

2 LISTENING & SPEAKING

- a Look at the photos. Do you see similar sights in any areas of your town?
- **b** Read the article about high streets in the UK. Why have they changed so much? What are some towns trying to do?

Can anyone save the British high street?

The high street was once the heart of communities across the UK. The butcher's, baker's, and greengrocer's were all there, run by locals who knew their customers by name.

But today one in seven high street shops has closed down, or has been replaced by a café or a beauty salon, as shoppers drive to out-of-town hypermarkets or malls, or buy online. The recession doesn't help either. In the worst-hit towns, more than one-third of the small high street shops have disappeared.

To try to save their high streets, some towns now offer free parking nearby. Others plan to have live music and theatre performances in the town centre, and others are encouraging small businesses to move into empty shop spaces and open 'pop-up shops' (quirky, interesting shops that close or change after a few weeks). The towns are hopeful, but are these efforts too little, too late?

- c (1)40)) Listen to four people talk about their local shopping street. Who is most optimistic about the situation of small shops?
- d Listen again and complete the chart.

	Harry	Kate	Ken	Bea
1 Where do you live?				
2 What shops are there near you?				
3 What's happening to small shops in your area? Why? Do you think this is a good or bad thing?				

e Interview a partner with the questionnaire below.

My local shops

FLOOR SANDING 0208 6461753

- 1 What kinds of shops are there near where you live?
- 2 Do you go to them much? If not, where do you buy things?
- 3 What shops have opened up or closed down near you? Are you pleased or sorry about it?
- 4 Are there any markets near you? Do you ever go to them? Do you have a favourite stall?
- 5 What chain stores are there near you? (H&M, Zara, etc.) Do you shop there? How do you feel about them? Are they in competition with local shops?

2B

iTutor

6 Are small shops in your country struggling? Do you think it's important to support them? Why (not)?

GRAMMAR possessives 3

- a With a partner decide if the highlighted phrases are right (\checkmark) or wrong (\checkmark). Correct the wrong phrases.
 - 1 Could you tell me where to find childrens' books?
 - 2 What's Carlos's surname? I can never remember it.
 - 3 I'm going to Marta's to study this afternoon.
 - 4 Is this your new car's husband? It's lovely!
 - 5 I mustn't forget it's the my mother's birthday tomorrow.
 - 6 I'm sure you'll like Tony. He's a really old friend of mine.
 - 7 I didn't like the film's beginning, but the end was good.
 - 8 One day I'd love to have mine own flat.
- b > p.135 Grammar Bank 2B. Learn more about possessives and practise them.

PRONUNCIATION 's; linking

O The pronunciation of 's

- The 's , like the s added to plural nouns and the third person of verbs, can be pronounced in three different ways:
- 1 /s/ after the unvoiced sounds /k/, /p/, /f/, /t/, and / θ /
- 2 /z/ after voiced sounds (most other sounds)
- 3 /1z/ after /s/, /z/, /dʒ/, /ʃ/, and /tʃ/
- (1)44)) Read the information box. Then listen and a repeat the phrases.
 - 1 my parents' house my wife's brother 2 my friend's car the men's toilets
 - 3 /IZ/ Charles's flat
- my niece's husband
- **b** (1)45)) Listen to the phrases. Is the 's 1 /s/, 2 /z/, or 3 /1z/?
 - Maria's mother Philip's phone
- Max's motorbike Mr Smith's salary

George's job

Tom's train my wife's work my neighbours' new dog

Practise saying the phrases. С

- (1)46))) Listen and repeat the sentences, linking the d marked words. Do you know why they are linked?
 - 1 What's the name, of the shop?
 - 2 Jane's_an_ex-colleague_of_ours.
 - 3 Some friends_of mine_are coming for dinner this_evening.
 - 4 Is that_all your_own work?
 - 5 He lives_at the top_of the hill.
 - 6 We're having lunch_at_Anne's.
 - 7 They make their, own bread.

2B

- Practise saying the following sentences with a partner. e Do you agree?
 - 1 Mother's Day and Father's Day are just commercial opportunities for shops to sell more.
 - 2 A chemist's should be open 24 hours a day.
 - 3 It's safer to eat meat bought from a butcher's or a market than from a supermarket.
 - 4 There's no point in spending much on children's clothes and shoes because they don't last for long.
 - 5 If you don't like your friend's partner, it's better not to say so.
 - 6 There should be a law against a boss's children being employed in his or her company.

READING 5

- You're going to read about a UK shopping site, a NotOnTheHighStreet.com. Why do you think the founders decided to call it that?
- **b** Now read **About us** and check.



ABOUT US

Award-winning entrepreneurs Holly Tucker and Sophie Cornish founded the website NotOnTheHighStreet.com from a kitchen table. Two working mothers, they loved discovering handmade and beautiful objects for themselves and as gifts, the kind of things that were sold in quirky markets, craft fairs or small boutiques. But finding these places took time.

So Sophie and Holly came up with an idea. What if there were one place which brought together unique and hard-to-find objects from all over the UK? From this idea, NotOnTheHighStreet.com was born. Launched with just 100 sellers, there are now thousands of talented and creative small businesses who sell here, with more joining every week. Each seller hand-makes their products, and sends them directly to the buyer. Happy shopping!

> IUST MARRIED

- Read about three of their sellers. Write the questions in the right place. C There is one question you do not need.
 - A What are your ambitions for the future?
 - B What sort of products do you make and sell?
 - C How does the place where you live influence your products?
 - D Do you also sell in shops or only from the website?
 - E How is your health now?
 - Where did you start your company and where do you work now? F
 - G When did you set up your business and why?
- d Read about the sellers again. Answer the questions with KW, AB, or EC. Which seller...?
 - 1 makes things that people specifically ask her for
 - 2 gives some of the money she makes to a good cause
 - 3 started her business after she moved house
 - 4 would like her business to be more international
 - started working again after a period of not being able to 5
 - 6 creates products out of unwanted things
- Look at the highlighted words related to crafts and work out their meanings. e
- If you were able to buy one thing from one of the sellers, what would you f buy? Who would you buy it for?

HOME GARDEN PICTURES & PRINTS JEWELLERY FASHION BABY & CHILD PETS WEDDINGS SEE MORE GIFTS

SOME OF OUR SELLERS

KRESSE WESLING

My husband and I have built our entire business around 'upcycling' recycling old materials to make something new.

We take old fire hoses* and create belts, wallets, phone cases, and bags from them.

What inspired you to start your business?

Recycling has always been a passion of ours. As soon as I saw some of the London Fire Brigade's old hoses, I instantly fell in love with them. We now collect old hoses across the country and 50% of the profits go to the Fire Fighters Charity. 2

It started in a single room where we lived in Brixton, London. Now we have a large workshop. We've recycled over 170 tonnes of hoses.

*hose = a long tube made of rubber used for putting water onto a fire, gardens, etc.

ABIGAIL BRYANS Describe your product range. What makes it unique?



'Champagne is the answer' is one of my most popular signs. I also get many fantastic requests for personalized signs from customers.

3 About ten years ago, I was on my own with three small children and no job. Over the years I had made small gifts like photo frames and sold them to friends, and it was a friend of mine who told me, 'Don't be frightened to fail'. Hearing those words inspired me to start the business. Now I'm working full-time at my kitchen table in south London.

4 I would just love my designs to be sold around the world. I'd also love a little workshop so that I didn't have to work in my kitchen!



SPEAKING 6

Choose three of the topics and tell a partner about them. Give as much information as you can.

Talk about something you've bought which...



EDWINA COOPER What inspired you to create your business? I'd always enjoyed painting, but about ten years ago I had a stroke*. I couldn't

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speak or move my right hand, which I use to paint. The doctors said I'd never paint again but I slowly got better. A few years later, a friend asked me to do an illustration for her business. She liked what I did and it inspired me to start painting again.

5 Much better. I'm fully recovered now and I'm selling my hand-painted cushions on NotOnTheHighStreet.com. I'm so happy that people like what I do.

My husband, son, and I moved to the Isle of Wight about seven years ago, which is when I started painting cushions at home. I'm inspired by the island, and my customers say my paintings make them feel like they're on the island with me. *stroke = a sudden serious illness when a blood vessel (= tube) in the brain bursts or is blocked



