

# 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	...P...	dingy	.....	private	.....
comfortable	.....	expensive	.....	quiet	.....
convenient	.....	huge	.....	safe	.....
cramped	.....	inconvenient	.....	shabby	.....
dangerous	.....	modern	.....	small	.....
dark	.....	noisy	.....	spacious	.....

cramped



**B Pair work** Tell your partner two positive and two negative features about your house or apartment.

“My apartment is very dark and a little cramped. However, it’s in a safe neighborhood and it’s very private.”

## 2 PERSPECTIVES Which would you prefer?

**A** Listen to these opinions about houses and apartments.

- Apartments are too small for pets.
- Apartments aren’t big enough for families.
- Apartments don’t have as many rooms as houses.
- Apartments have just as many expenses as houses.
- Apartments don’t have enough parking spaces.
- Houses cost too much money.
- Houses aren’t as safe as apartments.
- Houses aren’t as convenient as apartments.
- Houses don’t have enough closet space.
- 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!



### 3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

#### 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 apartment to rent. Read the two ads. Then rewrite the opinions below using the words in parentheses.



**Spacious, modern house**  
3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom; very private; located in quiet suburb; 2-car garage; \$950 per month.



**Small, older apartment**  
2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom; located downtown, convenient to the subway; 1 parking space; \$500 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 apartment using these words and *as . . . as*. Then compare with a partner.

noisy                      big  
bedrooms                expensive  
bathrooms                modern  
space                      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? Explain your reasons.

- 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 dogs!

## 4 PRONUNCIATION *Unpronounced vowels*

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

average	comfortable
different	interesting
separate	vegetable

**B** Write four sentences using some of the words in part A. Then practice reading 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"/> busy        | <input type="checkbox"/> convenient | <input type="checkbox"/> dangerous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> comfortable | <input type="checkbox"/> cramped    | <input type="checkbox"/> expensive |

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

.....  
 .....



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

## 6 WRITING *A descriptive e-mail*

**A** Imagine you’ve just moved to a new apartment. Write an e-mail to a friend comparing your old apartment to your new one.



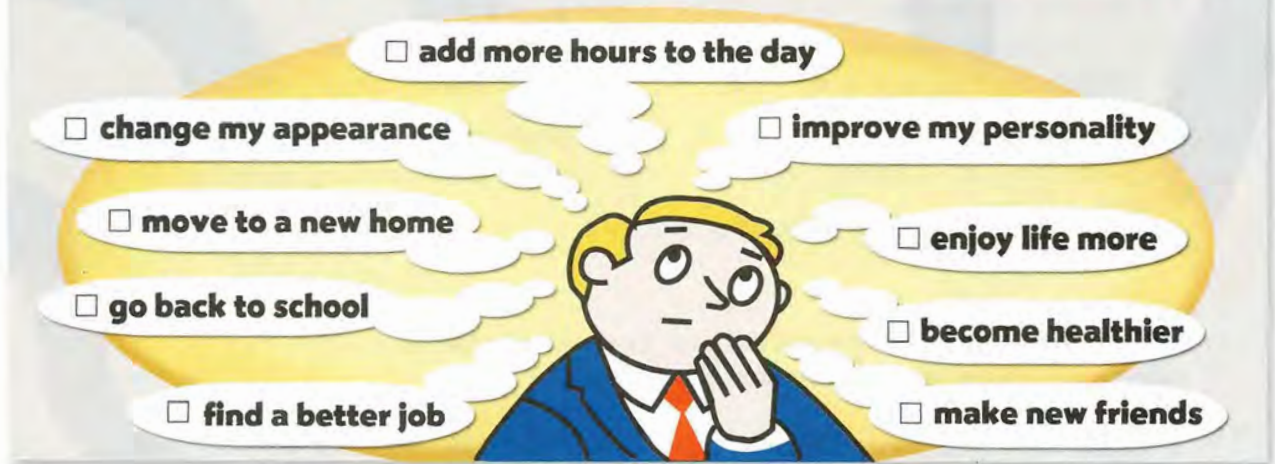
Dear Emma
Dear Emma,

How are things with you? My big news is that Mike and I just moved to a new apartment! Do you remember our old apartment? It didn't have enough bedrooms for us. Well, the new apartment has three bedrooms. Also, the old apartment was too cramped, but the new one . . .

**B Pair work** Take turns reading each other’s e-mails. Is there anything else you’d like to know about your partner’s new apartment?

## 7 **SNAPSHOT**

### Common Wishes People Have About Their Lives



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

Which of these wishes would be easy to do? Which would be difficult or impossible? Check (✓) some of the things you would like to do. Then tell a partner why. 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.

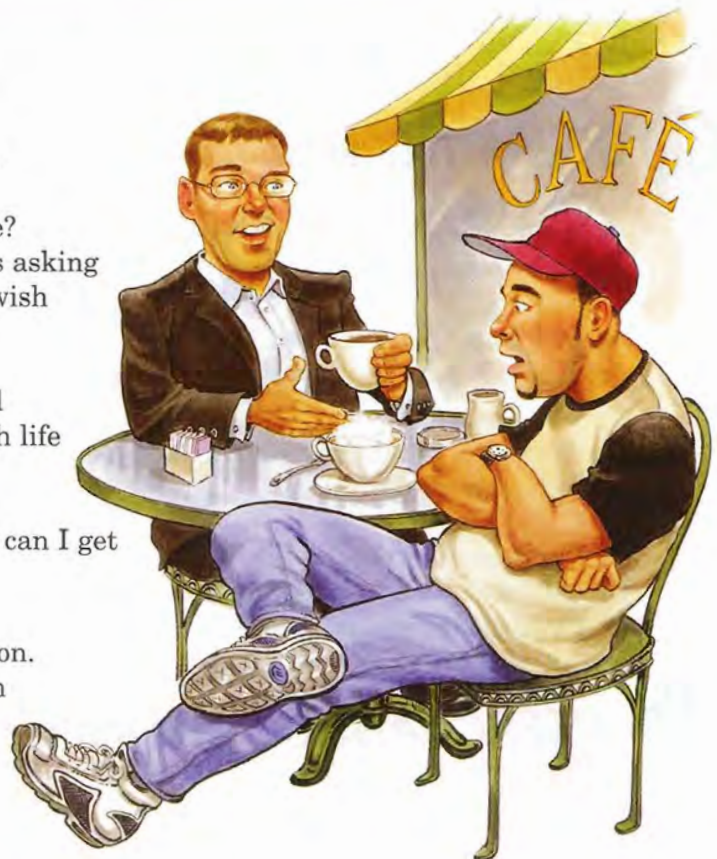
Brian: Yeah, parents are like that!

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 <b>live</b> with my parents.<br>I wish I <b>didn't live</b> with my parents.<br>I wish I <b>had</b> my own apartment. | Life <b>is</b> difficult.<br>I wish it <b>were*</b> easier.<br>I wish it <b>weren't</b> so difficult. |
| I <b>can't move</b> out.<br>I wish I <b>could move</b> out.   | My parents <b>won't stop</b> worrying about me.<br>I wish they <b>would stop</b> worrying about me.   |

\*After wish, were is used with all pronouns.

**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.   | <i>She wishes she could wear contact lenses.</i> |
| 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.  | .....  |

**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 appearance | my possessions |
| my school or job | my family     | my skills      |

**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.



# 11 INTERCHANGE 3 Wishful thinking

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

# Break Those **Bad** Habits

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

**S**ome people leave work until the last minute, a lot of us can't stop gossiping, and others always arrive to events late. These aren't serious 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. What can you do about them? Read this advice to end your bad habits for good!



## I Can Do It 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 dividing 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 try not to talk about other people, but can't help yourself? Do you often feel bad after you've done it?
- 4 **SOLUTION:** First, don't listen to gossip. If someone tells you a secret, just say, "Really? I haven't heard that." 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:** Set an alarm clock. For example, if a movie starts at 8:00 and it takes 20 minutes to get to the theater, you have to leave at 7:40. Set the alarm to go off at the time you need to leave.

**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 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 Pair work** Can you think of another way to break each of these bad habits?