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Level 6

36% in UK will never buy own home

23rd April

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>



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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are now so high that a third of British people believe they will never buy their own home. This is according to a new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once an achievable goal for generations of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the prospects of getting on the property ladder are on the decline. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has no desire to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be heading towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to simply live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to accept a lifetime of renting."

Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have risen by 10.5% in the past year. It expressed concern at what it describes as "runaway train" house prices. The average U.K. house was valued at \$425,000 in 2013. Things get bleaker for house hunters wishing to buy in London. Prices in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an average of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems arising from, "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are fewer first-time buyers, "the market will come to a standstill". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

Sources: <http://www.shropshirestar.com/shropshire-business/money/uk-money/2014/04/17/36-downbeat-about-home-ownership/>
<http://www.insidehousing.co.uk/generation-rent-1-in-5-have-no-desire-to-own-home/7003324.article>
http://www.lloydsbankinggroup.com/globalassets/documents/media/press-releases/halifax/2013/1706_halifax_generation_report.pdf

WARM-UPS

1. HOME OWNERSHIP: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about home ownership. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

house prices / third / a new report / an achievable goal / property ladder / aspiration / statistics / concern / bleaker / capital / social problems / homeowners / standstill

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. RISING PRICES: How can people cope? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Prices of...	How difficult is it?	How can people cope with higher prices?
homes		
heating		
food		
petrol / gasoline		
education		
healthcare		

4. OWN YOUR OWN HOME: Students A **strongly** believe home ownership is best; Students B **strongly** believe renting is best. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. ASPIRATIONS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- home ownership
- getting a Ph.D.
- travel to 100 countries
- own a Ferrari
- become the boss
- have a big family
- retire at 40
- change the world

6. PROPERTY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "property". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. A third of British people do not want to buy their own house. | T / F |
| b. It used to be relatively easy for Britons to buy their own home. | T / F |
| c. One in five thirtysomethings have no desire to own their own home. | T / F |
| d. People are starting to understand they will have to rent for life. | T / F |
| e. House prices in the U.K. increased by 10.5% last year. | T / F |
| f. House prices in London rose by over 20% last year. | T / F |
| g. The report warned of social problems because of haves and have-nots. | T / F |
| h. If there are fewer first-time buyers, the market will be more dynamic. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. high | a. more unpromising |
| 2. according to | b. desire |
| 3. achievable | c. likelihood |
| 4. prospects | d. conflict |
| 5. aspiration | e. as stated by |
| 6. concern | f. occurring |
| 7. bleaker | g. halt |
| 8. arising | h. attainable |
| 9. division | i. consternation |
| 10. standstill | j. inflated |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. This is according | a. the property ladder |
| 2. once an achievable | b. time buyers |
| 3. prospects of getting on | c. term social problems |
| 4. one in five | d. to a new report |
| 5. people are now beginning to accept | e. a standstill |
| 6. "runaway train" | f. twentysomethings |
| 7. Things get bleaker for house | g. house prices |
| 8. long- | h. a lifetime of renting |
| 9. fewer first- | i. hunters |
| 10. the market will come to | j. goal for generations |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are now so (1) _____ that a third of British people believe they will never buy their own home. This is according to a new report (2) _____ by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once an achievable goal for (3) _____ of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the prospects of getting on the property (4) _____ are on the decline. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has no (5) _____ to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be (6) _____ towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to (7) _____ live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to accept a (8) _____ of renting."

simply
heading
published
desire
high
generations
lifetime
ladder

Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have (9) _____ by 10.5% in the past year. It expressed concern at what it describes as "(10) _____ train" house prices. The average U.K. house was (11) _____ at \$425,000 in 2013. Things get bleaker for house (12) _____ wishing to buy in London. Prices in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an (13) _____ of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems arising from, "the (14) _____ between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are fewer first-time (15) _____, "the market will come to a (16) _____ ". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

average
standstill
valued
risen
division
hunters
runaway
buyers

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

- 1) This is according to a new report _____ Halifax Bank
 - a. publishing by the
 - b. published by the
 - c. publish it by the
 - d. publisher by the
- 2) Home ownership was once an achievable goal _____ Britons
 - a. for generations of
 - b. for generational of
 - c. for generating of
 - d. for generate tons of
- 3) the prospects of getting on the property ladder _____
 - a. are on the recline
 - b. are on the incline
 - c. are on the decline
 - d. are on the deck line
- 4) the aspiration to own a nice home _____
 - a. will be replacing
 - b. will be replaced
 - c. will be replaces
 - d. will be replaceable
- 5) people are now beginning to accept _____
 - a. a life times of renting
 - b. a life timed of renting
 - c. a lifetime of renting
 - d. a life tired of renting
- 6) It expressed concern at what it describes as " _____ " house prices
 - a. runaway tram
 - b. runaway trail
 - c. runaway train
 - d. runaway tramp
- 7) The average U.K. house was _____
 - a. valued at \$425,000
 - b. valued as \$425,000
 - c. valued all \$425,000
 - d. valued that \$425,000
- 8) risen by 18 per cent in a year _____ \$610,000
 - a. to the average of
 - b. to an average of
 - c. to all average of
 - d. to than average of
- 9) The Halifax report writes about possible long-_____
 - a. terms social problems
 - b. time social problems
 - c. times social problems
 - d. term social problems
- 10) if there are fewer first-time buyers, "the market will come _____ "
 - a. to a stood still
 - b. to a standing still
 - c. to a standstill
 - d. to a stands still

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are (1) _____ third of British people believe they will never buy their own home. (2) _____ new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once (3) _____ for generations of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the prospects of getting on the property ladder are on the decline. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has (4) _____ their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be (5) _____ point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to simply live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to (6) _____ renting."

Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices (7) _____ in the past year. It expressed concern at what it describes as "(8) _____" house prices. The average U.K. house was valued at \$425,000 in 2013. (9) _____ house hunters wishing to buy in London. Prices in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year (10) _____ \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about (11) _____ social problems arising from, "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are fewer first-time buyers, "the market will (12) _____". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

1. What fraction of British people think they'll never own their own home?

2. What was once an achievable goal for Britons?

3. What prospects are on the decline?

4. What is Craig McKinlay's job?

5. What are British people starting to accept?

6. By how much did house prices in Britain rise last year?

7. What did the report compare rising house prices to?

8. What is the value of an average home in London?

9. What will happen to the market if there are fewer first-time buyers?

10. What happens if there is no activity in the market?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

1. What fraction of British people think they'll never own their own home?
 - a) seven-eighths
 - b) three-quarters
 - c) two-fifths
 - d) a third
2. What was once an achievable goal for Britons?
 - a) lifelong happiness
 - b) home ownership
 - c) owning two cars
 - d) becoming self-employed
3. What prospects are on the decline?
 - a) job prospects
 - b) those of England winning the World Cup
 - c) getting on the property ladder
 - d) living in the city you want to
4. What is Craig McKinlay's job?
 - a) mortgage director
 - b) finance director
 - c) movie director
 - d) human resources director
5. What are British people starting to accept?
 - a) the British weather
 - b) that there are not enough houses
 - c) a lifetime of renting
 - d) property taxes
6. By how much did house prices in Britain rise last year?
 - a) 18%
 - b) 10.5%
 - c) 15.5%
 - d) 15%
7. What did the report compare rising house prices to?
 - a) a galloping horse
 - b) a waddling duck
 - c) a leaping flea
 - d) a runaway train
8. What is the value of an average home in London?
 - a) \$610,000
 - b) \$601,000
 - c) \$611,000
 - d) \$600,100
9. What will happen to the market if there are fewer first-time buyers?
 - a) it will come and go
 - b) it will come to pass
 - c) it will come to a halt
 - d) it will come to attention
10. What happens if there is no activity in the market?
 - a) prices will fluctuate
 - b) prices will decrease
 - c) prices will remain the same
 - d) prices will decrease

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

Role A – Home ownership

You think home ownership is the greatest aspiration. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so great about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): travelling to 100 countries, retiring at 40 or getting a Ph.D..

Role B – Travel to 100 countries

You think travelling to 100 countries is the greatest aspiration. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so great about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): home ownership, retiring at 40 or getting a Ph.D.

Role C – Retiring at 40

You think retiring at 40 is the greatest aspiration. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so great about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): travelling to 100 countries, home ownership or getting a Ph.D.

Role D – Getting a Ph.D.

You think getting a Ph.D. is the greatest aspiration. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so great about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): travelling to 100 countries, retiring at 40 or home ownership.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'property' and 'ladder'.

property	ladder
-----------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• high• once• ladder• five• point• accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• earlier• train• 2013• 18• division• standstill
--	---

HOME OWNERSHIP SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

Write five GOOD questions about home ownership 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.

HOME OWNERSHIP DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'house'?
- c) How important is it for you to own your own home?
- d) What's the property market like in your town?
- e) If you could buy a house anywhere, where would it be?
- f) Is home ownership something most people aspire to?
- g) Why is owning your own home better than renting?
- h) What help should governments give to house buyers?
- i) Where would you like to be on the property ladder?
- j) How would the prospect of a lifetime of renting affect you?

36% in UK will never buy own home – 23rd April
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HOME OWNERSHIP DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Is property a good investment?
- c) What are "runaway train" prices? What do you think about this expression?
- d) What do you think of average UK house prices?
- e) Why do you think house prices in the UK are rising so sharply?
- f) How would it feel to be priced out of the housing market?
- g) What do you think of mortgages (housing loans)?
- h) What social problems might result from rising house prices?
- i) What will happen if the property market comes to a standstill?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the report writer?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are now so high that a (1) _____ of British people believe they will never buy their own home. This is according (2) _____ a new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once an achievable goal for generations of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the (3) _____ of getting on the property (4) _____ are on the decline. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has no desire to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be (5) _____ towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to simply live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to accept a (6) _____ of renting."

Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have risen by 10.5% in the past year. It (7) _____ concern at what it describes as "runaway train" house prices. The average U.K. house was valued at \$425,000 in 2013. Things get (8) _____ for house hunters (9) _____ to buy in London. Prices in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an average of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems (10) _____ from, "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are (11) _____ first-time buyers, "the market will come to a (12) _____ ". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) thrice | (b) thirdly | (c) third | (d) third-time |
| 2. | (a) to | (b) by | (c) of | (d) on |
| 3. | (a) prospects | (b) prospective | (c) prospectus | (d) prospector |
| 4. | (a) ladder | (b) steps | (c) stairs | (d) staircase |
| 5. | (a) backing | (b) heading | (c) stomaching | (d) arming |
| 6. | (a) living | (b) lifer | (c) livelihood | (d) lifetime |
| 7. | (a) ushered | (b) sequestered | (c) expressed | (d) fast-tracked |
| 8. | (a) beaker | (b) breaker | (c) blacken | (d) bleaker |
| 9. | (a) wishing | (b) wished | (c) wishes | (d) well wishers |
| 10. | (a) arising | (b) arousal | (c) arisen | (d) arousing |
| 11. | (a) lesser | (b) fewer | (c) smaller | (d) dearth |
| 12. | (a) stood | (b) standing | (c) standstill | (d) standard |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

Paragraph 1

1. This is doigccran to a new report
2. Home ownership was once an habacveile goal
3. nieoreatngs of Britons
4. on the eieldnc
5. the itonaaiprs to own a nice home
6. accept a limitfee of renting

Paragraph 2

7. It serexsedp concern
8. The reegaav U.K. house
9. Things get aerekbl
10. long-term social problems nrgiasi
11. the iivdsnoi between homeowners and...
12. the market will come to a tstalnidsl

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () achievable goal for generations of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the prospects
- () home. This is according to a new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once an
- () of getting on the property ladder are on the decline. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has no
- () and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are fewer first-
- () simply live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to accept a lifetime of renting."
- () in the past year. It expressed concern at what it describes as "runaway train" house prices. The average U.K. house was
- () Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have risen by 10.5%
- () valued at \$425,000 in 2013. Things get bleaker for house hunters wishing to buy in London. Prices
- () about possible long-term social problems arising from, "the division between homeowners
- () time buyers, "the market will come to a standstill". If this happens, prices will have to come down.
- (**1**) House prices in the U.K. are now so high that a third of British people believe they will never buy their own
- () in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an average of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes
- () be heading towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to
- () desire to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

1. they buy home believe never own People will their.

2. goal achievable an once was ownership Home.

3. property of ladder getting on The the prospects.

4. aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced The.

5. to accept a lifetime of renting People are now beginning.

6. have past prices the 10.5 House in by % risen year.

7. "runaway prices What it house describes train" as .

8. to Things for wishing bleaker hunters buy get house.

9. from term arising division - problems the Long social.

10. standstill a to come will market The.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are now so *high / increasing* that a third of British people believe they will never buy their own home. This is according *by / to* a new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home *owning / ownership* was once an achievable goal for *generations / generational* of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the *prospectus / prospects* of getting on the property ladder are on the *decline / incline*. The report says that one in five twentysomethings has *no / not* desire to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be *heading / headers* towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to *simply / simple* live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to *concept / accept* a lifetime of renting."

Britain's Office for National *Statistics / Stats* earlier this week stated that house prices have risen *as / by* 10.5% in the past year. It expressed *concerning / concern* at what it describes as "runaway *train / bicycle*" house prices. The average U.K. house was valued *of / at* \$425,000 in 2013. Things get *bleaker / beaker* for house hunters wishing to buy in London. Prices in the *capital / capitalise* have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an average of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems *arising / arousing* from, "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are *fewer / lesser* first-time buyers, "the market will come to a *standstill / standoff*". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

H__s__ pr__c__s__ n th__ .K. __r__ n__w__s__ h__gh th_t__ th__rd
_f Br_t_sh p__pl__ b_l__v__ th_y w_ll n_v_r b_y th__r
_wn h_m__. Th_s__s__ cc_rdn_g t__ __ n_w r_p_rt
p_b_l_sh_d by th__ H_l_f_x B_nk. H_m__ _wn_rsh_p w_s
_nc__ _n__ ch__v__bl__g__l_f_r g_n_r_t__ns__ _f Br_t_ns.
H_w_v_r, r_s_ng pr_c_s n_w m__n th__ pr_sp_cts __f
g_tt_ng _n th__ pr_p_rty l_dd_r_r__ _n th__ d_cl_n__. Th__
r_p_rt s_ys th_t__n__ _n f_v__tw__ntys_m__th_ngs h_s_n__
d_s_r__t__ _wn th__r__ _wn h_m__. Cr__g McK_nl_y,
m_rtg_g_s d_r_ct_r__t H_l_f_x, s__d: "W__m_y b__
h__d_ng t_w_rds th__ p__nt wh_r__ th__ _sp_r_t__n t__
_wn__ _n_c__ h_m__ w_ll b__r_p_l_c_d by th__ _sp_r_t__n
t__s_mply l_v__ _n__n__." H__ _dd_d: "t_s__ms th_t
p__pl__ _r__ n_w b_g_nn_ng t__ _cc_pt__ l_f_t_m__ _f
r__nt_ng."

Br_t__n's __ff_c__f_r N_t__n_l St_t_st_cs __r_l__r th_s
w__k st_t_d th_t h__s__ pr_c_s h_v_r_s_n by 10.5% _n
th__ p_st_y__r. __t__ xpr_ss_d c_nc_rn__t wh_t__t
d_scr_b_s__s "r_n_w_y tr__n" h__s__ pr_c_s. Th__
_v_r_g__ .K. h__s__ w_s v_l__d__t \$425,000 _n 2013.
Th_ngs g_t bl__k_r_f_r h__s__ h__nt_rs w_sh_ng t__ b_y
_n L_nd_n. Pr_c_s _n th__ c_p_t_l h_v_r_s_n by 18 p_r
c__nt__n__y__r t__n__v_r_g__ _f \$610,000. Th__ H_l_f_x
r_p_rt wr_t_s__b__t p_ss_b_l__l_ng-t_rm s_c__l
pr_b_l_ms __r_s_ng fr_m, "th__ d_v_s__n b_tw__n
h_m__wn_rs __nd n_n-h_m__wn_rs". Th__r_p_rt w_rn_d
th_t__f th_r__r__f_w_r_frst-t_m__b_y_rs, "th__m_rk_t
w_ll c_m__t__st_ndst_ll". __f th_s h_pp_ns, pr_c_s
w_ll h_v__t__c_m__d__wn.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

house prices in the uk are now so high that a third of british people believe they will never buy their own home this is according to a new report published by the halifax bank home ownership was once an achievable goal for generations of britons however rising prices now mean the prospects of getting on the property ladder are on the decline the report says that one in five twentysomethings has no desire to own their own home craig mckinlay mortgages director at halifax said "we may be heading towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to simply live in one" he added "it seems that people are now beginning to accept a lifetime of renting"

britain's office for national statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have risen by 105% in the past year it expressed concern at what it describes as "runaway train" house prices the average uk house was valued at \$425000 in 2013 things get bleaker for house hunters wishing to buy in london prices in the capital have risen by 18 per cent in a year to an average of \$610000 the halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems arising from "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners" the report warned that if there are fewer first-time buyers "the market will come to a standstill" if this happens prices will have to come down

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1404/140423-home-ownership.html>

House prices in the U.K. are now so high that a third of British people believe they will never buy their own home. This is according to a new report published by the Halifax Bank. Home ownership was once an achievable goal for generations of Britons. However, rising prices now mean the prospects of getting on the property ladder are on the decline. The report says that one in five twenty-somethings has no desire to own their own home. Craig McKinlay, mortgages director at Halifax, said: "We may be heading towards the point where the aspiration to own a nice home will be replaced by the aspiration to simply live in one." He added: "It seems that people are now beginning to accept a lifetime of renting." Britain's Office for National Statistics earlier this week stated that house prices have risen by 10.5% in the past year. It expressed concern at what it describes as "runaway train" house prices. The average U.K. house was valued at \$425,000 in 2013. Things get bleaker for house hunters wishing to buy in London. Prices in the capital have risen by 18 percent in a year to an average of \$610,000. The Halifax report writes about possible long-term social problems arising from, "the division between homeowners and non-homeowners". The report warned that if there are fewer first-time buyers, "the market will come to a standstill". If this happens, prices will have to come down.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about global house prices. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. HOME OWNERSHIP: Make a poster about buying your own home. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BUYING OR RENTING: Write a magazine article about buying or renting a house. Include imaginary interviews with people who prefer buying and people who prefer renting.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a property expert. Ask him/her three questions about home ownership. Give him/her three ideas on how people can get on the property ladder. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d T e T f F g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. high | a. inflated |
| 2. according to | b. as stated by |
| 3. achievable | c. attainable |
| 4. prospects | d. likelihood |
| 5. aspiration | e. desire |
| 6. concern | f. consternation |
| 7. bleaker | g. more unpromising |
| 8. arising | h. occurring |
| 9. division | i. conflict |
| 10. standstill | j. halt |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A third
2. Home ownership
3. That of getting on the property ladder
4. Mortgages director
5. A lifetime of renting
6. 10.5%
7. A runaway train
8. \$610,000
9. It will come to a standstill
10. Prices will come down

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. a 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)