

## 1 READING &amp; SPEAKING



a With a partner, look at the photos and answer the questions.

- 1 Where do you think these young people are living? Which do you think is the most comfortable place to live? Why?
- 2 Which place would you prefer to live in? Why?
- 3 Where do you live? How comfortable is it? Who do you live with? Do you get on well? Do you argue about anything? What?

b Look at the title of the article. With a partner, think of one advantage and one disadvantage of living with your parents when you're an adult.

c Read the article. Were your ideas in the list?

## Things you know if you still live with your parents

In the UK, 25% of young adults aged 20–34 still live at home with their parents. This has gone up by 20% in the last 20 years. So what are the pros and cons?

### The downside

- It doesn't <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ how old you are, you'll always be a child to them. They'll tell you to put a coat on every time you leave the house.
- It's really <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ when you meet new people to admit you're still sleeping in your childhood bedroom.
- You have to <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ them know all your movements and text them to say you're going to be home late.
- 99% of the time after a night out, your parents will be <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, waiting for you – even if it's 4.00 a.m.

- Every day of your life, you <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, 'You treat this house like a hotel.'
- You become the household IT technician. If anything goes <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in the house to do with phones, broadband, or TV, you're called to the rescue.

### But on the other hand...

- At weekends, you wake up with the smell of bacon and eggs.
- The fridge and cupboards always have something in them, and generally a lot better than you could <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

- There's nothing better than home-cooked food, and you've <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ that you'll never be able to cook as well as your parents.
- You've also realized that your mum has magical laundry powers that <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ all the stains from your washing and make it super clean.
- You had no idea how much <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ cost. In fact, you didn't even know until recently that you had to pay for water!

So, despite how much you complain about still living with your parents, you know perfectly well that they've allowed you to save money, you have somewhere (nice) to live for far less than the cost of renting elsewhere, and they fill your stomachs with good food. And for that, you're eternally grateful.

Adapted from Metro

d Read the article again and choose the correct word to complete the gaps.

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 matter / mind              | 6 bad / wrong      |
| 2 embarrassing / embarrassed | 7 afford / pay     |
| 3 leave / let                | 8 realized / known |
| 4 wake / awake               | 9 remove / retire  |
| 5 hear / listen              | 10 notes / bills   |

e Cover the text and, in pairs, try to remember all the pros and cons of living with your parents.

f Talk to a partner.

- What percentage of young people aged 20–34 do you think live with their parents in your country?
- Are the pros and cons similar in your country?
- Which two advantages and two disadvantages do you think are the most important?
- How do you think parents feel about having their adult children living at home?

## 2 GRAMMAR second conditional, choosing between conditionals

a Read some comments posted in response to the article in 1. Do they want to leave their parents' home? Why (not)?



**Vivienne@Montreal, Canada**

I know there's a good side, but all I want is somewhere that's my own, where I can do what I want, where I can have my own furniture and pictures, where no one can tell me what to do. If I had the money, I'd move out immediately.



**Marco@Naples, Italy**

I'm perfectly happy living with my parents. If I lived on my own, I'd have to pay rent and do the housework and the cooking. Here, somebody else cooks and cleans, I have a nice room... Why would I want to leave? Even if I could afford it, I wouldn't move out. Not until I get married...



**Andrea@Melbourne, Australia**

It isn't that my parents aren't good to me – they are. If they weren't, I wouldn't live with them. But I'm 29 and I just don't feel independent.



**Carlos@Valencia, Spain**

I'd love to move out. I get on well with my parents, but I think I'd get on with them even better if I didn't live at home. My mum drives me mad – it isn't her fault, but she does. And I'd really like to have a dog, but my mum is allergic to them.

b Now answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 In the highlighted phrases, what tense is the verb after *if*?
- 2 What form is the other verb?
- 3 Do the phrases refer to a) a situation that will probably happen soon, or b) a situation they are imagining?

c **G p.145 Grammar Bank 7B**

d **C Communication** Guess the sentence **A p.108 B p.113** Practise first and second conditionals.

## 3 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING sentence stress

a **7.16** Listen and repeat the sentences. Copy the rhythm.

- 1 If I **lived** on my **own**, I'd **have** to **pay** **rent**.
- 2 If we **get** a **mortgage**, we'll **buy** the **house**.
- 3 Would you **leave home** if you **got** a **job**?
- 4 I **won't** **move out** if I **can't** **afford** it.
- 5 If it were **my flat**, I'd be **happy** to **do** the **cleaning**.

b Choose six sentence beginnings and complete them so they are true for you.

If I...

could live anywhere in my town or city, I'd...  
 have some free time this weekend, I'll...  
 won a 'dream holiday' in a competition, I...  
 could choose any car I liked, I...  
 get a new phone this year, I...  
 could choose my ideal job, I...  
 don't have time to do the homework tonight, I...  
 was asked to work abroad for a year, I...  
 couldn't use the internet for a week, I...  
 feel like going out tonight, I...

c Work with a partner. **A**, say your first sentence. Try to get the correct rhythm. **B**, ask for more information. Then **B**, say your first sentence.

*If I could live anywhere in my city, I'd live in the old part.*

(Why the old part?)