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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 10/07/13

Moving to a new home

Today, let's talk about moving to a new home. It's something we all go through at some point in our lives. When we do, it is normally quite a stressful process. If you are a first time buyer the task ahead can be quite daunting. Even second and third time moves can prove challenging! Let's face it moving to a new home can be the biggest moment in your life!

Many young people these days simply rent a property. The reasons for this vary; they may prefer to do this if their job is for a limited period. Most though won't have enough money saved for a deposit on their own property so renting is the only option.

When you can save up enough to buy your own pad you can start to look for a place of your own. Most people look in estate agents. These days a lot of this is done by looking online then contacting the agent.

After visiting the property you can compare it with others you have already visited. When one matches your criteria and you feel 'this is the one', you can put in an offer. If it is accepted you can start the proceedings to buy it.

You will probably need to visit several banks or building societies so you can ascertain which of them will offer you the best rate and the best conditions for your mortgage. You will also probably need a valuation or survey! Once your chosen financial institution has agreed your mortgage your deal can go ahead.

You will need to sign a contract. This is normally done in a solicitor's office with both the purchaser and buyer present. After that you need to move in. This is when friends and family are useful. A removal firm is another option especially for moving heavy furniture. Happy moving!

SPEAKING – WARM UP

When did you last move to a new home? Think of three things associated with moving. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Explain the meaning of 'first time buyer'.
- 2) What is a mortgage?
- 3) What is a building society?
- 4) What is an offer?
- 5) What is an estate agent?

Student B questions

- 1) What do you do in a solicitor's office?
- 2) What does 'ascertain' mean?
- 3) What does 'daunting' mean?
- 4) What do young people these days do?
- 5) Explain what a 'purchaser' and a 'seller' are.

The idea for today's English lesson came from the author. I am midway moving flats. I thought it would be a good idea to discuss the topic!

Category: Lifestyle / Moving / House - Flats
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with **'moving to a new home'**. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Think of three things you need to do when looking at property. Add three types of loan. Write them below. Talk about them!

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

Add three things you need to do when you have chosen your property and when moving to it!

- 1) _____ (1) _____
- 2) _____ (2) _____
- 3) _____ (3) _____

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

SPEAKING - DEBATE

As a class – Discuss how the economic crisis of 2008 has affected the property market in your region and around the world. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DEBATE

In pairs – Student A needs to obtain a mortgage. Student B is a bank-teller selling mortgages in a bank. *5 mins.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Do you rent a property? Explain.
- 3) How many times have you moved in your life?
- 4) What is your dream property?
- 5) What makes an ideal property?
- 6) Do banks offer good deals in your country? Explain.
- 7) Which bank currently offers the best mortgage deal?
- 8) Did you find it hard to get on the property ladder?
- 9) Are property prices going up in your country? Explain.
- 10) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio. Today's interview is about: *Moving to a new home.*

- 1) An estate agent.
- 2) A mortgage broker.
- 3) A first time buyer.
- 4) Someone who rents a flat.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - DEBATE

In pairs – Student A is an estate agent. Student B is a potential buyer. You wish to buy or rent a flat. You have seen several but you need advice. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - GAME

As a class – "I moved house recently and I took with me..." Repeat the previous suggestions. You are eliminated if you forget one of the previous suggestions! *5 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – *As a class.*

Discuss the following...

The state of the property market in your country

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) In your country do you need to get a survey or valuation done when you buy a property?
- 2) Do you use the internet to search for properties?
- 3) Is it hard to purchase a property in your country?
- 4) Are friends and family useful when buying a property?
- 5) Do you prefer to rent or buy?
- 6) Did you use a removal firm when you last moved house?
- 7) Are solicitors and estate agent fees expensive? Explain.
- 8) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?
- 9) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Moving to a new home

Today, let's talk about moving to a new home. It's something we all go through at some point in our lives. When we do, it is (1)___ quite a stressful process. If you are a first time buyer the (2)___ ahead can be quite daunting. Even second and third time moves can prove challenging! Let's face it moving to a new home can be the biggest (3)___ in your life!

Many young people these days simply rent a property. The reasons for this vary; they may prefer to do this if their job is for a limited period. Most though won't have enough money saved for a deposit on their own (4)___ so renting is the only option.

When you can save up (5)___ to buy your own (6)___ you can start to look for a place of your own. Most people look in estate agents. These days a lot of this is done by looking (7)___ then contacting the (8)___.

online / normally / property / agent / enough / moment / task / pad

After visiting the property you can compare it with others you have already visited. When one matches your (1)___ and you feel 'this is the one', you can put in an offer. If it is accepted you can start the proceedings to buy it.

You will probably need to visit several banks or building societies so you can ascertain which of them will offer you the best rate and the best conditions for your mortgage. You will also probably need a valuation or survey! Once your chosen (2)___ has agreed your (3)___ your (4)___ can go ahead.

You will need to sign a (5)___. This is normally done in a (6)___'s office with both the purchaser and buyer present. After that you need to move in. This is when friends and family are (7)___. A removal firm is another (8)___ especially for moving heavy furniture. Happy moving!

option / deal / solicitor / financial institution / useful / mortgage / criteria / contract

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Moving to a new home

Today, let's talk about moving to a new home. It's something we all go through at (1)___ point in our lives. When we do, it is normally quite a stressful process. If you are a first time buyer the task ahead can be quite daunting. (2)___ second and third time moves can prove challenging! Let's face it moving to a new home can be the biggest moment in (3)___ life!

(4)___ young people these days simply rent a property. The reasons for this vary; they may prefer to do this if their job is for a limited period. (5)___ though won't have enough money saved for a deposit on their own property so renting is the only option.

(6)___ you can save up enough to buy your own pad you can start to look for a place of your own. Most people look in estate agents. (7)___ days a lot of this is done by looking online (8)___ contacting the agent.

these / even / when / many / then / some / most / your

After visiting the property you can compare it with others you have already visited. When one matches your criteria and you feel 'this is (1)___ one', you can put in an offer. (2)___ it is accepted you can start the proceedings to buy it.

You will probably need to visit several banks (3)___ building societies (4)___ you can ascertain which of them will offer (5)___ the best rate (6)___ the best conditions for your mortgage. You will also probably need a valuation or survey! Once your chosen financial institution has agreed your mortgage your deal can go ahead.

You will need to sign a contract. This is normally done (7)___ a solicitor's office with both the purchaser and buyer present. After that you need to move in. This is when friends and family are useful. A removal firm is another option especially (8)___ moving heavy furniture. Happy moving!

or / if / so / in / you / for / and / the

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Moving to a new home

Today, let's talk about _____. It's something we all go through at some point in our lives. When we do, it is normally quite a stressful process. If you are a _____ task ahead can be quite daunting. Even second and third time moves can prove challenging! Let's face it moving to a new home can be the _____ your life!

Many young people these days simply rent a property. The reasons for this vary; they may prefer to do this if their job is for a limited period. Most though won't have enough money saved for a deposit on their own property so renting _____.

When you can save up enough to buy your own pad you can start to look for a place of your own. Most people look in estate agents. These days a lot of this is done by looking online then _____.

After visiting the property you can compare it with others you have already visited. When one matches your criteria and you feel '_____', you can put in an offer. If it is accepted you can start the proceedings to buy it.

_____ to visit several banks or building societies so you can ascertain which of them will offer you the best rate and the best conditions for your mortgage. You will also probably need a valuation or survey! Once your _____ has agreed your mortgage your deal can go ahead.

You will need _____. This is normally done in a solicitor's office with both the purchaser and buyer present. After that you need to move in. This is when friends and family are useful. A removal firm is another option especially for _____. Happy moving!

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs*, list ten things you need to do when buying a property. *One-two minutes. Talk about each of them.*

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Moving flats _____
- 2) Renting _____
- 3) Getting a mortgage _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Moving to a new home**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) normally
- 2) task
- 3) moment
- 4) property
- 5) pad
- 6) enough
- 7) online
- 8) agent

ANSWERS

- 1) criteria
- 2) financial institution
- 3) mortgage
- 4) deal
- 5) contract
- 6) solicitor
- 7) useful
- 8) option

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) through
- 2) stressful
- 3) process
- 4) daunting
- 5) challenging
- 6) property
- 7) vary
- 8) though
- 9) option
- 10) pad

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) these
- 12) criteria
- 13) proceedings
- 14) probably
- 15) normally
- 16) conditions
- 17) once
- 18) mortgage
- 19) solicitor
- 20) especially

Moving to a new home – *10th July 2013*