

21 Houses, flats and rooms

A Finding somewhere to live

Short-let¹
accommodation
available near
university.

Rooms and
studio flats²
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Are you looking to **move into**
a **flat or house** next term?

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wide range of **suitable**
accommodation.

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available to rent
from 1st September.
Quiet **residential**
area.

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calendar month
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after 5 pm.

Newly-built apartment available soon. Spacious
accommodation, **fully-fitted kitchen³**. **Off-road parking**. To let
furnished or unfurnished. Would suit single academic or mature
student. Tel: 3215786.

B Describing your house/flat/room

Hi Mila,
Luke and I have just moved into our **dream home**.
It's a big old **four-storey** house. It's got a **spacious**
living room which **has a** wonderful **view of** the
park, and a **cosy study** where we can both work.
And there are some lovely **light, airy bedrooms**
which overlook the garden.
There is a separate **basement flat**, which we might
turn into a granny flat for my mother. And if we
want to **add an extension¹** there's room for that
too. It needs to be **completely refurbished**, but
Luke and I have always wanted to **do up² an old**
house.
Come and visit.
Love, Julia

Hi Julia,
You're so lucky! I'd love to **move out** of my
awful one-room flat. It's in such a **dilapidated**
building. You go into a **draughty hall**, down a
chilly corridor and into this really **cramped**
room. I want to buy a **place of my own** but
there's a shortage of **affordable housing** here
and I don't want to **take out a big mortgage**. I'd
love to see your house. I hope you'll **invite me**
to your **house-warming party**.

Big hug,
Mila

¹ we can also say **build an extension** = build an extra room or two onto an existing house

² repair, repaint and decorate (a house)

C Collocations with home

She **left home** to go to university, but moving away from her family made her **feel homesick**.

Peter's back from a year abroad. His family are throwing a party to **welcome him home**.

(To a guest who's just arrived) Come in and **make yourself at home** while I finish getting
dinner ready. [relax and make yourself comfortable]

I haven't lived in Oxford for long but I already **feel at home** here.

I'd like to buy a **second home** near the coast. [house used only for weekends, holidays, etc.]

Exercises

21.1 Answer these questions using collocations from A.

- 1 What kind of accommodation would suit a student who has no furniture of his or her own?
- 2 What kind of accommodation would suit someone who is only going to be in a place for three months?
- 3 What part of town would you want to live in if you wanted to be somewhere where there are lots of private houses and no factories or other work places?
- 4 What kind of accommodation would suit a young single person who would prefer to live alone rather than to share?
- 5 If accommodation doesn't have its own garage, what else might it have to make life easier for car-owning residents?
- 6 If you are moving into a new unfurnished house, but don't need to take a washing machine, cooker or fridge with you, what does the house have?

21.2 Look at B. Match the beginning of each sentence on the left with its ending on the right.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 We want to turn our garage into a | house-warming party. |
| 2 Harper has invited me to her | mortgage. |
| 3 Next week I have to move out of | my own. |
| 4 Xavier makes a business out of doing up | granny flat. |
| 5 Our bedroom overlooks | my flat. |
| 6 Our house needs to be completely | the garden. |
| 7 I hope that one day I'll have a place of | old houses. |
| 8 The bank can help if you want to take out a | refurbished. |

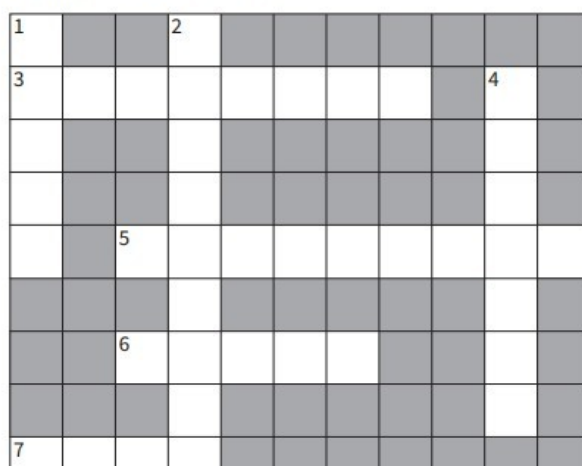
21.3 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 We live on a busy road, but we're lucky because we have off-road park.
- 2 Gemma has moved off from her old flat and has now got a new place in Walville Street.
- 3 We're building an expansion to our house which will give us a bigger kitchen.
- 4 The flat is totally furnished, which is good because I have no furniture of my own.

The conversation has no errors, but the changes will improve it.

- Matthew: Have you downloaded that new e-book that has just appeared about Ireland?
- Camilla: No, I don't use my e-book reader app much and I don't visit websites with articles discussing new books. What's it about?
- Matthew: Well, it concerns the Irish War of Independence. It's very authentic and it manages to give the atmosphere of Ireland at the beginning of the 20th century.
- Camilla: Is it just historical facts, then?
- Matthew: No, the main people are two brothers who have different opinions about the war and this divides their family. In the first chapters they're happy and do everything together, but by the last chapter they have become enemies.
- Camilla: Mm, it sounds a bit depressing to me.
- Matthew: Well, it certainly doesn't finish in a happy way, but I liked it, and it's recommended very much by all the critics.
- Camilla: So, a book with a pleasant start and a sad finish. Not for me, I'm afraid. I prefer the opposite.

23.2 Complete the crossword.



Across

- 3 I was completely — in my book and didn't realise how late it had got.
- 5 An alternative to 3 across.
- 6 He wants to go on the —. He's always wanted to be an actor.
- 7 Who played the male — in *Destination Saturn*?

Down

- 1 — role means 'small but special part in a film/play'.
- 2 The film was — for an Oscar but it didn't win.
- 4 It was an amazing film about space travel, with fantastic special —.

23.3 Match the words in the box on the left with their collocations on the right.

full big bedtime
female box-office

screen reading
lead hit house

23.4 Complete these collocations.

- 1 shoot / star in / make a
- 2 download an
- 3 flick / skim through a
- 4 compulsive / bedtime

Over to you

Online bookshops, as well as book and film review websites, often have mini-reviews and descriptions of books and films. Find a review of a book or film that you know and note down any interesting collocations in it.

Exercises

22.1 Match the words on the left with their collocations on the right.

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| 1 set | additives |
| 2 food | food |
| 3 junk | produce |
| 4 ready | menu |
| 5 fresh | meals |

22.2 Complete these sentences using the collocations from exercise 22.1 to fill the gaps.

- such as artificial flavours and colouring can cause allergies.
- may be unhealthy, but it's quick and easy and fills you up.
- People who don't have much time to cook often buy from the supermarket.
- It's always better to buy instead of canned or frozen foods.
- The is usually cheaper than ordering dishes separately in a restaurant.

22.3 Read these remarks by different people, then answer the questions.

- Logan: I've got some cheese and milk. Is there a fridge here I could put them in?
- Connor: I feel so hungry! I can't believe it!
- Layla: I've been sick and my stomach is aching. Must be something I ate.
- Michael: No matter how much I eat, I always want more.
- Scarlett: All these vegetables have been grown without any chemicals at all.
- Bella: I always enjoy my food and look forward to it.

	name
1 Who has organic food?	
2 Who has an insatiable appetite?	
3 Who has perishable food?	
4 Who has a healthy appetite?	
5 Who has food poisoning?	
6 Who is dying of hunger?	

22.4 Replace the underlined words with suitable collocations from the opposite page.

- Foods which are changed or treated as part of an industrial operation may damage our health in the long term.
- Some people always have three full, satisfying meals a day, but I prefer a large breakfast and then a small meal around midday and a more sizeable meal in the evening.
- There are some overpriced restaurants in the city centre, but down at the beach, there are some nice, not too expensively priced ones.
- On my birthday my parents took me out for a big, good meal. They wanted to go for a very high quality meal but I said I'd prefer something more ordinary.
- Iced tea is a drink that cools you and makes you feel less tired on a hot day, and is probably better for you than non-alcoholic drinks such as cola or lemonade.
- Let me take you out to dinner on your birthday. Or would you prefer a meal prepared at home? I could make dinner for you at my place.