

What does the future hold?

1 The house of the future

a Before you read the text, match the beginning of these sentences with their endings.

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| 1. If the temperature outside gets colder, | a. the house will switch off the lights for you. |
| 2. If you leave a room, | b. it will play these songs when you enter a room. |
| 3. If you drink coffee in the morning, | c. the house will tell them you're not at home. |
| 4. If the house notices what music you like, | d. the house will turn on the heating. |
| 5. If you have visitors, | e. the house will make it for you. |
| 6. If people you don't like knock on the door, | f. it will greet them. |

Now read the text to check the sentences.

Welcome to the Thinking House!

The next generation of house is yours to buy! It's a 'thinking house', a house the computer controls. You don't have to regulate the house's temperature; the computer regulates it for you. It decides which rooms you should heat and when: the house calculates the outside temperature, the number of people in the house and where they are.

Do you drink coffee in the morning? In this house, the computer makes your coffee for you automatically every morning and it even switches the TV to your favourite channel when you enter the room.

And do you forget the lights when you leave the room? Don't worry, the house will remember it for you, and switch all the lights off as soon as you leave.

Decorating your house can be expensive – and what happens when you are tired of the room's style? Not in the thinking house. You can choose the room's decoration: the computer displays paintings and photos in each room. You can change the pictures depending on your mood. Your choice of pictures is in the computer's memory so it knows what your favourites are the next time you enter the room.

The house doesn't only remember information about you; it also remembers information about your guests. When they enter the house, the computer greets them by name. It also remembers the unwelcome guests: it cleverly tells salesmen or unwanted visitors you are not at home!

b Answer these questions – but be careful with the conditional form!

1. If I had a thinking house, I would put pictures by/of _____ in my living room.
2. If I had a thinking house, I would play _____ music.
3. If I had a thinking house, I wouldn't let _____ in!
4. If I had a thinking house, I _____.

2 What do you plan to do in the holidays?

a Look at these sentences, they are mixed up. Can you put them in the correct order?

Example: going/paint/to/I'm/the/room/living I'm going to paint the living room.

1. to/work/the/I'm/going/in/garden _____
2. do/language/a/going/to/I'm/course/Malta/in _____
3. I'm/lie/going/on/to/the/beach _____
4. America/visit/I'm/to/going/cousin/my/in _____
5. spend/time/more/I'm/my/to/on/English/going _____

b What are *you* going to do in the holidays? Write down three plans.
