



VOCABULARY BANK

Home and Local Area

Home and Local Area | Bank 1: housing and neighbourhoods | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
neighbourhood	☐	☐	☐
local resident	☐	☐	☐
housing	☐	☐	☐
apartment block	☐	☐	☐
detached house	☐	☐	☐
shared space	☐	☐	☐
community facilities	☐	☐	☐
public transport links	☐	☐	☐
safe environment	☐	☐	☐
green space	☐	☐	☐
local business	☐	☐	☐
sense of community	☐	☐	☐

2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Housing	housing, apartment block, detached house, shared space, move into a house, local resident
Neighbourhoods	neighbourhood, safe environment, green space, busy street, noise pollution, public transport links
Community	community facilities, local business, volunteer group, community event, sense of community, improve facilities
Opinion chunks	A good neighbourhood should..., I would prefer to live near..., One problem in my area is..., This would improve..., Local residents could...

3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

Word or phrase	Meaning
1. neighbourhood	a. an area used by more than one person or group
2. local resident	b. places and services used by local people
3. shared space	c. the area near where someone lives
4. green space	d. a feeling that people in an area belong together
5. community facilities	e. a person who lives in a particular area
6. sense of community	f. an open area with grass, trees or plants

4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

live in a neighbourhood	move into a house	use shared space
public transport links	green space	safe environment
community facilities	local business	sense of community

- _____
- _____
- _____

5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

Improving a Local Area

A good **neighbourhood** is not only a place with houses. It should also feel safe, friendly and convenient for the people who live there.

Many **local residents** value green space, public transport links and useful **community facilities** such as libraries, parks and sports centres.

However, some areas have problems such as **noise pollution**, busy roads or limited public spaces. Local businesses and volunteer groups can sometimes help improve the area.

When people look after shared spaces and take part in community events, they can build a stronger **sense of community**. Small improvements can make daily life more pleasant.

6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

READING CHECK

1. What should a good neighbourhood feel like?

2. Give two things local residents may value.

3. What problems can some areas have?

4. How can people build a stronger sense of community?

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

What does 'green space' mean?

- A. An open area with grass, trees or plants
- B. A shopping centre
- C. A noisy road
- D. A tall building

What is the writer's main idea?

- A. Local areas can improve when people look after them.
- B. Parks are never useful.
- C. Residents should not join events.
- D. Every neighbourhood is the same.

7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe your neighbourhood and one thing you would improve.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: What facilities does every local area need?
Writing	Write a short paragraph suggesting one improvement to a local area.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What makes a neighbourhood pleasant?
- Is green space important in towns and cities?
- How can local residents help each other?
- What local problem would you like to solve?
- Would you prefer to live in a busy or quiet area?

**ANSWER KEY**

Home and Local Area

3. Match the meaning

1. c = the area near where someone lives
2. e = a person who lives in a particular area
3. a = an area used by more than one person or group
4. f = an open area with grass, trees or plants
5. b = places and services used by local people
6. d = a feeling that people in an area belong together

6. Check your understanding

1. It should feel safe, friendly and convenient.
2. Any two from: green space, public transport links, community facilities, libraries, parks, sports centres.
3. They may have noise pollution, busy roads or limited public spaces.
4. They can look after shared spaces and take part in community events.

MCQ 1: A. An open area with grass, trees or plants.

MCQ 2: A. Local areas can improve when people look after them.