

READING

# A new community centre

**LEVEL**

Intermediate (B2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B2\_3093R

**LANGUAGE**

English

## Learning outcomes

- I can read and discuss a text about a new community centre.
- I can use a range of words and phrases related to public spaces.



# Warm-up

In the text on the next slide, you will read an article about a community project.

**Describe the pictures below.**

**Make 1-3 predictions about the text based on the pictures.**





# Reading

**Read** the text to yourself. **Answer** the questions. **Share** your answers with the class afterwards.

The long-awaited BeWellcome Community Centre for Elderly Citizens opens its doors next month. It will provide much-needed support services, such as healthcare consultations and physical therapy sessions. There will also be a weekly programme of recreational activities, for example, pottery and watercolour painting classes.

The building has been designed with the needs of seniors in mind: a bright, ground-floor café with a comfortable seating area and outdoor patio, a spacious library with computers and a selection of daily newspapers and magazines. There are wheelchair-accessible entrances and designated parking spaces for visitors. In addition to this, there will be a community garden for both avid and aspiring gardeners.

All events are subsidised by a city council grant, with generous support from local businesses and a team of volunteers.



What place is described in the text? Who is it for?

What sort of services will be provided?

What kind of facilities does the building have?





## Reflect on the text

**Discuss** in pairs in breakout rooms or as a group. Share ideas afterwards.

**Do you think projects such as this community centre are necessary for elderly citizens? Why or why not?**

**What kind of support services do you think are most important for elderly citizens?**

**What other recreational activities do you think would be suitable at this community centre?**

**What other groups could benefit from a project like this? Would you need to change any of the features of the building?**



# Language focus: match the sentence parts

1. **Match** the sentence parts.
2. What do you **notice** about the highlighted words below? What **part of speech** are they?

1 The **long-awaited**...

2 The centre will provide **much-needed**...

3 There are **wheelchair-accessible**...

a ...services, such as physical therapy and a variety of activities and classes.

b ...entrances and parking spaces for visitors.

c ...community centre opens next month.



Part of speech = noun, verb, adjective, etc.



# Real-life language



The community centre will **open its doors** next month.

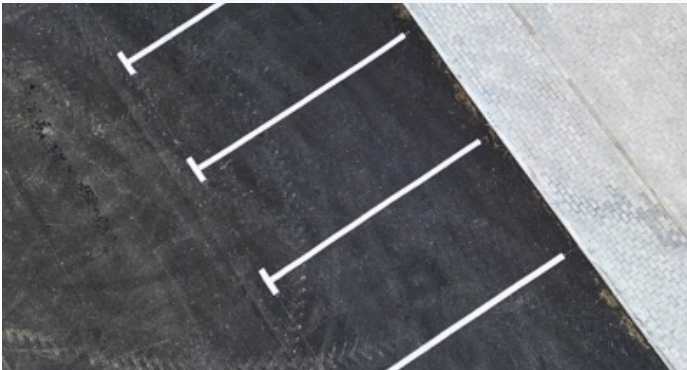
Could you open the door for me, please?

What does the highlighted phrase mean?

What's the difference between the use of this phrase in the two sentences.

# Vocabulary

There are **designated** parking spaces.



Events are **subsidised** by the city council.



When you **designate** something, you mark it out for a particular purpose or use

**to subsidise** means to pay a part of the cost of something



We were lucky to receive a generous **grant** for this project!



A **grant** is an amount of money given by the government or an organization for a specific purpose.



# Talking about public spaces

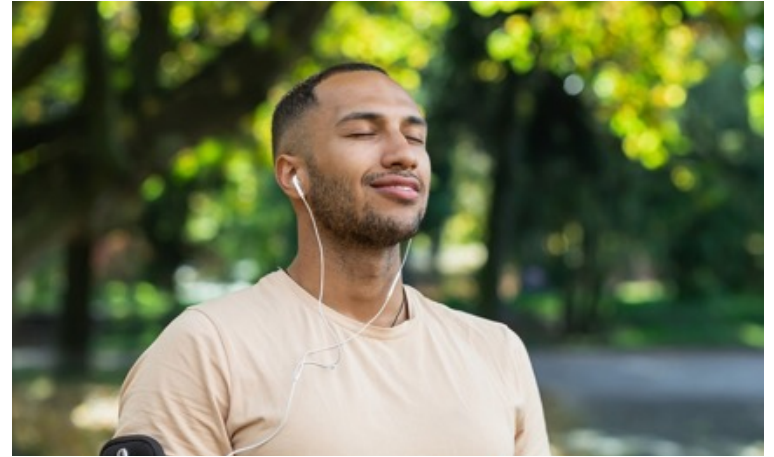
**Complete** the sentences using the words in the box.

- 1 The new school gym has been \_\_\_\_\_ with the needs of our students in mind.
- 2 This food sharing scheme will \_\_\_\_\_ much-needed support for the homeless community.
- 3 There are \_\_\_\_\_ areas in the park for activities such as wind sports, rollerblading and table tennis.
- 4 The exhibition \_\_\_\_\_ its doors to the public on Saturday, and there will be free wine and cheese before the artists' talks.
- 5 These workshops are \_\_\_\_\_ by the government, so participants will only have to pay a small fee.

to open  
to design  
to subsidise  
to designate  
to provide

# What's it like in your home town or city?

**Do you know of any food sharing schemes or other support services?**



**Are there many designated areas for outdoor recreational activities?**

**Has your town or city received any grants or special funding recently? What was it for?**



# Debate

Your teacher will split the class into **two groups**. You can use **breakout rooms** to prepare arguments.



Public spaces that benefit the community, such as centres for elderly citizens, should be funded by the government rather than private companies.



Group 1 prepare arguments **in favour of** the statement above.

Group 2 prepare arguments **against** the statement above.

Come together as a class and get ready to **debate** your ideas!





# End of the lesson

Idiom

***Many hands make light work***

**Meaning:** When lots of people come together to accomplish a task, it is much more manageable.

**Example:** When it was time to set up for the community event, many volunteers showed up to help, and as they say, many hands make light work, so it didn't take long at all!



# Additional practice



# Describing facilities

Draft article

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## The BeWellcome Community Centre

The building has been designed with the needs of seniors in mind: a bright, ground floor café with a comfortable seating area and outdoor patio, a spacious library with computers and a selection of daily newspapers and magazines.

There are wheelchair-accessible entrances and designated parking spaces for visitors. In addition to this, there will be a community garden for both avid and aspiring gardeners.

1. Can you identify examples of language used to make these facilities sound **appealing**?





# Practise describing facilities

Draft article

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\_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ has been designed with the needs of \_\_\_\_\_ in mind.

It has a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ café with a \_\_\_\_\_ area and \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ with a selection of \_\_\_\_\_.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ and designated \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_. In addition to this, there will be a \_\_\_\_\_.

Rewrite this text for a different public space, using lots of descriptive language. Think about who it is for and what they might need!



Some examples →  
a theatre  
a school gym  
a youth centre



# Write a short announcement

**Write a short announcement** (up to 50 words) to be shared on social media about the new public space that you described on the previous slide.

*Who is it for?*

*What will happen there?*



## Verbs and phrases

- to open (its) doors
- to design
- to subsidise
- to designate
- to provide
- to volunteer
- to support

## Describing a public space

- long-awaited
- much-needed
- wheelchair-accessible
- grant
- facilities
- services
- the needs of...





# Practise using descriptive language

You are promoting a workshop. Describe the activity you will be doing in the workshop in as much detail as you can.

Choose a recreational activity from the text (pottery, watercolour painting) or your own activity.

Describe the activity in as much detail as you can, thinking about...

**Materials used**

**Process**

**Expected result**





# Answer key

**P.4:**

1. A community centre (for elderly citizens)
2. Services: (support) services like healthcare consultations, physical therapy sessions; recreational activities
3. Facilities: a café, a patio, a library, computers, a community garden

**P.6:** 1. c 2. a 3. b

**P.7:** RLL: to open (its) doors = to open to the public (describes the opening of a new place)

**P.10:** 1. designed 2. provide 3. designated 4. opens 5. subsidised



# Summary

## Compound words – adjectives:

- *Much-needed*
- *Long-awaited*
- *Wheelchair-accessible*

## Talking about public spaces:

- *to designate*
- *to subsidise*
- *a grant*



# Vocabulary

long-awaited

much-needed

wheelchair-accessible

to open (its) doors

designated

to subsidise

grant



## Notes