



# Wherever you may roam, there is no place like a stranger's home

#### Lead-in

- 1. What's your preferred form of holiday accommodation?
- 2. Do you miss the comforts of your home when you're away?
- 3. Have you heard of the concept of home exchange or house swap? If not, what do you think it is about?

### Video

Watch a video about home exchange and answer the questions.

## https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCLj368wbhE

- 1. What is the magic of exchanging homes according to people who have tried it?
- 2. When was Home Exchange born and how many members did it have at the start?
- 3. What's the difference between staying at a hotel and doing a home exchange?
- 4. What's great about home exchange for pet owners?
- 5. What's the main concern people have about a stranger staying in their house?
- 6. What were some of the highlights of the Californian couple's holiday in France?
- 7. In what way have home exchange and online dating followed the same path?

## Over to you

- 1. Does the idea of home exchange appeal to you? Why/why not?
- 2. Do you know if this concept exists in your country? If not, do you think it will eventually catch on?
- 3. Are people in your country open-minded enough to try it?
- 4. If you had a pet, would you feel comfortable with the idea of strangers looking after it while you were away?
- 5. Do you think that staying at someone's house helps you understand the culture of the place you're travelling in better? If someone came and stayed at your place, what would they learn about the culture of your country?



## **Vocabulary practice**

Use the words from the list to complete the sentences below. Then answer the questions.

- kennel
- testimonial
- immersed
- adventurous

- enchanted
- cramped
- long-lost

1. If you feel with a place, you are charmed by it and filled with o	delight.
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- 2. Your \_\_\_\_\_ relatives are relatives you haven't seen for a long time.
- 3. If you are \_\_\_\_\_in a culture/a language, you are totally surrounded by it.
- 4. If you are an \_\_\_\_\_ person, you like doing things that involve a bit of risk.
- 5. If you feel \_\_\_\_\_ in a room, you feel that there isn't enough space.
- 6. A \_\_\_\_\_\_ is a dog's house.
- 7. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a statement you give about someone's character or qualifications.
- a. Have you ever been totally enchanted with a place?
- b. Have you ever written a testimonial for a person or business?
- c. Do you consider yourself an adventurous person?
- d. Have you ever thought of doing a language course in an Englishspeaking country to immerse yourself in the language completely?
- e. Do you feel cramped when staying at a hotel?
- f. If you have a dog, do you take it to a kennel when you go away or do you get someone to dogsit for you?



### **Tasks**

- Go to the website <u>www.homeexchange.com</u> or <u>www.lovehomeswap.com</u>
  Choose a country you'd like to visit and decide which house would be best suited for your needs. Justify your choice.
- 2. Write a detailed description of your house/flat that you'll be able to put up on the Home Exchange website. Include information about what's available in the area in terms of amenities and attractions.