

# Conv. 2

Complete these sentences with the correct idiom(s)

1. During the summer I like to \_\_\_\_\_ in the swimming pool.
2. People have to be careful about internet \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ at all the people who criticized me.
4. She's lucky, because she got a \_\_\_\_\_ job in a nice office.
5. I thought I was a good tennis player, but I \_\_\_\_\_ by my friend. She beat me 6-0, 6-0.
6. My friend's always \_\_\_\_\_. He can't decide if he should choose this or choose that.
7. I really hate that guy. He's a real \_\_\_\_\_.
8. I'm not \_\_\_\_\_ teaching young children, but teaching college students is right \_\_\_\_\_. It's something I really enjoy. (2 idioms)
9. My boss always \_\_\_\_\_ when he's dealing with his workers.
10. My wife (IU) took a \_\_\_\_\_ in cooking before we got married. She learned how to really cook for the first time.
11. My friend got fired, because his work wasn't \_\_\_\_\_.
12. A: Let's meet at 4:00! Ok?
13. B: Ok sure! See you this \_\_\_\_\_.
13. That guy's just a \_\_\_\_\_. He can't do anything right. (2 idioms)
14. The traffic light was about to turn red, so I \_\_\_\_\_ and drove on through.

- a. up to snuff
- b. up my alley
- c. waffling
- d. take a dip
- e. tool
- f. scams
- g. scum
- h. grade A
- i. got schooled
- j. gunned it
- k. crash course
- l. cushy
- m. cut out for
- n. arvo
- o. plays hardball
- p. clapped back

Write the meanings of these idioms in English  
([www.onlineslangdictionary.com](http://www.onlineslangdictionary.com))

- 1.whirlybird
- 2.what gives
- 3.the works
- 4.unfriend
- 5.senior moment
- 6.chummy
- 7.wanker(#2) (British slang/Rude)
- 8.cut some slack
- 9.wake up and smell the coffee
- 10.weasel
- 11.cop out
- 12.classic
- 13.cool with
- 14.Mr.Right
- 15.heated
- 16.hanky

# 3 Time for a change! *Conv. 2*

## 1 WORD POWER Houses and apartments

**A** These words are used to describe houses and apartments. Which are positive (P)? Which are negative (N)?

bright	..... P	dingy	.....	private	.....
comfortable	.....	expensive	.....	quiet	.....
convenient	.....	huge	.....	safe	.....
cramped	.....	inconvenient	.....	shabby	.....
dangerous	.....	modern	.....	small	.....
dark	.....	noisy	.....	spacious	.....



**B PAIR WORK** Tell your partner two positive and two negative features of your house or apartment.

"I live in a safe neighborhood, and my apartment is very bright. However, it's very expensive and a little cramped."

## 2 PERSPECTIVES Which would you prefer?

**A** Listen to these opinions about houses and apartments. Which ones are about space?

1. Apartments are too small for pets.
2. Apartments aren't big enough for families.
3. Apartments don't have as many rooms as houses.
4. Apartments have just as many expenses as houses.
5. Apartments don't have enough parking spaces.
6. Houses cost too much money.
7. Houses aren't as safe as apartments.
8. Houses aren't as convenient as apartments.
9. Houses don't have enough closet space.
10. Houses don't have as much privacy as apartments.

**B PAIR WORK** Look at the opinions again. Which statements do you agree with?

A: I agree that apartments are too small for pets.  
B: And they don't have enough parking spaces!





## Evaluations and comparisons

## Evaluations with adjectives

Apartments aren't big **enough** for families.  
Apartments are **too** small for pets.

## Comparisons with adjectives

Houses aren't **as** convenient **as** apartments.  
Houses are **just as** convenient **as** apartments.

## Evaluations with nouns

Apartments don't have **enough** parking spaces.  
Houses cost **too much** money.

## Comparisons with nouns

Apartments have **just as many** rooms **as** houses.  
Apartments don't have **as much** privacy **as** houses.

**A** Imagine you are looking for a house or an apartment to rent. Read the two ads. Then rewrite the opinions below using the words in parentheses. Compare with a partner.



## Spacious, modern house

3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom;  
very private; in quiet  
suburb; 2-car garage;  
\$1500 per month.



## Smaller, older apartment

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom;  
downtown, near subway;  
1 parking space;  
\$900 per month.

1. There are only a few windows. (not enough)
2. It's not bright enough. (too)
3. It has only one bathroom. (not enough)
4. It's not convenient enough. (too)

5. It's not spacious enough. (too)
6. It's too old. (not enough)
7. It isn't safe enough. (too)
8. There's only one parking space. (not enough)

There aren't enough windows.

(Call me)

**B** Write comparisons of the house and the apartment using these words and *as ... as*. Then compare with a partner.

noisy	big
bedrooms	expensive
bathrooms	modern
spacious	convenient
private	parking spaces

The house isn't as noisy as the apartment.  
The apartment doesn't have as many bedrooms as the house.

**C GROUP WORK** Which would you prefer to rent, the house or the apartment? Why?

A: I'd rent the apartment because the house costs too much.

B: I'd choose the house. The apartment isn't big enough for my family.



## 7 **SNAPSHOT**

### COMMON WISHES PEOPLE HAVE ABOUT THEIR LIVES



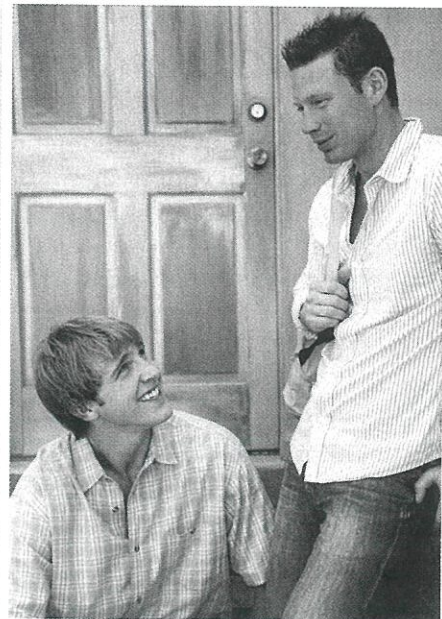
Source: Based on interviews with adults between the ages of 18 and 50

Check (✓) some of the things you would like to do. Then tell a partner why.  
Which of these wishes would be easy to achieve? Which would be difficult or impossible?  
What other things would you like to change about your life? Why?

## 8 **CONVERSATION** *Making changes*

**A** Listen and practice.

Brian: So, are you still living with your parents, Terry?  
Terry: I'm afraid so. I wish I had my own apartment.  
Brian: Why? Don't you like living at home?  
Terry: It's OK, but my parents are always asking me to be home before midnight. I wish they'd stop worrying about me.  
Brian: Yeah, parents are like that!  
Terry: And they expect me to help around the house. I hate housework. I wish life weren't so difficult.  
Brian: So, why don't you move out?  
Terry: Hey, I wish I could, but where else can I get free room and board?



**B** Listen to the rest of the conversation. What changes would Brian like to make in his life?



## GRAMMAR FOCUS

Use **wish** + past tense to refer to present wishes.

I **live** with my parents.

I wish I **didn't live** with my parents.

I wish I **had** my own apartment.

I **can't move** out.

I wish I **could move** out.

Life **is** difficult.

I wish it **were\*** easier.

I wish it **weren't** so difficult.

My parents **won't stop** worrying about me.

I wish they **would stop** worrying about me.

\*For the verb **be**, **were** is used with all pronouns after **wish**.

**A** Read these facts about people's lives. Then rewrite the sentences using **wish**. (More than one answer is possible.)

1. Diane can't wear contact lenses.
2. Beth's class is so boring.
3. My parents can't afford a new car.
4. Dan can't fit into his old jeans.
5. I can't remember my PIN number.
6. Laura doesn't have any free time.
7. Mitch is too short to play basketball.

She wishes she could wear contact lenses.

She wishes her class weren't so boring.

**B PAIR WORK** Think of five things you wish you could change. Then discuss them with your partner.

A: What do you wish you could change?

B: Well, I'm not in very good shape. I wish I were more fit.

## 10 SPEAKING Wish list

**A** What do you wish were different about these things? Write down your wishes.

my bedroom  
my school or job

my social life  
my skills

my possessions  
my town

**B GROUP WORK** Compare your wishes. Does anyone have the same wish?

A: I wish my bedroom were a different color. It's not bright enough.

B: Me, too! I wish I could paint my bedroom bright orange.

C: I like the color of my bedroom, but my bed is too small. I wish ...



## INTERCHANGE 3 Wishful thinking

Find out more about your classmates' wishes. Go to Interchange 3 on page 116.

# 3 Time for a change!

## 1 Opposites

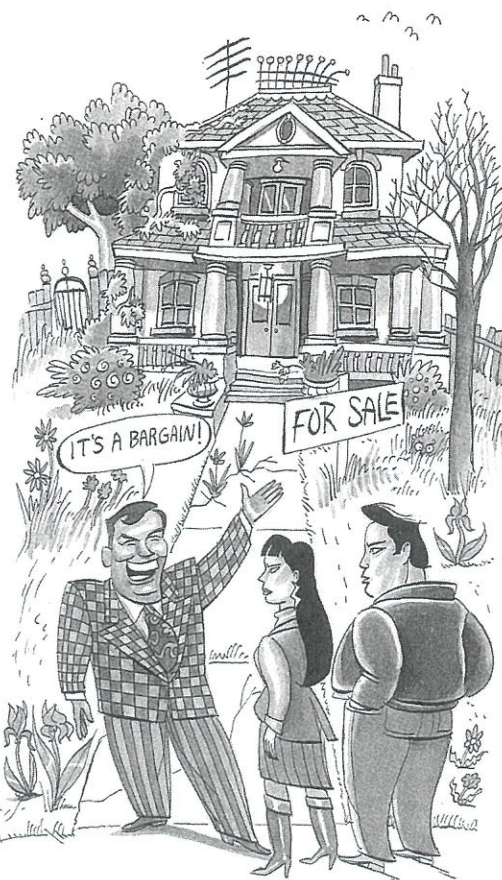
**A** Write the opposites. Use the words in the box.

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> dark                    | <input type="checkbox"/> old      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> expensive               | <input type="checkbox"/> safe     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> inconvenient | <input type="checkbox"/> small    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> noisy                   | <input type="checkbox"/> spacious |

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. convenient / <u>inconvenient</u> | 5. bright / _____     |
| 2. cramped / _____                  | 6. modern / _____     |
| 3. dangerous / _____                | 7. quiet / _____      |
| 4. big / _____                      | 8. reasonable / _____ |

**B** Rewrite these sentences. Find another way to say each sentence using *not . . . enough* or *too* and the words in part A.

- The house is too expensive.  
The house isn't reasonable enough.
- The rooms aren't bright enough.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The living room isn't spacious enough for the family.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The bathroom is too old.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The yard isn't big enough for our pets.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The street is too noisy for us.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The neighborhood is too dangerous.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The kitchen isn't convenient enough.  
\_\_\_\_\_

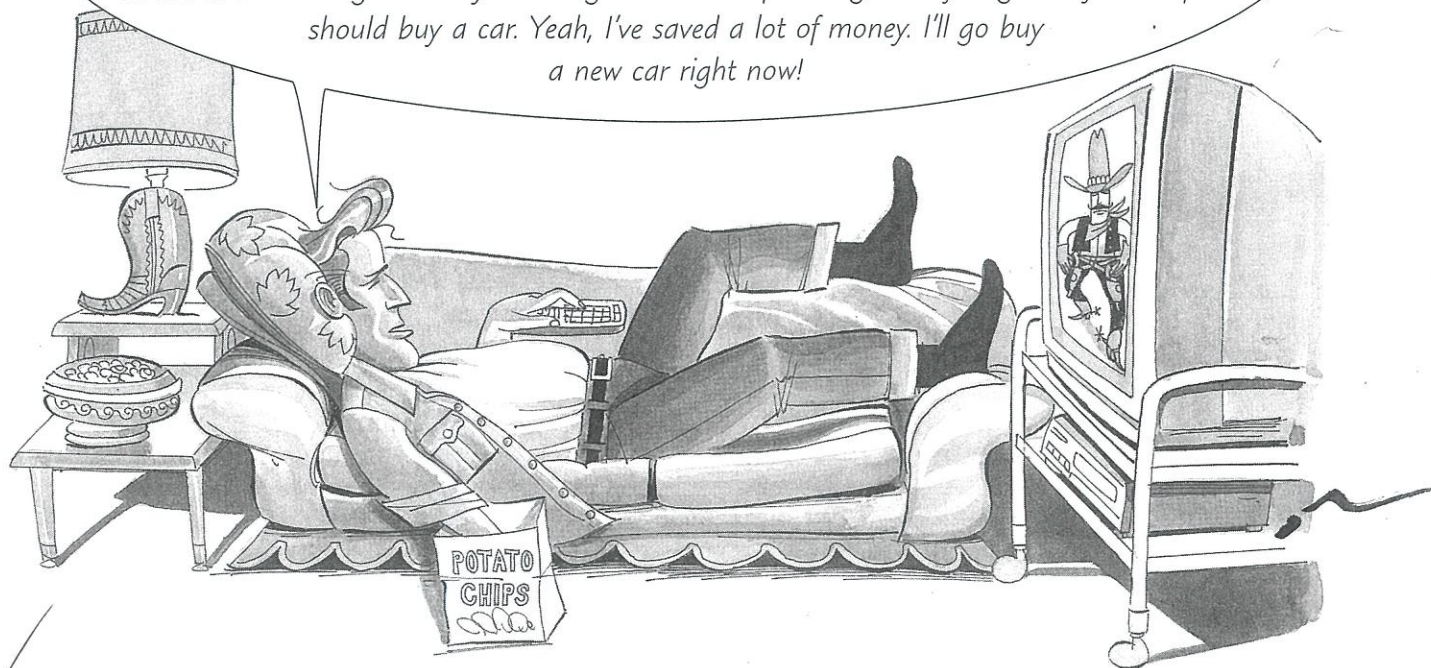




(call me)

**A** Find six things Don would like to change in his life. Write sentences with *He wishes*.

I used to enjoy life more. Nowadays, I just go to work in the morning and come home in the evening. I don't enjoy my job anymore, but I must say the money is good. I don't go out as often as I used to. I used to go to the movies once a week. Now I go to the movies only once a month. And I used to visit my friends all the time. Now I never see them. My weekends are really boring, too. I spend my time cleaning the house and watching TV. Why don't I go out more often? I guess I just got lazy. Perhaps I should buy a car. Yeah, I've saved a lot of money. I'll go buy a new car right now!



1. He wishes he enjoyed his job.
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**B** Think of five things for a wish list. Then write your wishes in order of importance (1 = very important; 5 = not very important).

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_