

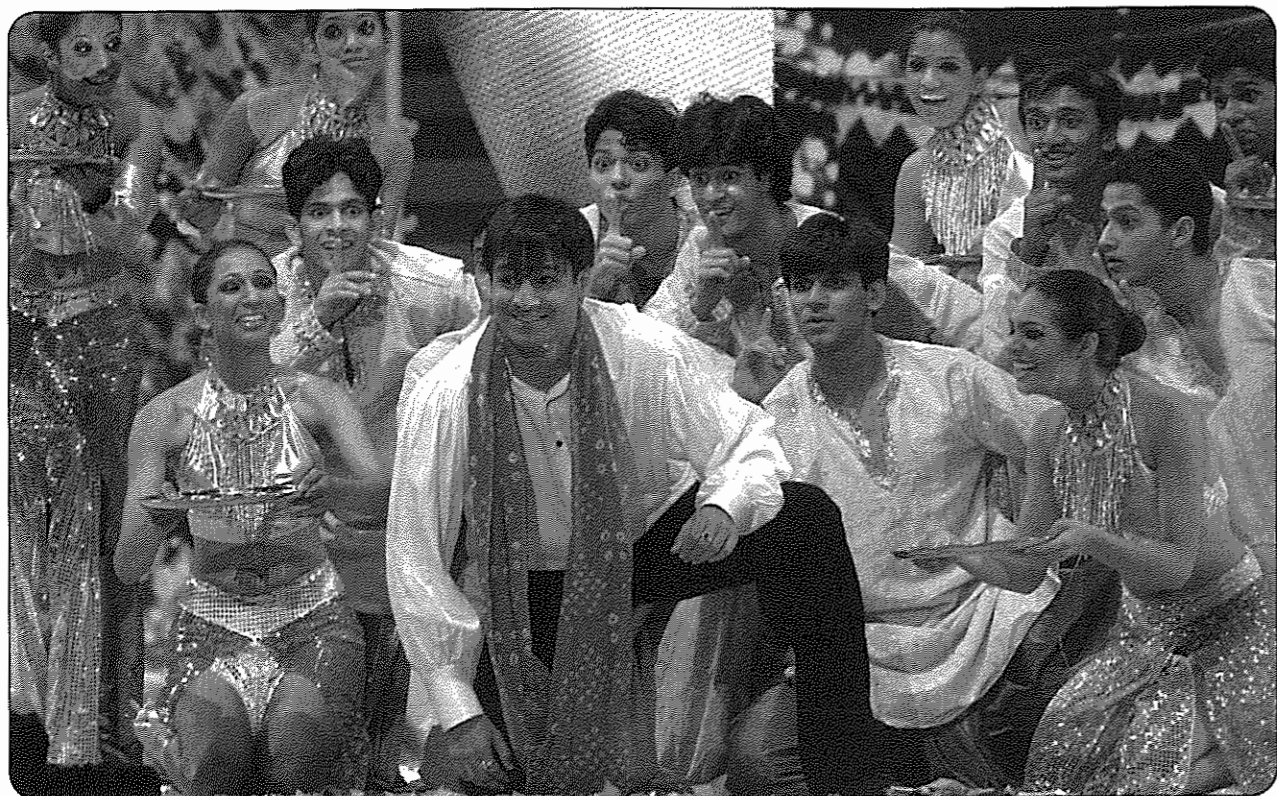
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The Asian influence

In the last ten years young Asian actors, comedians* and musicians have transformed the British public's ideas about the Asian community*. People enjoy Asian films and music and watch Asian comedians on TV.



Asian films – Bollywood

Bollywood is a word made from Bombay and Hollywood. It refers* to modern Indian cinema. It is the most popular type of film on the planet and is very successful in the UK. Bollywood makes more films than Hollywood and sells more tickets too. The films are full of songs, Indian dance routines*, comedy and action. The actors and actresses wear beautiful costumes, and there is always a love story, but lovers rarely* even kiss! The stars in Bollywood films become very rich and famous.

Asian music – Bangra

Bangra was originally Indian folk music which celebrated the harvest season. It has a heavy drum beat and folk singing and gets people dancing. It is very popular now in the UK, not only with Asians but also with young people generally. Bangra is sung in Bollywood movies and it has influenced a whole generation of pop and dance musicians.

Asian comedy – Goodness Gracious Me

Young Asian comedians are now very popular in the UK. One comedy programme called *Goodness Gracious Me* is series of sketches* about the Indian community in the UK. The characters are very funny. There is an Indian mother who always says 'I can make it at home for nothing', and a Bollywood superstar, Mr Chunky La Funga, who always upsets* his girlfriends. The themes are universal and make everyone laugh.

Asian chat show – The Kumars at No 42

The Kumars are a very funny Asian family who have their own home TV studio at number 42. They have famous people as their guests, including Richard E Grant and Jerry Hall. The guest rings the doorbell and goes into the house to the studio. The son, Sanjeev, who believes he is very good-looking, hosts* the show. There is a granny, who asks very personal questions, a father who is only interested in money, and a mother who always offers food. The famous guests never know what question will come next! It is very popular, and it has won lots of awards.



Now decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Bollywood makes more money than Hollywood.
- 2 Bollywood actors become famous for their passionate* love scenes.
- 3 Bangra is a kind of food eaten at harvest festivals.
- 4 Bangra is only popular with Asians.
- 5 *Goodness Gracious Me* is about all the ethnic* communities in the UK.
- 6 Mr Chunky La Funga is an actor but he isn't successful with women.
- 7 The Kumars at No 42 are a comic* Asian family with a TV studio.
- 8 The Kumars invite famous people but they never go on the show.
- 9 The granny in the Kumar family is only interested in money.
- 10 *The Kumars at No 42* is a very successful show.

Tell your partner what you think.

Would you like to ...

see a Bollywood film?	Sure	Not sure
listen to Bangra?	Sure	Not sure
see Mr Chunky La Funga?	Sure	Not sure
meet the Kumars?	Sure	Not sure

Asian words

Asian culture has influenced the English language for centuries.

Match the words with their definitions and then write the words above the pictures.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| bungalow | a flat crunchy* bread |
| pyjamas | we burn these to make a nice smell |
| bindi | dark eye make-up |
| poppadom | jewellery we wear on our wrists |
| curry | a sweet-sour* jam |
| joss sticks | a beautiful dress that Asian women wear |
| chutney | a house with one floor |
| sari | a small spot Asian women wear on their forehead |
| bangle | a spicy dish we eat with rice |
| kohl | clothes we wear in bed |

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10

Which word do you think has been in English since the 16th century?
 Clue – there are many restaurants that sell it in England. And it can be delivered to your house.

* What is it in your language? Find out!



Meeting up

What's the most popular free-time activity for British teenagers?
It's hanging out! And where do they do that? Read on and find out.

Tick the places where you think British teenagers hang out.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> the youth club | <input type="checkbox"/> the cinema |
| <input type="checkbox"/> school | <input type="checkbox"/> the swimming pool |
| <input type="checkbox"/> home | <input type="checkbox"/> the museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the shopping centre | <input type="checkbox"/> the park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the library | <input type="checkbox"/> a fast food restaurant |

Write the names of the places.



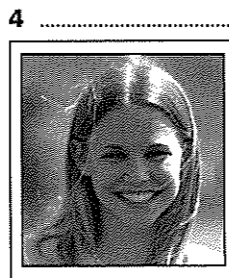
1 There's a good skateboard park and I'm a keen skateboarder. We hang out and chat. We even have a favourite bench*! We play cricket in the summer and football in the winter.
Mohammed, Bradford



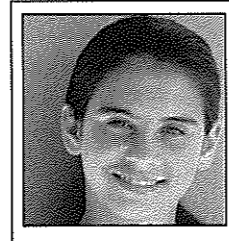
2 We often go on Saturday and there's lots to do. We go shopping, have a coffee, or just sit around and chat.
Ella, Southampton



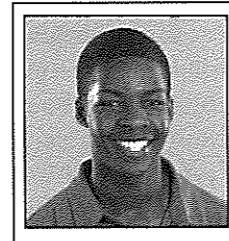
3 We meet two evenings a week. We just sit round and chat in the lounge, watch sport on the TV or play games - we've got two pool tables and a table tennis table. We're building an Internet room at the moment.
Lewis, Dublin



4 We go two evenings a week - it's good fun. We've got a season ticket. After swimming we hang out in the café.
Olivia, Cardiff



5 It's cheap and we can hang out together. I love hamburgers, but sometimes I have a salad to please my mum!
Liam, Oxford



6 Once or twice a month I go to the multiplex with my friends and it's my favourite place. We see all the latest films. We always buy a big box of popcorn. I love it!
Aaron, Canterbury



7 We listen to music, read magazines and talk about clothes and make-up. Sometimes we have a sleepover*. We watch DVDs in my room and my friends stay the night.
Jade, Manchester

Find the words and expressions in the report.

- You buy this so you can do an activity as often as you like. s..... t.....
- You sit on this in a park or garden. b.....
- A kind of food made of corn. p.....
- A summer sport c.....
- A party when friends stay the night. s.....

- You can choose from lots of different films here. m.....
- You go to this place to use your skateboard. s..... p.....
- This game is similar* to snooker. p.....

Do you like doing any of these things?



British teenagers often say that there isn't enough for them to do in their area. Under-18s can't buy drinks in a pub, so they don't hang out there. So what do teenagers want?

Speech bubbles containing feedback from teenagers:

- "We need a cheap and fun place to go."
- "There isn't a variety of things to do."
- "There isn't enough public transport."
- "We need more youth clubs."
- "We need somewhere to meet informally*."
- "We want less crime*."
- "We'd like more youth cafés."
- "Clubs aren't open often enough."
- "There aren't enough leisure* facilities."
- "We need more sports facilities*."
- "We'd like more under-18 drama clubs."

Do young people have the same problems in your country?

You are on a committee to create a youth club. You can only afford* six of the things below. Work in groups and decide what you are going to buy and where you will put the new things.

Illustrations of items and a floor plan:

- a table tennis table
- a computer
- a microwave oven
- discos lights
- a DVD player
- a fridge
- a large table
- a drinks machine
- some armchairs
- an espresso coffee machine
- a pool table
- sports equipment
- a sound system
- some foldaway chairs
- a CD and DVD library
- a wide-screen TV

Floor plan labels:

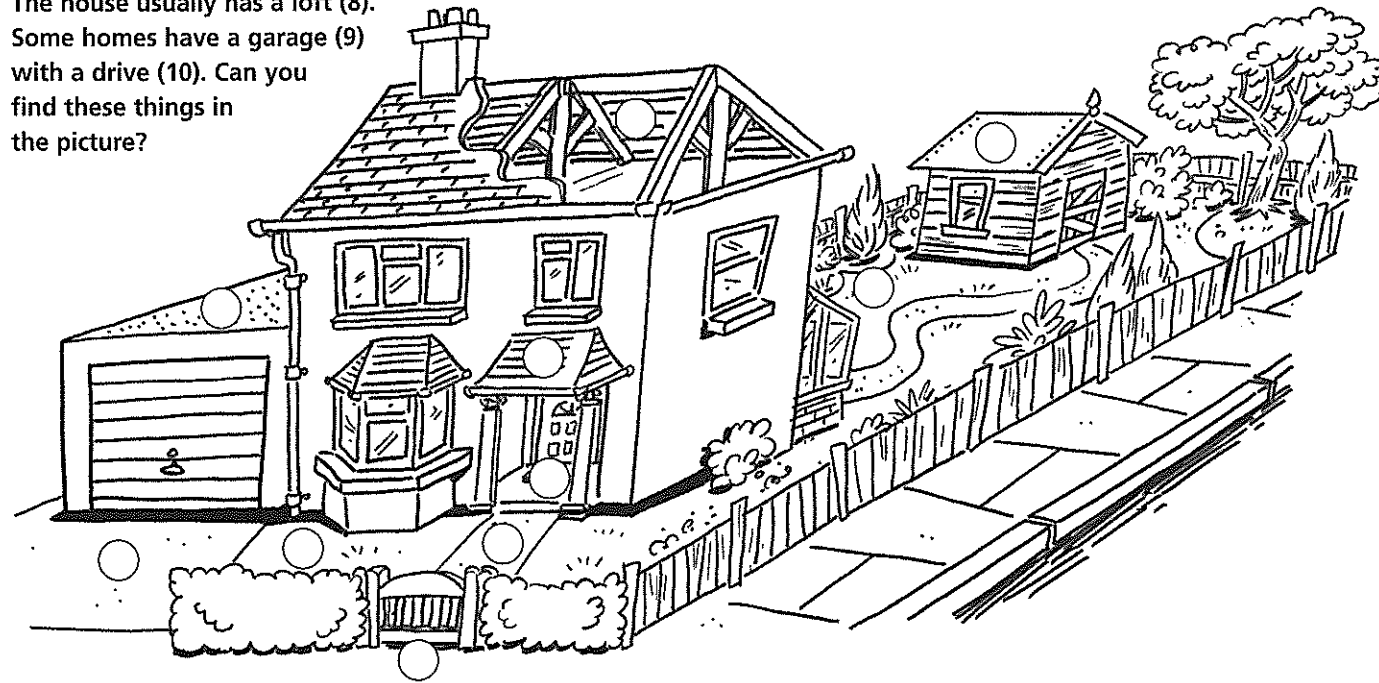
- lounge
- kitchen
- store room
- computer room
- toilets
- toilets
- sports hall
- basketball court
- tennis court

* What is it in your language? Find out!

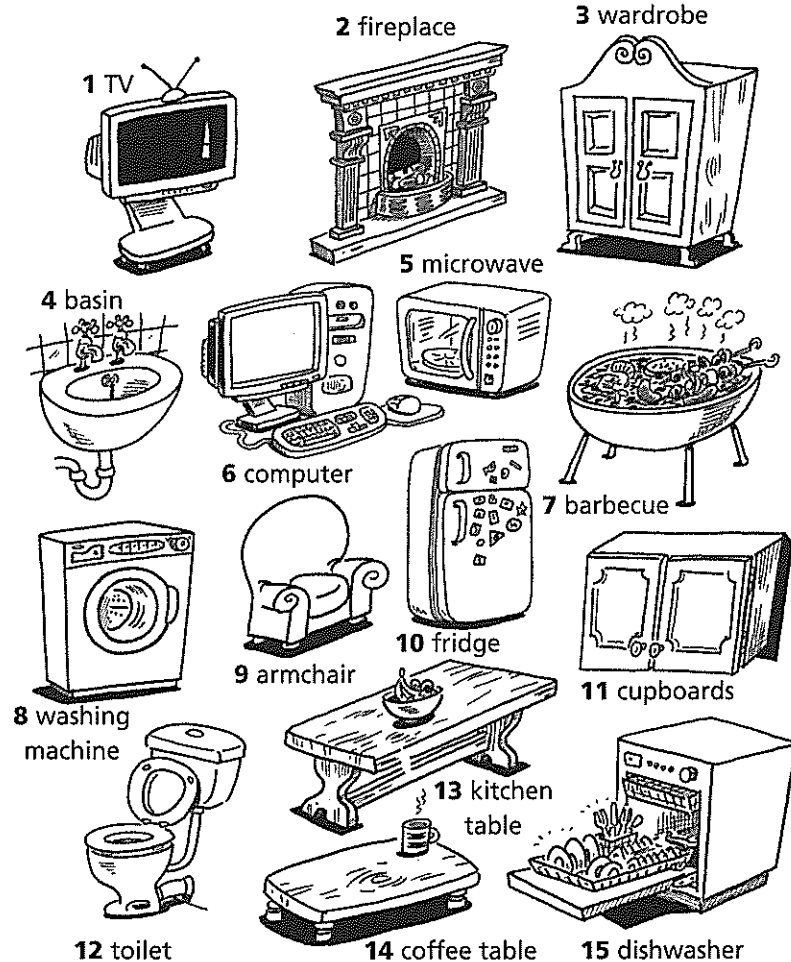
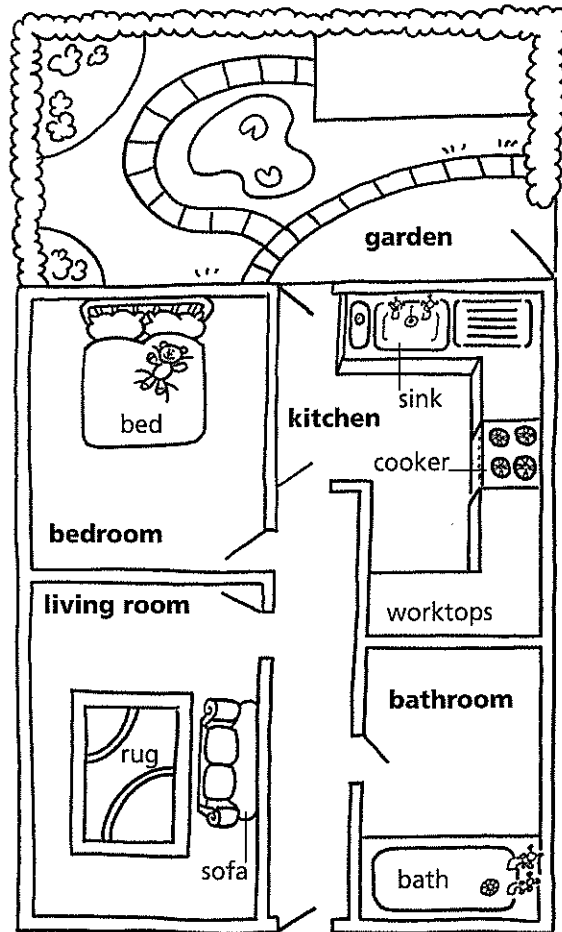


Explore a British home

A typical British house has a small front garden (1) with a gate (2) and a path (3). There is often a porch (4) over the front door (5). There is a larger back garden (6) with a shed (7) in it. The house usually has a loft (8). Some homes have a garage (9) with a drive (10). Can you find these things in the picture?



Where do these things go? Write the numbers in the correct rooms.



Come on a guided tour of a British home! And fill in the gaps while you read!

has called love playing spend isn't
use watch eat listen sit have



Living room

The centre of British life. People (1)..... TV here, (2)..... to music and often eat their dinners. In fact, people often (3)..... their dinner on a tray* while watching TV. The floor has a carpet so it is comfortable to (4)..... on. Although most houses have central heating*, the fireplace is the focus of the room.

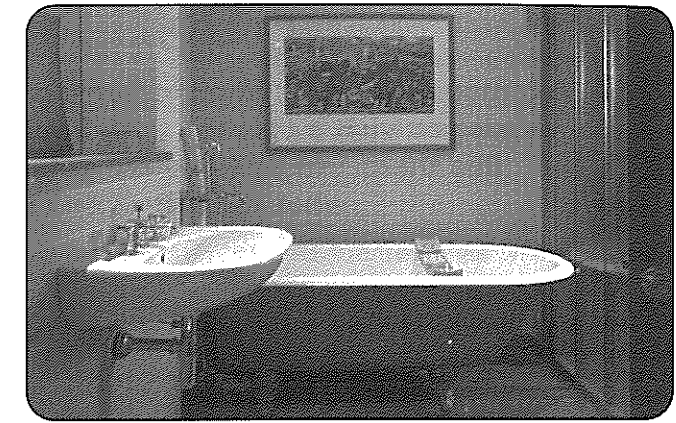


Kitchen

With lots of work surfaces* and appliances*, the British kitchen (5)..... different from other kitchens around the world. But they almost always (6)..... a microwave and an electric kettle. The washing machine is usually in the kitchen too. People sit and chat in the kitchen and there is often a big table.

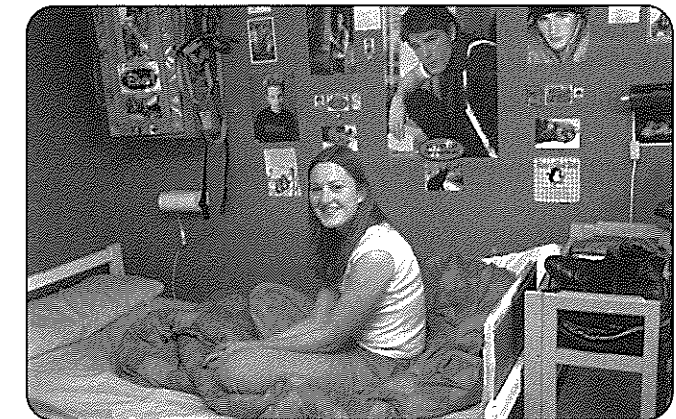
Read about British homes. What are the similarities and differences with your home?

*What is it in your language? Find out!



Bathroom

Bidets* aren't common in British bathrooms. The toilet is sometimes in a separate room from the bathroom. It's often (7)..... the 'loo'.



Bedroom

Of course, there are the usual things, but one in three British teenagers (8)..... a TV. The typical home is small so many families (9)..... bedrooms for studying and surfing the net*. Teenagers (10)..... a lot of time in their bedrooms and put up posters and photos of their favourite pop stars.



Garden

British people (11)..... their gardens – gardening is a favourite hobby. Teenagers prefer (12)..... football and games on the lawn. And in the summer, families often have barbecues.