



# Life

## 4b Combo Split Workbook

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# Unit 7 Living space

## 7a Longhouses

### Vocabulary and reading features of homes

- 1 Check (✓) which of these things you think you would find in longhouses. Then read the article and check your answers.

attic balcony basement central heating  
double glazing fireplace garage garden  
terrace veranda

The longhouse is a type of home that is found all over the world, from northern Europe across Asia and also in the Americas. As its name suggests, it's a building which is <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (long) than it is wide. The fact that this kind of structure is so widespread suggests that it was the <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (appropriate) in most environments and was also the <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (good) use of local materials. Although the basic idea is the same, there are several variations according to the different conditions around the world.

The main entrance to an Indonesian longhouse is via steps up to a veranda, as the typical longhouse is built on stilts. In the hot climate, a house can cool down <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (easily) if it's built off the ground.

Viking longhouses had one central fire for heat and for cooking, whereas in longhouses in <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (hot) climates the kitchens are typically built away from the main living area. Both European and Asian longhouses had attics for storage of things like food.

### Grammar comparatives and superlatives

- 2 Complete the article about longhouses with the comparative and superlative forms.  
3 Complete the sentences with comparative forms.

#### To show a process of change

- 1 Small apartments are becoming \_\_\_\_\_ (popular).  
2 House prices are getting \_\_\_\_\_ (high).  
3 They are building condominiums \_\_\_\_\_ (fast).

#### To show how two things change in relation to each other

- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ (big) the windows, \_\_\_\_\_ (bright) the rooms are.  
5 \_\_\_\_\_ (close) it is to the stores, \_\_\_\_\_ (good).  
6 \_\_\_\_\_ (nice) the terrace is, \_\_\_\_\_ (often) we'll use it.

### 4 Grammar extra modifying comparatives and superlatives

#### ► MODIFYING COMPARATIVES and SUPERLATIVES

We use the following expressions to show the degree of difference between things we compare: *a bit, a little, a little bit, slightly, much, a lot, far, considerably*.

We can use *easily* and *by far* to modify a superlative structure.

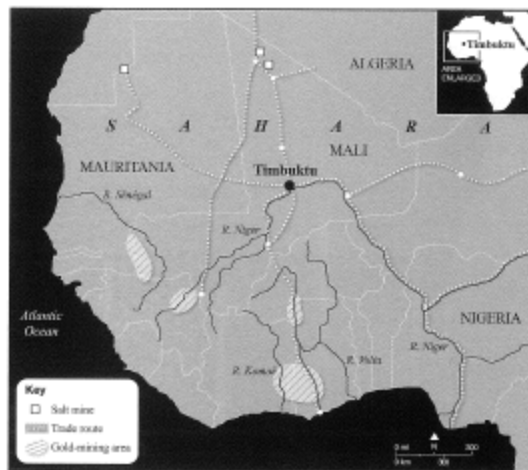
Put the words in the correct order and rewrite the sentences.

- 1 one of / The longhouse / widespread / was / most / the / designs / home.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2 use / than / a lot / Ceiling fans / less / air-conditioning / electricity.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
3 slightly / we / The rent / expected / is / than / higher.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
4 is / today / the / by far / house / we've / best / This / seen.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
5 makes / inviting / a house / a bit / look / A veranda / more.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
6 lit / is / cosier / when / far / The room / is / the fire.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# 7b In the past

## Reading Timbuktu

All great cities change over time. Timbuktu, in Mali, is an example of this. Timbuktu used to be a thriving city. Its important history is why it is on the list of World Heritage Sites. Timbuktu's geographical location was an important factor in its history. It was at the crossroads of major trading routes. The Niger River passes through Timbuktu on its 2,500-mile journey from Guinea in the west to the Niger delta in Nigeria. Camel trains used to pass through the city continuously on their way north and south. They would bring gold from the mining areas in the south and salt from the north. The river also used to bring cargoes of gold, as well as slaves, to the city. People from all of the major North African cities would come here to exchange horses and cloth for gold. Equally, scholars from places as far away as Cairo and Baghdad came to teach and study. In the 16th century, Timbuktu was invaded by Moroccan forces. The scholars began to leave and the trade routes also started to move closer to the coast. The golden age of the city was over.



### 1 Complete these sentences.

- Timbuktu used to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- The city's \_\_\_\_\_ was important in its history.
- Timbuktu is on the Niger \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ trains used to pass through the city.
- The river brought cargoes of \_\_\_\_\_ and slaves to the city.
- After the 16th century, the \_\_\_\_\_ began to leave Timbuktu.

## Grammar *used to*, *would*, and simple past

### 2 Check (✓) the sentences where *used to* can replace the simple past.

- This area didn't have so many skyscrapers before.
- The pollution here was much worse than it is now.
- The local residents campaigned for better public transportation.
- The atmosphere wasn't so relaxed in the past.
- A new modern district replaced the neglected center.
- There weren't as many crowded neighborhoods.

### 3 Rewrite the sentences you checked in Exercise 2 with *used to* or *didn't use to*.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Mark (✓) the sentences where *would* can replace *used to*.

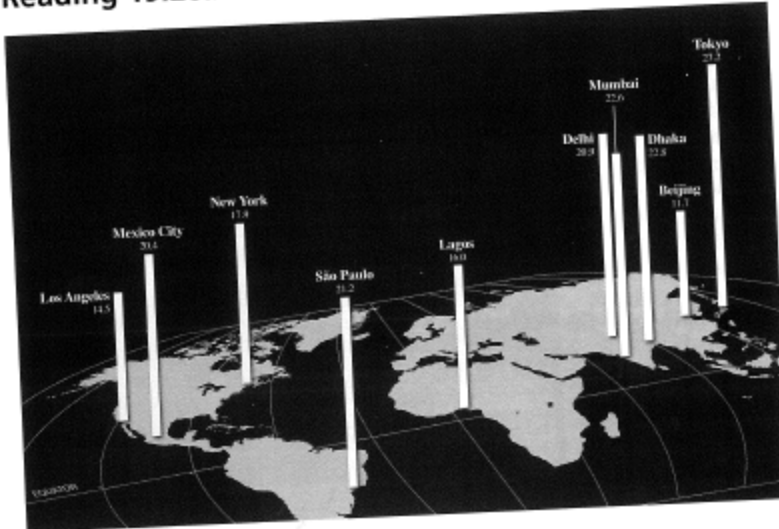
- When I was young, we used to live next to my school.
- My friends and I used to play in the street.
- There used to be a lot of traffic along this road.
- I didn't use to like my neighbors.
- A huge tree used to grow in front of our house.
- We didn't use to go out if it was raining.

### 5 Rewrite the sentences from Exercise 4 with *would* where possible. Rewrite the other sentences with the simple past.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# 7c Megacities

## Reading 19.20.21



Population in millions

- 1 Can you name the five biggest cities in the world? Look at the map and check your ideas.
- 2 Read about a project called 19.20.21. What do you think the name 19.20.21 means? Read and check your answer.

19.20.21 What is it? It's the name of a fascinating project about modern cities. The man responsible for this project is the architect Richard Saul Wurman. His project is about collecting information on 19 cities that will have more than 20 million people in the 21st century.

How and why did he get the idea for a project like this? What's it all about? In the year 2008, for the first time in history, there were more people living inside cities than outside them. This is one of the biggest changes in the way we live that we have ever seen. Wurman looked on the Internet and tried to find the appropriate books and lists that would give him information—data, maps, and so on—so that he could understand why urban life is getting more and more popular. And as he couldn't find what he was looking for, he decided to collect the data himself. And the 19.20.21 project was born.

So, why do we move to cities? People are pulled towards cities because that's where they have greater opportunities. Cities are where you put museums,

where you put universities, where you put the centers of government and business. The inventions, the discoveries, the music and art in our world, all take place in these places where people come together.

The cities that the 19.20.21 project is looking at are those of extremes, the most obvious extreme being size. A thousand years ago, the biggest city was Córdoba in Spain. Three hundred years ago, it was Beijing—a century ago London, then New York City in 1950, and today it's Tokyo. But the fastest growing city today is Lagos in Nigeria. So the interesting cities are the ones that are clearly the largest, the oldest, the fastest

growing (like Lagos), the most densely populated (that's Mumbai in India), or the least dense which cover the largest area, like Los Angeles.

If we want to make things better—not worse—in our cities, then we need to understand them. We need to be able to compare them. We have to understand before we act. And although there are a lot of little ideas for making things better—reduce traffic jams, increase safety, have cleaner air—you can't solve the problem with a collection of little ideas. So, the 19.20.21 project brings together the information we need.

- 3 Complete the sentences with four of these places.

Beijing Lagos Los Angeles Mumbai Tokyo

- 1 The biggest city in the world today is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ is the fastest growing city today.
- 3 The most densely populated city is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ is the least dense city that covers the largest area.

# 7d Tea or coffee?

## Real life expressing preferences

### 1 Grammar extra *prefer* and *would rather*

► **PREFER and WOULD RATHER**

<i>I prefer</i>	verb + <i>-ing</i> noun to + infinitive
<i>I'd prefer</i>	+ noun to + infinitive
<i>I'd rather</i>	infinitive without to

We use the simple present form *prefer* to talk about things in general. We use the conditional form of *prefer* and *would rather* to talk about the future or a hypothetical situation.

Look at the grammar box. Then complete the sentences.

- A: Do you usually take the bus to work?  
B: No. I prefer \_\_\_\_\_ (walk), especially when the weather is good.
- A: Have you made your mind up about going out tonight?  
B: Yes. I'd prefer \_\_\_\_\_ (stay) in.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ (prefer) action movies to romances.
- Do you prefer \_\_\_\_\_ (watch) TV or \_\_\_\_\_ (read) in the evenings?
- A: Do you want a cup of tea?  
B: I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_ (have) coffee.
- A: Would you like tea?  
B: I \_\_\_\_\_ (prefer) coffee, if you have it.

### 2 Match the preferences (1–8) with the reasons (a–h). Then write full sentences.

Example:

1 *b I'd rather have tea in the evening because coffee keeps me awake.*

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 have tea / evening      | a big stores / less friendly |
| 2 swimming                | b coffee / keep me awake     |
| 3 have one long vacation  | c commuting / expensive      |
| 4 a job nearer home       | d go / the gym / too tiring  |
| 5 rent than buy           | e not sure / stay here       |
| 6 reading the news online | f it / more up-to-date       |
| 7 small stores            | g travel / further           |
| 8 driving a small car     | h use / less gas             |

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Vocabulary review in the city

#### 3 Match these words with the words (1–11) with the same meaning.

atmosphere	built-up	modern	neighborhood
open spaces	polluted	public transportation	residents
run-down	skyscraper	traffic	

- new, contemporary: \_\_\_\_\_
- area, district: \_\_\_\_\_
- buses and trains: \_\_\_\_\_
- character and feel: \_\_\_\_\_
- with lots of buildings: \_\_\_\_\_
- dirty: \_\_\_\_\_
- high-rise building: \_\_\_\_\_
- inhabitants: \_\_\_\_\_
- movement of cars and other vehicles: \_\_\_\_\_
- neglected: \_\_\_\_\_
- parks: \_\_\_\_\_

# 7e My city

## Writing a description of a place

1 Read the introduction to a webpage. Then read the information about Amsterdam that a website reader has prepared. Match the website ideas (1–7) with the information (a–g).

- a biking around town (a daily activity) or into the nearby countryside. Rowing (on the Amstel River) is also a popular sport among the locals.
- b how cosmopolitan it is. **As** almost 200 different nationalities live here, it's a very vibrant town with a broad range of cultural activities every day of the year...and all that within a village-like setting!
- c it's one of the most multi-faceted cities in the world. Its cosmopolitan landscape, liberal mentality, world-class museums, stunning canals, and fascinating history merge to exude a unique charm that's simply captivating.
- d on the bridge that crosses the Groenburgwal Canal. Amsterdam is very photogenic and there are many great spots for a memorable picture.
- e the Begijnhof in the heart of Amsterdam—a tranquil place with beautiful houses and trees. It's simply the most magical place.
- f the tallest men. The Dutch are some of the tallest people on this planet.
- g the Van Gogh Museum (I'm a big fan of Van Gogh). But there are many others, **like** the Rijksmuseum with its stunning collection of Rembrandts.

## 2 Writing skill organizing ideas

Match these categories (1–3) with the information (a–g) in Exercise 1.

- 1 places to see
- 2 things to do
- 3 general information

## 3 Word focus *as* and *like*

- a Look at the highlighted words in the article. Choose the correct option.
- 1 *as* = *because* / *such as*
  - 2 *like* = *because* / *such as*



Welcome to another edition of **I Love My City**. This week we have an insider's tour of **Amsterdam**.

Want to see your city on **Intelligent Travel**? Copy and paste our list of fill-in-the-blank ideas into an e-mail, fill in your answers, and send your responses (with any photos, videos, or links) to [IntelligentTravel@ngs.org](mailto:IntelligentTravel@ngs.org).

- 1 The first place I take a visitor from out of town is...
- 2 If you come to my city, get your picture taken...
- 3 In my city, an active day outdoors involves...
- 4 My city's best museum is...
- 5 The most unexpected thing about my city is...
- 6 My city has...
- 7 My city should be featured on your website because...

b Complete the sentences about Amsterdam with *as* and *like*.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ there are so many museums, there's lots to do on a rainy day.
  - 2 Places \_\_\_\_\_ Amsterdam are full of surprises.
  - 3 \_\_\_\_\_ it's so photogenic, it attracts lots of photographers.
  - 4 People here love outdoor activities \_\_\_\_\_ biking and rowing.
  - 5 It's great for biking \_\_\_\_\_ it's so flat.
  - 6 At certain times of year \_\_\_\_\_ spring, it's really beautiful.
- 4 Use the ideas in the article to write about your own town or city. Is your town or city similar to or different from Amsterdam?

## Wordbuilding verb → adjective

### ► WORDBUILDING verb → adjective

We can make adjectives from verbs by adding *-ing*.  
*surround + -ing* → *surrounding streets*  
*run + n + -ing* → *running water*

We can use an adjective made from verb + *-ing* to define, explain, or categorize the noun which follows it.  
*surround + -ing* → *surrounding streets* = the streets that surround a place  
*run + n + -ing* → *running water* = water that runs through pipes, i.e., tap water

- 1 Complete the sentences with adjectives made from these verbs.

age entertain fill grow overhang  
 refresh relax rise walk wind

- The city center is not the best place for a \_\_\_\_\_ stroll!
- The map shows all the best \_\_\_\_\_ routes through the heart of the city.
- We had an \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon at the zoo.
- There's a \_\_\_\_\_ demand for cheaper apartments.
- The park has a beautiful lake with \_\_\_\_\_ trees.
- This café is the best place for delicious and \_\_\_\_\_ dishes.
- People are moving out of the center because of \_\_\_\_\_ prices.
- This district is home to an \_\_\_\_\_ population now.
- The atmosphere is a \_\_\_\_\_ change from the main shopping area.
- The gallery is at the end of a long and \_\_\_\_\_ road.

## Learning skills understanding new words in context

When you meet a new word, you can often guess its meaning. If you have a dictionary handy, you can look it up. However, many English words have several meanings. It helps if you can work out the relationship of the word to the other words in the sentence.

- 2 Look at the words in bold in these sentences which are connected with Student Book page 87. Is each word an adjective (A), a noun (N), or a verb (V)?

- The government transformed the **mining** zone into a national park.
- As a child, I used to spend all my time **carrying** water.
- Dofia Lala was **working** as a maid when she met the love of her life.
- The store filled with **working**-class men.
- Ramos improvised songs about **growing** coffee.
- I played the **recording** for my father.

- 3 Read these paragraphs. Are the words in bold adjectives (A), nouns (N), or verbs (V)?

This is my town. The main <sup>1</sup> **building** in the town is the community center. My house stands next to a <sup>2</sup> **rushing** river. We've got a big family <sup>3</sup> **gathering** here this weekend.

It's Sunday evening in the city. There's a free concert in the park. Workmen are <sup>4</sup> **building** the stage and everyone's <sup>5</sup> **rushing** around. The technicians are checking the lights in the <sup>6</sup> **gathering** darkness.

## Check!

- 4 Answer these questions. The first letter of each answer spells a word. What is it?

- The city with a famous street called Fifth Avenue.
- If you want to buy or sell a house, go to this person.
- A shelter made of ice.
- You might stay in one of these in Mongolia.
- The natural environment of animal or plant.
- Something modern houses are often made from. They are usually red or brown.
- The opposite of *inside*.
- This is an option if you don't want to buy a house.
- They are extremely tall and there are lots of them in the answer to question 1.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	