



Vocabulary: home 词汇: 家

‘**There’s no place like home**’ This English saying has much truth in it: the best place to be is surrounded by our treasured **possessions** and our **loved ones** and with **a roof over our head**. And for many young adults, it’s the only affordable place to stay; somewhere where they can receive first-class service from mum and dad. But this comes at a price!

In some countries, it’s quite traditional for people in their late teens and early 20s to live at home with their parents, but in other places, **flying the nest** to start their own independent life is very desirable. There is no **nagging**, and you can come and go as you wish. But there’s been a growing trend, in the UK at least, for young people to return home to live - or not to leave home at all. According to the UK’s Office for National Statistics, about a quarter of young adults aged 20-34 live at home, and that figure has been growing.

A survey by a price comparison website found that 18% of adult children in the UK said they were moving back home because of debt, compared with 8% last year. More young people had lost their jobs, and others couldn’t afford their **rent** compared with the previous year. So, it’s easy to see why they’re increasingly becoming **home birds**.

The BBC’s Lucy Hooker explains that many returning adult children enjoy **home comforts**. These include cooked meals, a full fridge and cleaning, as well as their **bills** being covered by what is commonly called ‘**the hotel of mum and dad**’. But for the ‘**hoteliers**’, that’s mum and dad, the survey found the average cost to them has gone up sharply, and that they are sacrificing luxuries and holidays to look after their ‘big kids’. Emma Craig from Moneysupermarket says “they’re trying to look after their children more. If your child comes home and you see them struggling financially, you feel more awkward asking them for rent or to contribute. It **tugs on your heartstrings** more.”

With parents **splashing out** around £1,886 on takeaway food, buying new **furniture** and upgrading their Wi-Fi for the benefit of their **offspring**, it’s easy for the returning children to **put their feet up** and **make themselves at home**. That’s before they learn **a home truth** – that one day it might be their own kids who’ll be checking into the hotel of mum and dad!

词汇表

there's no place like home	没有比家更温暖的地方，没有一个地方比得上家
possession	个人物品，财产
loved one	亲人
a roof over our head	住处
fly the nest	离开父母独立生活
nagging	唠叨，指责
rent	房租
home bird	喜欢住在家里的人
home comforts	家庭的温暖
bill	(水、电、煤气、网络等费用) 账单
the hotel of mum and dad	“爸妈旅馆”，在父母家中居住
hotelier	旅馆、酒店老板 (在此文中指父母)
tug on your heartstrings	牵动你的心弦
splash out	花大笔的钱
furniture	家具
offspring	后代，子女
put one's feet up	休息
make oneself at home	放松，享受
home truth	令人不愉快的事情

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What percentage of young adults now live at home in the UK?
2. Give one reason that's making young people return home to live.
3. True or false? *Young people are sacrificing their holidays to live at home.*
4. What are parents spending £1,886 on?
5. Which word used in the article means 'difficult or embarrassing'?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Mum was very upset when her daughter decided to _____ and move in with her boyfriend.

fly the nesting	flew the nest	fly the nest	flying the nest
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2. To celebrate our 10th anniversary, we're _____ on an amazing holiday this year.

putting our feet up	splashing out	making ourselves at home	hoteliers
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3. Neil is a bit of a _____ - he never wants to go out and would rather stay at home watching TV.

home truth	home bird	home comfort	loved one
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4. My girlfriend keeps _____ me about getting married – I guess I'll give in eventually!

nag	nagged	nags	nagging
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5. After a hard day of shopping I like to get home, _____ and have a nice cup of tea!

put my feet up	make myself at home	home comforts	fly the nest
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. What percentage of young adults now live at home in the UK?

According to the UK's Office for National Statistics, about a quarter of young adults aged 20-34 live at home.

2. Give one reason that's making young people return home to live.

A survey found that debt, becoming unemployed or not being able to afford to pay for rent are reasons that for young people returning home to live.

3. True or false? *Young people are sacrificing their holidays to live at home.*

False. It is mum and dad who are sacrificing luxuries such as holidays, to pay for looking after their grown-up children.

4. What are parents spending £1,886 on?

Parents spending (or splashing out) around £1,886 on takeaway food, buying new furniture and upgrading their Wi-Fi for the benefit of their children.

5. Which word used in the article means 'difficult or embarrassing'?

Awkward.

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Mum was very upset when her daughter decided to **fly the nest** and move in with her boyfriend.

2. To celebrate our 10th anniversary, we're **splashing out** on an amazing holiday this year.

3. Neil is a bit of a **home bird** - he never wants to go out and would rather stay at home watching TV.

4. My girlfriend keeps **nagging** me about getting married – I guess I'll give in eventually!

5. After a hard day of shopping I like to get home, **put my feet up** and have a nice cup of tea!