



1 Tick the things you think an old Scottish castle usually has.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1 thick walls | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 big windows | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 good heating | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 steep stairs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 a lift | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Read the article. Which of the things in Exercise 1 does Dunkeith Castle have?

3 Which heading fits the article best?

- 1 A warm and sunny home with a very long history
- 2 Space for modern living and working in a 400-year-old castle
- 3 Cold but beautiful: a four-bedroom home in a very old castle





Home of the week

We think this is the home of your dreams. Rock star Jimmy McGlitz is selling his beautiful Scottish castle. It's a very old building – around 400 years old – but inside, it's now a very comfortable home.

Dunkeith Castle has a large entrance and an office on the ground floor. There's a modern kitchen and a dining room on the first floor and above that, a large living room. You'll find four bedrooms and two bathrooms on the third and fourth floors.

The castle was built to keep people safe, so the walls are thick and the windows are small. The rooms could be a bit dark but Jimmy has used stylish lamps to make sure there's always enough light, and these are for sale with the castle. You can also buy most of the beautiful furniture.

Isn't it cold in the castle? No, it isn't. The heating is excellent but, of course, it's also expensive. 'Living in a castle is not cheap,' Jimmy tells us, 'but it's really special and I love it.'

So why is he selling this wonderful home? 'There's only one thing I don't like about the castle, and that's the stairs,' he explains. 'Unfortunately, I'm just not young any more, and the castle is not a home for older people. But it's an amazing place for people who have no problems with very steep stairs!'

We agree. For more details on Dunkeith Castle, including what it costs, contact: Jenny@superspecialhomes.uk

4 Something is wrong in these sentences. Rewrite them so that they are true.

Example

There is an office on the first floor.

There is an office on the ground floor.

- 1 The dining room is above the living room.
- 2 The windows are small because that kept people warm.
- 3 The castle is for sale with the furniture and the clocks.
- 4 The heating is expensive and not very good.
- 5 Jimmy is selling the castle because he doesn't like the small windows.
- 6 Contact Jimmy to find out the price of the castle.

5 Talk about a house that you know and like with a partner. What can you say about it?

A: My friend Emma lives in a nice house. It's a modern house and has very big windows ...

B: I like my cousin's house. It's very old ...

6 With your partner, write a short description of one of the houses. Say:

- where it is
- how old it is
- what different rooms it has and where they are
- why you think it is a nice home



1 Warmer

Hand out the worksheet and ask students to look at the first picture and tell you what they see. Tell them that this castle is in Scotland. Ask if they would like to live in a castle.

2 Exercise 1

Run through the ideas with the whole class, explaining words where necessary. Use the picture of the steep stairs to make sure 4 is clear. Then give students a few moments to tick the things they think a Scottish castle has. If necessary, explain that you are talking about castles which are very old but which are still homes today.

3 Exercise 2

Tell the students that the article is from the property pages of a newspaper. Ask the students to skim the text first and then look again at the list in Exercise 1 and see which things Dunkeith Castle has. They should compare answers with a partner.

Answers

- 1
- 3
- 4

4 Exercise 3

Let students decide on the best heading in pairs. Check the answers with the whole class.

Answer

- 2

5 Exercise 4

Now let the students read the text more slowly. They should then read the sentences and write new, correct sentences in pairs. Explain that the changes are generally small – just one word or sometimes a little more. Go around the room helping where necessary and then ask a few pairs to read their sentences out.

Suggested answers

- 1 The dining room is under/below the living room. (Accept: The living room is above the dining room.)
- 2 The windows are small because that kept people safe.
- 3 The castle is for sale with (most of) the furniture and the (stylish) lamps.
- 4 The heating is expensive but it is very good/excellent.
- 5 Jimmy is selling the castle because he doesn't like the steep stairs.
- 6 Contact (a woman called) Jenny to find out the price of the castle.

6 Exercise 5

In pairs, students should tell each other about a house that they know and like. It could be any kind of home.

7 Exercise 6

Based on what they said in Exercise 5 students should now write a brief description of one of the houses. Go around the room helping as required. At the end, ask one pair to read their text to the whole class.

This could also be set as a homework exercise, with students working alone and you collecting the answers in the next lesson.

Example answer

Emma's house is in a small village in the north of Spain. It is just three years old, so it is a very new building. There are two floors. On the ground floor there is a big kitchen and dining room, and a living room. There is also a small bathroom. Upstairs there is a big bathroom and there are three bedrooms. This is a very nice home because it has large windows and a lot of light. There is also a beautiful garden.