



Sorted

Discuss with your partner:

1. *Have you lived in a shared-house?*
2. *Do you prefer living alone or with others?*
3. *When you are faced with some annoying neighbours, do you avoid confrontation or do you approach them?*

Exercise 1

LISTENING

Think of three common problems that people have in each of these situations:
staying in a hotel / renting a flat or a house / sharing a flat or house

What's the worst problem? Why?

 [Listen to four conversations about accommodation.](#) Decide what kind of place is discussed in each conversation and what the main problem is.

Exercise 2

Listen again. Match two statements with each conversation.

- Someone didn't know what was supposed to happen.
- The place is dirty.
- There's no way to change the temperature in the room.
- Someone is sarcastic at the end of the conversation.
- The heating system was dangerous.
- Someone is refusing to pay money.
- The person repeats their complaint in stronger language.
- Someone was paid to sort out a problem.

Discuss what you would do in each situation.



Exercise 3

Read the situations below. With a partner, choose two that you would like to roleplay. Choose your roles and plan your conversation.

1. You rent a house. The bath has leaked and flooded the house. Your landlord wants you to pay for the damage.
2. You recently started university. You're sharing a flat with three other students, all from different countries. You realise you're the tidiest person in the flat. You're always tidying up after everyone else – and it annoys you. You decide to try and talk to the person you think is messiest – an English student.
3. The room in your hotel is too hot and so you complain to the receptionist.
4. You're fairly sure you left your camera and laptop in your hostel room when you went out this morning, but now you can't find them. You think a member of staff might have stolen them.
5. You are staying in a hotel. You need to get up early for an important meeting tomorrow. There's a huge wedding party going on downstairs. You decide to go and ask them to keep the noise down.
6. You have been having serious problems with your neighbours. They make a lot of noise: they have loud arguments, and they have a large dog that barks at night. Recently, they've started throwing rubbish into your garden. You've had enough.

**Exercise 4****GRAMMAR have/get something done**

Work in pairs. How many different ways can you complete each of these sentences?

You ought to get your arm seen by a doctor.

You ought to have your arm X-rayed.

1. You ought _____ your arm _____.
2. You should _____ that picture _____.
3. I should _____ this coat _____.
4. She has _____ a tooth _____.
5. I've just _____ my passport _____.
6. I need _____ my computer _____.
7. We _____ the house _____ last month.
8. I'm going _____ my hair _____.

Exercise 5

Use the ideas in the previous exercise to talk about things:

1. you've had/got done recently.
2. you need to have/get done.
3. you'd never have/get done.



Exercise 6

Replace the idioms in bold in sentences 1–8 with these definitions.

- been very expensive
- for very short periods of time
- getting used to things
- have enough money to pay for everything needed
- in an overly optimistic way
- it's his turn to react and do something
- making fun of
- short of money

1. We shared a flat for a year and then one day she just left without paying her share of the bills, leaving me really **badly out of pocket**.
2. Our old place really wasn't that great! I think you're looking back at it through **rose-coloured glasses**.
3. Don't get me wrong. My roommate is **great in small doses**. It's just that after too much of him, I have an overwhelming desire to fall asleep!
4. I've told my landlord I'm not going to pay any more rent until he gets the heating fixed, so now **the ball is in his court**.
5. They pay a lot in rent, so they must be struggling to **make ends meet** now she's lost her job.
6. I don't know how they can afford a place like that, considering what they earn. It must have **cost an arm and a leg**.
7. They were all **taking the mickey out of me** because of my haircut. I didn't find it very funny though.
8. I only moved in here a few months ago. It was really hard to begin with, but bit by bit I'm **finding my feet**.

Choose three idioms and think about a situation for each.