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**Level 5** – 19th January, 2019

## Homes for sale in Italy for one euro

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-5.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-5.html>

It is a dream come true if you want to get on the property ladder - a home for one euro. Sambuca in Sicily, Italy is a picturesque town that is selling houses for just €1 to attract people. This is because of a decline in its population. Like many towns in Italy, the number of residents is falling because young people are moving to cities. Sambuca's mayor believes the houses will be easy to sell because his town is so attractive. It overlooks the Mediterranean Sea and is close to gorgeous beaches. It has retained its heritage with its cobbled streets and Arabesque architecture.

There is a small catch to this one-euro bargain - the buyer must spend \$17,000 on renovating the property within three years of buying it. The deputy mayor said the town owns the houses, so there would be little red tape when buying a property. He said the town does not liaise between old and new owners, and that, "you'll get [a house] in no time". He promised potential buyers would love the town. He said: "We're located inside a natural reserve, packed with history. Gorgeous beaches, woods and mountains surround us. It's silent and peaceful - an idyllic retreat for a detox stay."

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/one-dollar-home-sambuca-sicily-italy/index.html>  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/sambuca-italy-house-buy-town-sicily-property-a8731761.html>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6600011/Sicilian-town-sells-dozens-homes-glorious-views-Med-just-90p.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. It is a dream           | a. town              |
| 2. get on the              | b. is falling        |
| 3. a picturesque           | c. architecture      |
| 4. because of a decline    | d. easy to sell      |
| 5. the number of residents | e. streets           |
| 6. the houses will be      | f. come true         |
| 7. cobbled                 | g. property ladder   |
| 8. Arabesque               | h. in its population |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. There is a small          | a. and peaceful     |
| 2. renovating the            | b. in no time       |
| 3. there would be little red | c. for a detox stay |
| 4. you'll get a house        | d. property         |
| 5. potential                 | e. tape             |
| 6. a natural reserve, packed | f. catch            |
| 7. It's silent               | g. buyers           |
| 8. an idyllic retreat        | h. with history     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-5.html>

It is a dream (1) \_\_\_\_\_ you want to get on the property ladder - a home for one euro. Sambuca in Sicily, Italy is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that is selling houses for just €1 to attract people. This is because of (3) \_\_\_\_\_ its population. Like many towns in Italy, the number of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ because young people are moving to cities. Sambuca's mayor believes the houses will be easy to sell because his town (5) \_\_\_\_\_. It overlooks the Mediterranean Sea and is close to gorgeous beaches. It has (6) \_\_\_\_\_ with its cobbled streets and Arabesque architecture.

There is a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ this one-euro bargain - the buyer must spend \$17,000 on renovating the property (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of buying it. The deputy mayor said the town owns the houses, so there would be (9) \_\_\_\_\_ when buying a property. He said the town does not liaise between old and new owners, and that, "you'll get [a house] (10) \_\_\_\_\_". He promised potential buyers would love the town. He said: "We're located (11) \_\_\_\_\_ reserve, packed with history. Gorgeous beaches, woods and mountains surround us. It's silent and peaceful - (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for a detox stay."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-5.html>

It is a dream come true if you want to get on the property ladder - a home for one euro. Sambuca in Sicily, Italy is a picturesque town that is selling homes for just €1 to attract people. This is because of a decline in its population. Like many towns in Italy, the number of residents is falling because young people are moving to cities. Sambuca's mayor believes the houses will be easy to sell because his town is so attractive. It overlooks the Mediterranean Sea and is close to gorgeous beaches. It has retained its heritage with its cobbled streets and Arabesque architecture. There is a small catch to this one-euro bargain - the buyer must spend \$17,000 on renovating the property within three years of buying it. The deputy mayor said the town's houses, so there would be a little red tap when buying a property. He said the town does not liaise between old and new owners, and that, "you'll get [a house] in no time". He promised potential buyers would love the town. He said: "We're relocated inside a natural reserve, packed with history. Gorgeous beaches, woods and mountains surround us. It's silent and peaceful - an idyllic retreat for a detox stay."

# HOMES FOR SALE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190119-homes-for-sale-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about homes for sale in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

