garage
25%	sometimes	a cellar or basement
10%	rarely	a swimming pool
0%	never	a storm cellar

*British homes always have running water.  
There is always running water in British homes.  
You can always find running water in British homes.*

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

5 In pairs, talk about:

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

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

*I've grown my hair long.*

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

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

A: *Have you ever slept outdoors?*  
B: *No, I haven't. Have you ever visited a castle?*  
A: *Yes, I have.*  
B: *Really? When was that?*  
A: *Two years ago. Have you ever ...? etc*



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

1 exhausted – work/garden

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

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

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

A: *What have you done?*

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

2 tired – do/homework

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

3 excited – organise party

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



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

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

*I haven't done my homework yet.*

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

- 1 Ann can't get into the house.  
(lose/her key)  
*Ann can't get into the house. She has lost her key.*

11 Circle the correct tense.

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

## Prepositions

Appendix 1

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

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

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

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

