

READING

- 1 Look at the photos of the unusual homes. What do you think they are like inside?
- 2 Read the article and match the photos A-D to paragraphs 1-4.

STRANGE HOUSES

Most of us live in an apartment or in a house. Our homes often look similar to our neighbours' from the outside, but on the inside they can be very different. Most of us like our homes to be cosy and comfortable, but we have very different ideas about what that means. Some people like to have bright colours and lots of furniture, others prefer a cool, modern-looking home.

However, some houses look very unusual from the outside. Have a look at these four photos.

1 Do you like flying? Then, this attractive house is for you. It's in Lebanon and is the shape of a plane. It's got small windows, so it's not very light inside, but in a warm country, small windows keep a house cool in summer.

2 This very unusual house is in Mexico. It looks like part of the rock - and it is! The walls and the roof of the house are part of a very big rock. The family made the house more than 30 years ago. We can't see inside, but it looks quite dark, cool and peaceful.

3 In 1968, a group of swimmers first had the idea to build this tiny house on a rock in the middle of the River Drina in Serbia. It's not only small but, as you can see, it's also not easy to get there. In winter it can be quite cold, so people use it mostly in summer.

4 A Japanese company designed this football-shaped house in 2006. It's got 32 sides and four legs and can sit on top of water. It's very small but has big windows, so there is lots of light. What a great place to live!



3 Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 What does the house in Lebanon look like?
- 2 Why are small windows important in a warm country?
- 3 What is the Mexican house made of?
- 4 How old is the house?
- 5 What can you find in the middle of the River Drina?
- 6 When do most people use the house? Why?
- 7 What does the Japanese house look like?
- 8 Why is it very bright inside?

TALKING POINTS

- Which of these houses would you like to live in? Why?
- Which of these houses would you not like to live in? Why?
- Do you know about any other unusual homes? Tell your partner about them.

VOCABULARY

Adjectives to describe homes

- 1 Find these words in the article and complete the table.

attractive bright cold comfortable
cool cosy dark light peaceful
tiny unusual warm

- 1 Listen and check. Then repeat.

Opinion	Size	Temperature	Sound	Light

ouse. It had a
ound floor and on
ith a balcony and
had a garage for
garden with a
erfect!

They both
resting, so they
y were looking
hen Tim, Gary's
irry business
Why didn't
to their new
was a brilliant

everything for
ing. He built
ink and he
mall sofa
a big one.

he work
nd Paula
best thing
nade of
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s the high
ecause

o place
!

ouse

PRONUNCIATION /i:/ and /ɪ/

5 Listen to the two words. Which has an /i:/ sound and which has an /ɪ/ sound?
sink ceiling

6 In pairs, match the words to the sounds in Exercise 5.

eat	feet	fit	he'll
hill	his	it	leave
live	seat	sit	

28 Listen and check. Then repeat.

GRAMMAR Past continuous and past simple

1 Look at the example sentences from the text. Find and underline all the verbs in the sentences. Which verbs are past simple and which verbs are past continuous?

a Gary was building everything for their new home, while Paula was working
b They were looking at homes on the internet one day, when Tim, Gary's dad, had an idea.
c Finally, Gary finished the work on the lorry and they moved in.

2 Match i-iii to sentences a-c in Exercise 1.

- i One action follows the other.
- ii The actions are happening at the same time.
- iii One action interrupts the other.

3 Choose the correct words to complete the sentence.

To form the past continuous we use the *present / past simple of the verb be* and the *present / past participle*.

» **GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 150**

4 Complete the sentences using the past simple or the past continuous. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- 1 While my brother was painting his bedroom, my sister _____ (help) our mum in the garden.
- 2 We _____ (live) in an apartment for a year and then we moved to a house.
- 3 My dad _____ (cook) dinner in the kitchen when I arrived home from school.
- 4 I did my homework and we _____ (eat) dinner in the kitchen.
- 5 When mum phoned me, I _____ (leave) my classroom with my friends.
- 6 While my parents _____ (watch) TV, I was playing computer games with my friends

5 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 I felt very nervous while we watched the match.
- 2 We waited at a bus stop when we first met.
- 3 We were amazed when we were finding so much money.
- 4 While I cleaning the kitchen, I saw the broken window.
- 5 It is snowing when we went outside.
- 6 I was leaving the house just after you called me.

PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Writing Part 7

6 Look at the three pictures. Write the story shown in the pictures using the past simple and past continuous. Write 35 words or more.



» **PREPARE FOR THE EXAM PAGE 127**

7 In pairs, take turns to describe what you did yesterday.

Use the past simple and past continuous with *when* and *while*

While I was having breakfast ...

When I got to school ...

4 MY PLACE

ABOUT YOU

02 Watch the video and discuss the questions.

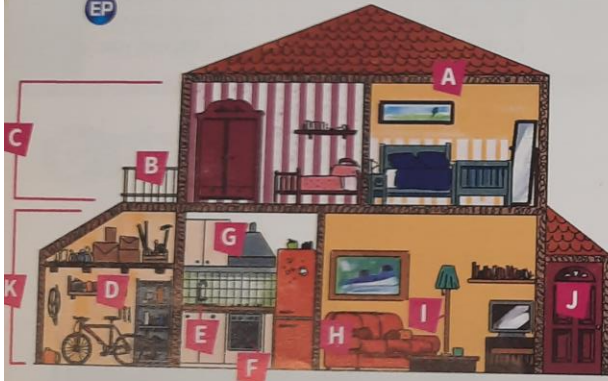
- Where do you live? Who do you live with?
- How many bedrooms are there in your home?
- Do you share a bedroom?
- What's the most interesting thing about your room?
- Would you like to live in an unusual house?

VOCABULARY AND READING

Homes

1 Match the words in the box to A-K in the picture.

EP



balcony ceiling cooker cupboard
 entrance first floor garage
 ground floor lamp sink sofa

25 Listen and check. Then repeat.

2 Describe your home to your partner using words from Exercise 1.

3 Read the article about Paula and Gary's homes and look at the photos. Which photo, A or B, shows where Paula and Gary live now?

A New HOME



Paula and Gary lived in a modern house. It had a living room and a kitchen on the ground floor and on the first floor two bedrooms, one with a balcony and a bathroom. Next to the house they had a garage for their car, and they even had a small garden with a little gate painted green. It sounds perfect!

But Paula and Gary weren't happy. They both wanted to live somewhere more interesting, so they started to look for a new home. They were looking at homes on the internet one day, when Tim, Gary's dad, had an idea. Tim had his own lorry business and he was selling one of his lorries. Why didn't Paula and Gary buy it and make it into their new home? Gary and Paula thought this was a brilliant idea and bought it that same day.

It was a busy year: Gary was building everything for their new home, while Paula was working. He built cupboards around the cooker and the sink and he even built the shower. They bought a small sofa because there wasn't enough space for a big one.

Finally, six months ago, Gary finished the work on the lorry and they moved in. Gary and Paula love their new home!



is the entrance made of wood and glass and Gary loves the high ceiling because he's tall.

There's no place like home!

4 Read the text again. Answer the questions.

- How many floors did Paula and Gary's old house have? What was on each floor?
- Why did Gary and Paula want to leave their old home?
- What did Gary and Paula buy from Tim?
- Who built the things for the new home?
- When did Gary and Paula move into their new home?
- What do Paula and Gary like most about their new home?



2 Now complete the sentences with the words from the box in Exercise 1.

- 1 You can find the names of streets on a _____ of the city.
- 2 Millions of _____ visit Moscow every year.
- 3 It's always a good idea to buy a _____ to help you plan activities for your holiday.
- 4 I've only got one small _____ for all my clothes. I hope I can get everything in it.
- 5 We stayed in a really small hotel in Moscow. It only had room for eight _____.
- 6 We put all our _____ in the back of the taxi. We didn't want to have the bags on the seats.
- 7 When we arrived at the hotel, the _____ gave us our room key.
- 8 The Space Museum in Moscow has lots of _____ every year.

3 In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

- 1 How much luggage do you take with you on holiday?
- 2 Who packs your suitcase?
- 3 What do you put in your suitcase when you go on summer holidays?
- 4 Do you or your parents usually buy a guidebook when you go on holiday?
- 5 Do you use maps? When was the last time you used a map?
- 6 Do many tourists come to visit your town? What do they like to see?
- 7 What does a receptionist do?
- 8 Did you stay in a hotel on your last holiday? Did you like it?

LISTENING

1 Look at the photo in Vocabulary Exercise 1. In pairs, discuss the questions.

- 1 What can you see?
- 2 Who are the people?
- 3 What are they doing?

2 Listen to the conversation between John, a student on holiday in Moscow with his parents, and the hotel receptionist and check your ideas.

Why is John speaking to the receptionist?

3 Listen again. Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- 1 John is an only child.
- 2 John wants to look around the city in the afternoon.
- 3 The tourist information centre is a long way from the hotel.
- 4 The receptionist hasn't got an underground map.
- 5 John thinks taxis are faster than the underground.
- 6 John forgot his bag.
- 7 The guest before John had several suitcases.
- 8 There is a lift in the hotel.

SPEAKING

- 1** John phones the tourist information centre for some more information. Listen to his conversation. What are John and his family going to do that day?
- 2** Listen again and repeat the phrases from the conversation.

John: Can you give me some information about the space museum, please?
Clerk: Yes, certainly. The museum's near the centre, and you can book online. You'll really enjoy it.
John: That's perfect. Thanks.
Clerk: It's the best way to learn about the history of our country.
John: That's a really good idea. Oh, by the way, have you got any information about the Kremlin?
Clerk: Yes, of course. It's all on our website. Have a good day.

3 In pairs, choose a city you both know. What four places would tourists like to visit in this city? Role-play a conversation at a tourist information centre. Use phrases from Exercise 2 to help you.

4 Make questions. Then in pairs, ask and answer them using the information below.

- 1 address?
- 2 open every day?
- 3 what time / close?
- 4 how much / drinks?
- 5 web address?

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

24 Green Street

Monday – Saturday

Hours: 9 am – 5 pm

Coffee, tea and juice: 50p

Come in for maps and a chat

Visit: www.tourvisit.com

READING

- 1 Look at the photos of Moscow. Do you know any of these places? Read the text quickly and find out who visited which place.

TEEN TRAVEL TIPS ► MOSCOW

MONIQUE

Moscow is great for sightseeing! I took photos everywhere I went. The only problem was that I don't speak Russian, so it was hard to get a taxi, and I hate walking. My advice is to take some Russian lessons before you go. I went to the aquarium on my first day. I enjoyed it, but there were a lot of tourists. I preferred the quieter streets with little shops selling postcards and presents. After I got gifts for my friends, I didn't have much money left!

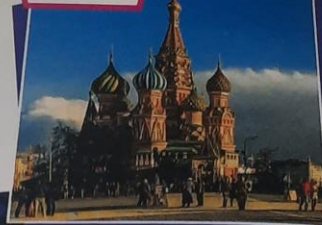
CARLA

The underground, or metro, is a great way to travel around, but too crowded for me. My favourite place was Red Square. The buildings are amazing. But don't spend all your time taking photos – I didn't. I bought postcards from the little shops. You don't need Russian. Everyone speaks English. Oh and I loved the street food and ate lots of it, but it wasn't cheap! The aquarium is fantastic. If you only go to one place, go there.

OLIVIA

My favourite place was Old Arbat, one of the oldest streets in Moscow. I wanted to get presents for my mum and dad, but all the shops had the same presents, so I didn't buy much. I mostly ate street food because it didn't cost much, and it was delicious. I went to the metro to look at the amazing stations, but I didn't travel on it. I went everywhere on foot. You see so much that way.

Red Square



The Kremlin



Old Arbat



Aquarium at VDNKh



Moscow Metro



Yuri Kuklachev Cat Theatre



PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Reading Part 2

- 2 For each question, choose the correct answer. Write *M* for Monique, *C* for Carla or *O* for Olivia.
- Who thinks walking is the best way to travel around Moscow?
 - Who found the street food in Moscow expensive?
 - Who says it's important not to miss the aquarium?
 - Who spent a lot of money on presents?
 - Which person enjoyed visiting the metro?
 - Who says you should learn some Russian before going?
 - Who said it was better to buy postcards than to take photos?

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TALKING POINTS

In pairs, look at the photos of the six places in Moscow in Exercise 1. Discuss which one...

VOCABULARY

Holiday vocabulary

- 1 Match the words in the box to the things in the photo A–E. There are three words for A. There are two words for D.

guest guidebook luggage map
receptionist suitcase tourist visitor



PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Speaking Part 2

- 6 Look at the photos A-K on page 20. Discuss the questions with your partner.
- 1 Do you like these different ways of travelling? Why? / Why not?
 - 2 Do you think riding a bike is difficult? Why? / Why not?
 - 3 Do you think going in a boat or a ship is enjoyable? Why? / Why not?
 - 4 Now tell your partner which of these ways of travelling you like best.
 - 5 How do you like to travel when it's very hot?
 - 6 Do you prefer going on holiday to the sea or in the mountains?

PREPARE FOR THE EXAM PAGE 134

GRAMMAR

Past simple

- 1 Underline the past simple forms in the sentences.

- 1 Where did they go?
- 2 Where was it?
- 3 Did they have a good time?
- 4 We closed our eyes.
- 5 Jim, Simon and I travelled by tram to the bus station.
- 6 My wallet wasn't there.
- 7 My first holiday was with my friend Tom.
- 8 We didn't want my parents to drive us, so we went by bus and then on foot.
- 9 We dried everything.

Now answer these questions.

- 1 Which past simple verbs are regular?
- 2 Which past simple verbs are irregular?
- 3 Which verb never has 'did' in questions and negatives?

- 2 Underline all the examples of the past simple in the article.

- 3 Complete the sentences using the past simple of the verb in brackets.

- 1 _____ (you / go) on holiday with your family last year?
- 2 They _____ (not travel) by boat to the island because the weather _____ (be) bad.
- 3 We _____ (want) to visit the museum, but we _____ (not have) time.
- 4 _____ (the plane / arrive) on time?
- 5 The holiday _____ (not be) great, but I _____ (enjoy) the afternoons on the beach.
- 6 _____ (you / be) in the mountains for the whole holiday?

- 4 Read questions a and b and complete the answers. Then answer questions 1-4.

- a Who did Sophie invite to go on holiday with her? She invited _____ to go on holiday with her.
- b Who lost his wallet? _____ lost his wallet.

- 1 Which past simple question uses *did* + infinitive, a or b?
- 2 What is the verb form in the other question?
- 3 Is question a asking for information about the subject or object?
- 4 Is question b asking for information about the subject or object?

- 5 Choose a or b for each question.

- 1 Who did the boy see?
a His mother saw him.
b He saw his mother.
- 2 Who saw the boy?
a His mother saw him.
b He saw his mother.

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 149

- 6 Complete the sentences using the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 What _____ (eat) when you were on holiday in Italy?
- 2 Who _____ (take) you to the airport?
- 3 Where _____ (you / go camping) last summer?
- 4 Who _____ (book) the flights, your mum or your dad?
- 5 Who _____ (you / go) on holiday with last summer?
- 6 Who _____ (buy) you your new bike? Was it your parents?

- 7 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 I maked two new friends on my holiday.
- 2 Sorry we couldn't meet yesterday. I go shopping and then cycling with my mum.
- 3 It was a rainy day on Saturday, so I spended the day at home.
- 4 I watch TV and played on the computer yesterday evening.
- 5 It was a pity you lefted the party early last Friday.

- 8 In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

- 1 Where did you go on your last holiday?
- 2 Who did you go with?
- 3 How did you get there?
- 4 What did you do there?
- 5 What was the best thing you did? Why?

3

ON HOLIDAY

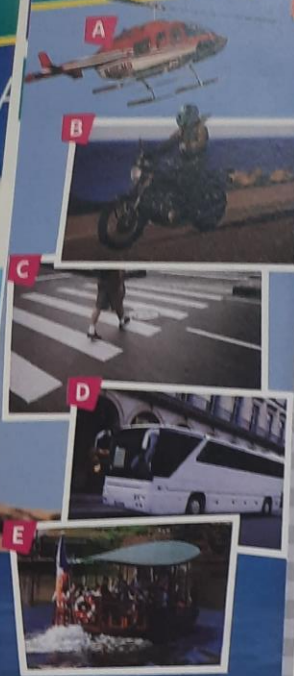
FIRST HOLIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

Most of us can't wait to go on holiday without our parents. We can choose where to go, what to do and who to go with. But are first holidays with friends always great? Read about Sophie, Fred and Chris. Where did they go? Did they have a good time?

Last summer, after we finished our exams, I invited my friend Paula to go on holiday to Greece with me. We got a flight to Athens and then we went by ship to the island of Milos. We were really tired when we got there, but we both wanted a swim, so we went to the beach. You can guess! We lay down and closed our eyes and when we woke up TWO hours later, we were really hot and thirsty – and red! Never again! Sophie, 16

My first holiday was a weekend in London. Jim, Simon and I travelled by tram from my house to the bus station. When we arrived there, I put my hand in my pocket but my wallet wasn't there! Where was it? I think I lost it on the tram. Jim and Simon each lent me money for the coach. We stayed at Jim's aunt's house in London and we had a fantastic weekend. Fred, 13

My first holiday was with my friend Tom at a campsite in a forest near our town. We didn't want my parents to drive us there, so we went by bus and then on foot. It was a long walk to the forest and it was raining! I put the tent up quickly because I knew how to do it, but all our things were wet. Then the sun came out the next day. We dried everything and had a great time! Chris, 12



ABOUT YOU

- Where do you like going on holiday?
- How often do you go on holiday?
- Do you always go on holiday to the same place?
- How do you usually get there?

VOCABULARY AND READING

Holidays: Ways of travelling

1 Match the words in the box to photos A–K.

- by bike by boat by coach on foot
 by helicopter by motorbike by plane
 by scooter by ship by tram
 by underground

18 Listen and check. Then repeat.

2 Decide whether each type of transport from Exercise 1 moves in the air, on land or in the water.

3 Read the article quickly and find out where Sophie, Fred and Chris went on holiday. How did each of them get there?

4 Read the article again and answer the questions

- 1 What does the article mean by 'first holidays'?
- 2 What did Sophie and Paula do when they arrived at the island?
- 3 What happened while they were sleeping?
- 4 What did Fred lose?
- 5 How did he pay for the coach?
- 6 What was the weather like when Chris and Tom were putting up the tent?

PRONUNCIATION Silent letters

5 In pairs, read the words aloud. Which are the silent letters?

- climb flight guess half
 island knew two where

20 Listen and check. Then repeat.

LISTENING

PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Listening Part 5

- 1 You will hear Gina talking to her uncle about some photos of animals. Where did he take each photo? For each question, choose the correct answer.

Photographs

- 0 lion D
- 1 monkey
- 2 snake
- 3 penguin
- 4 dolphin
- 5 elephant

Countries

- A Argentina
- B England
- C India
- D Kenya
- E Mexico
- F New Zealand
- G Scotland
- H South Africa

- 2 Listen again and check.

PREPARE FOR THE EXAM PAGE 132

- 3 Work in pairs. Look at the photos of the two animals below. Use the prompts 1-9 to write questions about these animals.

- 1 What kind of animal / it?
- 2 Where / from?
- 3 Where / live?
- 4 What / eat?
- 5 How much / weigh?
- 6 How many / left in the wild?
- 7 What / babies / called?
- 8 How many babies / female have?
- 9 How long / baby stay with / mother?

» Student A, go to page 136. You have information about the kakapo there.

» Student B, go to page 138. You have information about the sand cat there.



WRITING

PREPARE TO WRITE

An article about an animal

GET READY Underline the prepositions *between, about, around* and *including* in the article about pandas on page 16. Think about their meaning. Which two have the same meaning in the article? Complete the sentences with *between, about, around* or *including*.

- 1 This competition is for anyone _____ the ages of 10 and 14.
- 2 There are _____ 40,000 African lions left in the wild.
- 3 All my friends, _____ Tariq, are interested in animals.
- 4 The zoo is closed _____ January and March.
- 5 I've got lots of pets, _____ a rabbit and two cats.

PLAN Plan your article about an animal. Choose one of the animals in Vocabulary Exercise 3 or a different one. Write three paragraphs. Make notes for what to include in each paragraph.

Paragraph 1 the kind of animal it is / where it lives / what it eats

Paragraph 2 what it weighs / information about its babies

Paragraph 3 many are left in the wild / in zoos

WRITE Write your article. Try to include the prepositions from *Get Ready*.

IMPROVE In pairs, compare your articles. Can you improve them?



READING

- 1 Look at the picture below. In pairs, write down three things you know about pandas. Read the article once to check your ideas.
- 2 Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?
 - 1 The writer helped to look after giant pandas on her trip.
 - 2 It's possible to find wild pandas in several countries.
 - 3 Pandas only eat bamboo.
 - 4 Baby pandas are very light when they are born.
 - 5 Pandas start eating bamboo at the age of 18 months.
 - 6 Scientists know exactly how many wild pandas there are.
 - 7 It's possible to see a panda in Mexico.

Learning about the

GIANT PANDA

When I planned my trip to China, one of things I really wanted to do was to work at the Dujiangyan Panda Base in Chengdu. I spent seven days there, looking after the pandas, giving them food and cleaning their enclosures.

1 While I was there, I learned a lot about pandas. Wild pandas live in bamboo forests, high in the mountains of central China. In the past, they also lived in other parts of China and in Myanmar and Vietnam, but they don't any more. They spend about 12 hours a day eating bamboo, but they sometimes eat other plants or small animals. At Dujiangyan, we also gave them fruit, like apples, and special panda cakes made of rice, eggs and flour and other things.

2 Adult giant pandas weigh between 75 and 135 kilograms. Females usually only have one baby panda, or cub, at a time. The cubs only weigh about 85 grams when they are born! The little cub drinks milk for about four months and then begins to eat bamboo. Young pandas stay with their mothers for around 18 months.

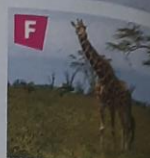
Scientists think there are now between 1,500 and 2,000 pandas in the wild. This is a low number, but it's double what it was in the 1970s. The reason the number is going up is because of all the work scientists are doing at places like the Dujiangyan panda base in Chengdu. There are also about 325 pandas in zoos in a number of different countries, including the United States, Mexico, Japan and Germany.



VOCABULARY

Animals

- 3 Match the words in the box to the photos A-J. Listen and check. Then repeat.



dolphin elephant giraffe
 monkey parrot penguin
 polar bear snake
 tiger whale

- 4 Answer the questions about the animals in Exercise 3.

- 1 Where do the animals come from?
- 2 Where do they live (sea, mountains, forest)?
- 3 Which are dangerous?
- 4 Look at each photo carefully. Are the animals in a zoo or are they wild?
- 5 How many other animals can you name in English?



TALKING POINTS

What are your five favourite animals?
 Why do you like them?
 How often do you go to zoos?
 Do you like them?

4 Complete each sentence with the correct word from Exercise 3.

- 1 Not many plants and animals can live in because they are very dry. *deserts / hills*
- 2 Many _____ have snow on top of them all year. *mountains / valleys*
- 3 There's a _____ near my home, and I like going fishing there. *river / sea*
- 4 There were so many trees in the _____ that it was impossible to see the sky. *forest / lake*
- 5 My friend and I cycled to the _____ for a swim. *lake / volcano*

5 Write five sentences of your own using the words from Exercise 3.

PRONUNCIATION th: /θ/ and /ð/

6 Listen to the sounds θ and ð and repeat them. Then put the words in the box into the correct column.

north	other	south
that	there	these
thing	think	this

θ <u>earth</u>	ð <u>weather</u>

12 Listen and check. Then repeat.

7 Write sentences about the geography of your country.

There are mountains in the north of my country.

8 In groups of four, listen to each others' sentences. Which geographical features from Exercise 3 does each person talk about?



GRAMMAR Verbs we don't usually use in the continuous

1 Find these verbs in the article on page 14 and underline them. What tense are they in?

believe	hope	know	like
own	think	understand	

The verbs above are about thinking, feeling and owning things. We don't usually use them in the continuous form.

2 Which of these words are also about thinking, feeling and owning things?

belong to	buy	climb	feel	hate
have	love	mean	need	prefer
run	sing	want	work	

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 148

3 Complete the sentences using the present simple or present continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 Can you turn the TV off? I _____ (hate) that programme!
- 2 Mr Jones _____ (want) to talk to you. Are you free now?
- 3 Why _____ (you sing)? I _____ (need) to study!
- 4 That book _____ (belong) to me. It's not my friend's.
- 5 I _____ (love) this T-shirt. Can I buy it, Mum?
- 6 I can't talk now, sorry. I _____ (run).

4 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 There are things in my bag that I'm needing at the moment.
- 2 The weather's cold at the moment, but I'm preferring it like that.
- 3 I'm thinking the party was great.
- 4 My brother is liking summer and I'm liking winter.
- 5 Get into the pool with me! The water is feeling great.

5 Use the prompts to write questions beginning *Do you ...* or *Are you ...*. Then walk around the class and ask people your questions.

- own / a bike?
- learn to / play an instrument?
- like / cabbage?
- do / an art project at the moment?
- think / English is easy?
- plan to / do something interesting this weekend?
- love / watching TV?
- need / study for an exam?

In pairs, discuss what you found out.

2

OUR CHANGING PLANET

THE EARTH: A CHANGING PLANET



1 Scientists believe the Earth is 4.6 billion years old. However, the **mountains**, valleys, **hills**, **rivers**, deserts and **forests** we see today are much younger than that. For example, Mount Everest is about 60 million years old and the Amazon rainforest is only 10 million years old. The youngest **sea** in the world is the Baltic Sea, about 15,000 years old.

2 The Earth is always changing because of **volcanoes**, earthquakes and, of course, wind and rain. Some of these changes are very slow and others are quick. Water and ice can make very big changes to the planet. For example, glaciers (rivers of ice) can cut through mountains and make **lakes** and deep **valleys**. Eighty or more volcanoes are under the oceans and sometimes they become new islands. This is happening in the South Pacific, near Tonga.

3 It's normal for our planet to change, but at the moment, scientists think it's changing faster than usual. They don't understand everything that's happening, but they know that some **deserts** (places where it doesn't rain much) are growing, and many **forests** are getting smaller. The weather is getting wetter in some places and drier in others, and there are more big storms.

4 However, these changes are not bad for everyone. Because the Arctic is getting warmer, some people in Greenland now own businesses and sell vegetables they grow on their land. That wasn't possible so far north 50 years ago. Farmers in Greenland like the warm weather and hope it will continue.

ABOUT YOU

What is the weather like in your country?
Is the weather the same every year?

VOCABULARY AND READING

Geographical features

1 In pairs, discuss the questions. Then read the article and check your ideas.

- 1 How old is the Earth?
- 2 What's happening to the Earth's weather at the moment?

2 Read the article again and choose the best heading for each paragraph.

- A Good news in one part of the world
- B Problems for the planet
- C The age of the Earth
- D How the planet changes

3 Match the words in blue in the article to the photos A-I. Listen and check. Then repeat.

