

# 3 Time for a change!

## 1 WORD POWER Houses and apartments

**A** These words are used to describe houses and apartments. Which are positive (P)? Which are negative (N)?

|             |                          |              |       |          |       |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------|----------|-------|
| bright      | ..... <sup>P</sup> ..... | dingy        | ..... | private  | ..... |
| comfortable | .....                    | expensive    | ..... | quiet    | ..... |
| convenient  | .....                    | huge         | ..... | safe     | ..... |
| cramped     | .....                    | inconvenient | ..... | shabby   | ..... |
| dangerous   | .....                    | modern       | ..... | small    | ..... |
| dark        | .....                    | noisy        | ..... | spacious | ..... |



**B PAIR WORK** Tell your partner two positive and two negative features of your house or apartment.

"I live in a safe neighborhood, and my apartment is very bright. However, it's very expensive and a little cramped."

## 2 PERSPECTIVES Which would you prefer?

**A** Listen to these opinions about houses and apartments. Which ones are about space?

1. Apartments are too small for pets.
2. Apartments aren't big enough for families.
3. Apartments don't have as many rooms as houses.
4. Apartments have just as many expenses as houses.
5. Apartments don't have enough parking spaces.
6. Houses cost too much money.
7. Houses aren't as safe as apartments.
8. Houses aren't as convenient as apartments.
9. Houses don't have enough closet space.
10. Houses don't have as much privacy as apartments.

**B PAIR WORK** Look at the opinions again. Which statements do you agree with?

- A: I agree that apartments are too small for pets.  
 B: And they don't have enough parking spaces!



## Evaluations and comparisons

**Evaluations with adjectives**

Apartments aren't big **enough** for families.  
Apartments are **too** small for pets.

**Comparisons with adjectives**

Houses aren't **as** convenient **as** apartments.  
Houses are **just as** convenient **as** apartments.

**Evaluations with nouns**

Apartments don't have **enough** parking spaces.  
Houses cost **too much** money.

**Comparisons with nouns**

Apartments have **just as many** rooms **as** houses.  
Apartments don't have **as much** privacy **as** houses.

**A** Imagine you are looking for a house or an apartment to rent. Read the two ads. Then rewrite the opinions below using the words in parentheses. Compare with a partner.

**Spacious, modern house**

3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom;  
very private; in quiet  
suburb; 2-car garage;  
\$1500 per month.

**Smaller, older apartment**

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom;  
downtown, near subway;  
1 parking space;  
\$900 per month.

- There are only a few windows. (not enough)
- It's not bright enough. (too)
- It has only one bathroom. (not enough)
- It's not convenient enough. (too)
- It's not spacious enough. (too)
- It's too old. (not enough)
- It isn't safe enough. (too)
- There's only one parking space. (not enough)

There aren't enough windows.

**B** Write comparisons of the house and the apartment using these words and *as ... as*. Then compare with a partner.

|           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| noisy     | big            |
| bedrooms  | expensive      |
| bathrooms | modern         |
| spacious  | convenient     |
| private   | parking spaces |

The house isn't as noisy as the apartment.  
The apartment doesn't have as many bedrooms as the house.

**C GROUP WORK** Which would you prefer to rent, the house or the apartment? Why?

- A: I'd rent the apartment because the house costs too much.  
B: I'd choose the house. The apartment isn't big enough for my family.

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**PRONUNCIATION** *Unpronounced vowels*

**A** Listen and practice. The vowel immediately after a stressed syllable is sometimes not pronounced.

average  
different  
separate

comfortable  
interesting  
vegetable

**B** Write four sentences using some of the words in part A. Then read them with a partner. Pay attention to unpronounced vowels.

In my hometown, the average apartment has two bedrooms.

5

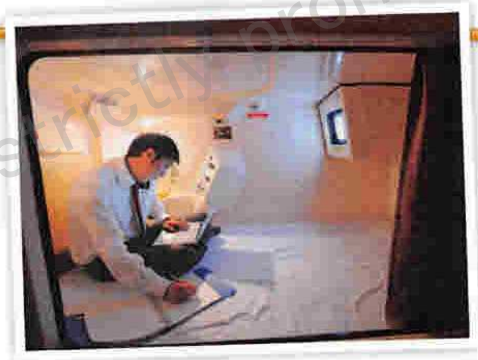
**LISTENING** *Capsule hotels*

**A** Listen to Brad describe a "capsule hotel." Check (✓) the words that best describe it.

- |                                    |                                     |                                    |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cramped   | <input type="checkbox"/> convenient | <input type="checkbox"/> bright    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> expensive | <input type="checkbox"/> busy       | <input type="checkbox"/> dangerous |

**B** Listen again. In addition to a bed, what does the hotel provide? Write four things.

.....  
 .....

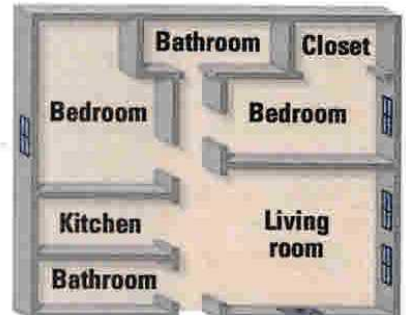
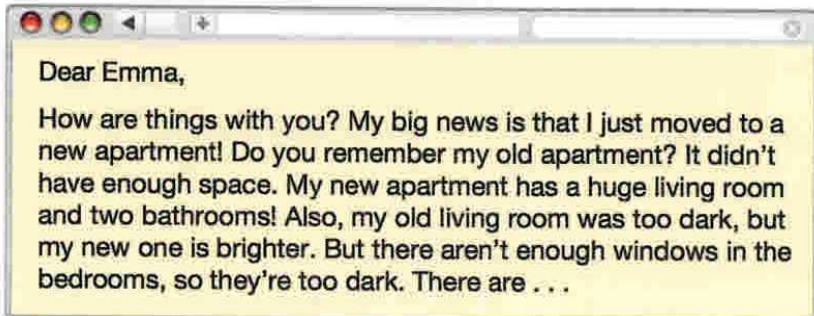


**C PAIR WORK** Would you like to stay in a capsule hotel? Why or why not?

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**WRITING** *A descriptive email*

**A** Imagine you've just moved to this apartment. Write an email to a friend comparing your old home to your new one.



**B PAIR WORK** Read each other's emails. How are your descriptions similar? different?

## 7 SNAPSHOT



Source: Based on interviews with adults between the ages of 18 and 50

Check (✓) some of the things you would like to do. Then tell a partner why.  
Which of these wishes would be easy to achieve? Which would be difficult or impossible?  
What other things would you like to change about your life? Why?

## 8 CONVERSATION Making changes

**A** Listen and practice.

Brian: So, are you still living with your parents, Terry?

Terry: I'm afraid so. I wish I had my own apartment.

Brian: Why? Don't you like living at home?

Terry: It's OK, but my parents are always asking me to be home before midnight. I wish they'd stop worrying about me.

Brian: Yeah, parents are like that!

Terry: And they expect me to help around the house. I hate housework. I wish life weren't so difficult.

Brian: So, why don't you move out?

Terry: Hey, I wish I could, but where else can I get free room and board?

**B** Listen to the rest of the conversation. What changes would Brian like to make in his life?



## 9

## GRAMMAR FOCUS

## Wish

Use wish + past tense to refer to present wishes.

I **live** with my parents.

Life **is** difficult.

I wish I **didn't live** with my parents.

I wish it **were\*** easier.

I wish I **had** my own apartment.

I wish it **weren't** so difficult.

I **can't move** out.

My parents **won't stop** worrying about me.

I wish I **could move** out.

I wish they **would stop** worrying about me.

\*For the verb be, were is used with all pronouns after wish.

**A** Read these facts about people's lives. Then rewrite the sentences using *wish*. (More than one answer is possible.)

1. Diane can't wear contact lenses.
2. Beth's class is so boring.
3. My parents can't afford a new car.
4. Dan can't fit into his old jeans.
5. I can't remember my PIN number.
6. Laura doesn't have any free time.
7. Mitch is too short to play basketball.

*She wishes she could wear contact lenses.*

*She wishes her class weren't so boring.*

.....

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**B PAIR WORK** Think of five things you wish you could change. Then discuss them with your partner.

A: What do you wish you could change?

B: Well, I'm not in very good shape. I wish I were more fit.

## 10

SPEAKING *Wish list*

**A** What do you wish were different about these things? Write down your wishes.

my bedroom

my social life

my possessions

my school or job

my skills

my town

**B GROUP WORK** Compare your wishes. Does anyone have the same wish?

A: I wish my bedroom were a different color. It's not bright enough.

B: Me, too! I wish I could paint my bedroom bright orange.

C: I like the color of my bedroom, but my bed is too small. I wish ...



## 11

INTERCHANGE 3 *Wishful thinking*

Find out more about your classmates' wishes. Go to Interchange 3 on page 116.

# Break those bad habits

Skim the article. What three bad habits does the article mention?

Some people leave work until the last minute, a lot of us like to spread or listen to gossip, and others always arrive at events late. These aren't as serious as some problems, but they are bad habits that can cause trouble. Habits like these waste your time and, in some cases, might even affect your relationships. Do you wish you could break your bad habits? Read this advice to end these habits forever!



### There's Always Tomorrow

- 1 **PROBLEM:** Do you leave projects until the very last minute and then stay up all night to finish them?
- 2 **SOLUTION:** People often put things off because they seem overwhelming. Try to divide the project into smaller steps. After you finish each task, reward yourself with a snack or a call to a friend.

### Guess What I Just Heard

- 3 **PROBLEM:** Do you think it's not nice to talk about other people, but do it anyway? Do you feel bad after you've done it?
- 4 **SOLUTION:** First, never listen to gossip. If someone tries to tell you a secret, just say, "Sorry, I'm not really interested." Then think of some other news to offer – about yourself.

### Never on Time

- 5 **PROBLEM:** Are you always late? Do your friends invite you to events a half hour early?
- 6 **SOLUTION:** Use the reminder function in your phone. For example, if a movie starts at 8:00 and it takes you 20 minutes to get to the theater, you have to leave by 7:40. Put the event in your phone calendar, and then set it to send you a reminder at 7:30.

**A** Read the article. Then check (✓) the best description of the article.

- 1. The article starts with a description and then gives advice.
- 2. The article starts with a description and then gives facts.
- 3. The article gives the writer's opinion.

**B** Where do these sentences belong? Write the number of the paragraph where each sentence could go.

- ..... a. You can also ask a friend to come to your home before the event.
- ..... b. Ask yourself: "How would I feel if someone told my secrets?"
- ..... c. Do you ever make up excuses to explain your unfinished work?
- ..... d. Are you ever so late that the people you're meeting decide to leave?
- ..... e. You can also ask a friend to call you to ask about your progress.
- ..... f. Are people afraid to tell you things about themselves?

**C PAIRWORK** Discuss other ways to break each of these bad habits.