

VOCABULARY

Describing buildings

1 Find adjectives in the word square (→ ↘ ↗ ↓) below to match the meanings.

- 1 new or different to what was there before
- 2 special and interesting
- 3 comfortable and warm
- 4 done in a certain style for a long time
- 5 relating to the present time, not the past
- 6 important or likely to be important in history
- 7 completely new
- 8 popular for a long time, and of good quality
- 9 extremely good, exciting or surprising
- 10 the earliest form of something

s	p	e	c	t	a	c	u	l	a	r	n
o	r	p	k	p	q	z	n	l	n	f	l
r	g	e	c	l	a	s	s	i	c	a	m
i	f	g	c	b	g	v	q	l	n	m	w
g	m	o	d	e	r	n	x	o	c	e	u
i	r	f	r	d	n	d	i	i	n	n	n
n	p	j	l	q	c	t	r	d	b	k	u
a	m	c	z	t	i	o	n	p	f	r	s
l	f	r	k	d	t	a	s	j	r	w	u
j	c	r	a	s	r	h	m	y	e	j	a
m	m	r	i	b	v	f	b	w	s	r	l
j	t	h	m	m	y	m	l	l	h	l	t

2 Choose the correct adjective.

- 1 My bedroom is very small but *historic* / *cosy*.
- 2 Tom and Maggie's home is *unusual* / *fresh* because it is a boat.
- 3 This room has *spectacular* / *historic* views over the mountains.
- 4 The new museum in town has three lifts on the outside. It's very *modern* / *brand new*.
- 5 What an amazing kitchen you've got! It's got a really *brand new* / *contemporary* style.
- 6 Be careful with my phone – I got it yesterday, so it's *fresh* / *brand new*!
- 7 The mountain village is full of *traditional* / *fresh* stone cottages.
- 8 The architect had a lot of *stylish* / *fresh* ideas for school library books that the students will like.
- 9 When I visit a town I don't know, I always walk around and look at the *fresh* / *historic* buildings.
- 10 I don't think shorts are a very *stylish* / *historic* thing to wear on a night out.

3 Complete the conversation with the words in the box.

cosy modern original spectacular
traditional unusual

- Mum:** How shall we decorate your new bedroom? The people who lived here before liked strong colours!
- Rachel:** Yes – I don't want to keep the ¹ colour! Can I have blue instead? Maybe a pale blue?
- Mum:** Yes, that sounds nice. And we could make a feature of the ² view of the mountains from the window, you know, like we saw in that TV programme last night.
- Rachel:** Oh, yeah! Where they painted the wall with the window in it a different colour. That would be ³ I don't know anyone who's got a room like that.
- Mum:** OK. And what about furniture? Do you want a ⁴ style? It's an old house, so that would look nice.
- Rachel:** Actually, I think I'd prefer something more ⁵, you know, up-to-date.
- Mum:** Sure, well, we can go and have a look at what will fit in the room. It's only a small room, but it's really ⁶ and it'll be nice and warm, too.
- Rachel:** Great! Let's go shopping!



READING

- 1 Read questions 1–5 quickly. What do all the people want to do?

PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Reading Part 2

- 2 Read about five people who want to decorate their bedrooms (1–5). Decide which shop (A–H) would be the most suitable for each person.

1 Jai wants to create a cosy space. She likes traditional furniture and is looking for some interesting old items which she can put on her walls, as well as a carpet in a light colour.



2 Simon wants his bedroom to have a really up-to-date look and wants to paint the walls in bright colours. He likes very modern, unusual furniture. He'd also like something cool to put over his bed.



3 Vanessa's room has an old fireplace, which she'd like to make a feature of so her room is really original. She'd love some interesting pictures and she'd also like a lamp which suits the room.



4 Samuel has a huge new room to fill. He likes classic furniture and wants somewhere to put his books. He's getting rid of the old carpet, but needs an alternative that looks good and feels comfortable.



5 Akiko likes inviting people round to her house. She wants some new curtains in soft colours and would like to cover the walls in similar shades. She's looking for a warm blanket for her sofa, too.



EXAM TIPS

- Read about each person and underline what they are looking for.
- Read the options and choose the one which fits each person.

Home Decoration Shops

A Home

Create a cosy place to hang out with your friends. We have a fantastic new collection of paints in pale colours, as well as a wide range of material in the same colours. Make your own curtains or covers! Our winter range includes wool and other cosy kinds of cloth. Together, we can create a space which reflects your personality.

B Do it Yourself!

We specialise in antiques and have a large selection of furniture for those who wish to create an old-fashioned feel. We are also introducing a range of carpets for the first time in soft shades like cream or pale grey. At the moment, we have some unique decorative wall pieces, too. Come and have a look!

C Decoration Centre

Do you want to create a unique look while keeping the interesting details of an older home? Our design centre will help you make the most of whatever you've got and we'll also look out for paintings which are a little bit different. We have a brand-new section filled with all kinds of lights. They're pretty cool!

D House and Home Store

Here at House and Home Store, we offer a wide collection of super-modern furniture, as well as curtains, carpets and contemporary prints to hang on your walls. If you like to keep things simple and clean, why not take a look at our paint collection, with whites and greys to suit the 'minimalist' look? Your friends will love it!

E Spaces

If you've got a small space you want to make stylish, then come and visit us here at Spaces. You'll be amazed by our modern space-saving furniture, from bookcases and beds to drawers and shelves. We also have a great range of paints and wallpapers in soft colours to make the most of your room. Located next to the antiques centre.

F Inside and Out

We've got a fantastic range of furniture, from extra-large beds and sofas, to shelves and other storage. Perfect for the bigger room. Most of our furniture is made in a traditional design, in wood. We can also offer advice on what to do with your floor and have some great options which don't include carpet.

G Make Your Own Home

If tradition is what you like, take a look at our wide collection of wooden wardrobes, beds and chests of drawers. Coming soon: home decoration section, which will offer a wide variety of paints, wallpaper, lights and pictures.

H ABC Decor

If you love modern things, ABC Decor can help you create the room you've always wanted. We have the latest collections from brilliant contemporary designers and a brand-new selection of paints in bold shades: everything from orange to purple! We also have a second-hand section where we're getting rid of old records – perfect if you have a space to fill on the wall.

1 Complete the table with comparative and superlative adjectives.

	Comparative	Superlative
fresh		
big		
wide		
cosy		
original		
historic		

2 Complete these sentences with the adjective in brackets and (*not*) *as ... as*, *less* or *the least*.

- In 2019, there was no building in the world, which was _____ the Burj Khalifa in Dubai. (tall)
- I sat in _____ chair in the living room because I wanted my visitors to have the best places to sit. (comfortable)
- This programme is _____ last week's. (not good)
- That film was _____ one I've ever seen. So boring! (exciting)
- Filipa is _____ than Joana; Filipa is very quiet. (lively)
- Some people write about really crazy things online. I found a blog about _____ musical instruments to play round a campfire! (acceptable)

3 Write sentences about the information in the table, using the words below to help you.

	city	holiday resort	theme park
weather			
price	€€€	€€€€	€€
historic	✓✓✓✓	✓	✓
exciting	✓	✓✓	✓✓✓✓

0 weather / good / holiday resort / city
The weather is better at the holiday resort than in the city.

- city / holiday resort / expensive

- theme park / expensive

- theme park / historic / holiday resort

- city / historic

- city / exciting

- theme park / exciting / holiday resort

4 Correct the mistakes in these sentences or put a tick (✓) by any you think are correct.

- Smaller cities are more nice than very big ones.

- She is one of the most important people in my life.

- Our new flat is farer from the city centre than the old one.

- The better thing I've ever done is design my own bedroom.

- She is the funniest person I have ever known!

VOCABULARY

Strong adjectives and adverbs

1 Are the adjectives in bold strong or normal? Write S for strong or N for normal.

- 1 I'm **exhausted!** I've just finished painting the hall.
- 2 There's an **old** castle in our town. It's a few hundred years old.
- 3 Our flat is really hot in summer, but **freezing** in winter.
- 4 Wow! What a **good** view.
- 5 I feel **terrible**. I think I'm getting a cold.
- 6 My dad designs buildings – they're **spectacular!**

2 Circle the correct adverb.

- 1 I'm *incredibly* / *absolutely* tired. I think I'll go to bed early.
- 2 Sara's feeling *absolutely* / *very* happy because she's passed her exams.
- 3 Our hotel room was *extremely* / *absolutely* big with views of the sea.
- 4 Jenny's parents' house is *absolutely* / *very* enormous.
- 5 That meal was *absolutely* / *incredibly* tasty – thanks!
- 6 I've painted my room, but it looks *really* / *absolutely* bad.

LISTENING

04 1 Listen to six conversations. What are they about? Choose the correct answer for each one.

- 1 a description of the boy's house / how to get to the boy's house
- 2 how to decorate a bedroom / what a bedroom looks like
- 3 what some homework is about / an idea for some classwork
- 4 what they are going to do / where they have been
- 5 what they have found today / what they are going to look for
- 6 why a house is good / why someone built a house



PREPARE FOR THE EXAM

Listening Part 2

2 Now read the questions. Listen to the six conversations again. For each question, choose the correct answer.



- 1 You will hear a boy telling his friend about his new house.
What does he say about it?
A It isn't as interesting as where he used to live.
B His bedroom is not as good as his old one.
C There is less space in the garden than at the old house.
- 2 You will hear a brother and sister talking about the girl's bedroom.
What does the girl like about it?
A its original decoration
B its contemporary furniture
C its spectacular views
- 3 You hear two students talking about a design project they have to do.
How do they both feel about it?
A It's less interesting than they expected.
B It's difficult to think of ideas for it.
C It's challenging to do in the time available.
- 4 You will hear two friends talking about a trip they have been on.
What does the boy say about it?
A He liked the accommodation.
B He enjoyed getting to know a new city.
C He found the whole experience very tiring.
- 5 You will hear two friends talking about a project they will work on.
How do they both feel about it?
A keen to see the remains of an ancient village
B hopeful of finding interesting pots from the past
C excited about looking for coins they haven't seen before
- 6 You will hear a boy telling a friend about a house.
What does he like best about it?
A its design
B its location
C its size



EXAM TIPS

- You have to choose the correct option from a set of three. When you listen the first time, try to think about what the speaker or speakers are talking about.
- In the second listening, choose the option that correctly answers the question.

