

# THE FLATMATES

Quiz:

Binomials:

Peace and quiet



# BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH



## BBC Learning English – The Flatmates

### The Flatmates – Quiz – Binomials: peace and quiet

You can try the quiz online at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode81/quiz.shtml>

For each of the six questions choose the one correct answer.

1. I'm looking forward to some ... on this holiday.
  - a. R and D
  - b. P and P
  - c. trials and tribulations
  - d. R and R
  
2. Married one year, divorced the next. These are the ... of life.
  - a. ups and downs
  - b. ins and outs
  - c. down and outs
  - d. ifs and buts
  
3. The police, not the army, are responsible for ... in my country.
  - a. research and development
  - b. law and order
  - c. pros and cons
  - d. peace and quiet
  
4. Let's look carefully at the ... before we make these changes.
  - a. cons and pros
  - b. pro and con
  - c. pros and cons
  - d. con and pro
  
5. I prefer the ... of the countryside to the ... of the city.
  - a. fish and chips / salt and vinegar
  - b. odds and sods / life and times
  - c. R and R / R and D
  - d. peace and quiet / hustle and bustle
  
6. I don't know the ..., but the ... department is definitely going to close.
  - a. odds and sods / R and D
  - b. ins and outs / R and R
  - c. ins and outs / R and D
  - d. ups and downs / R and R

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#### Answers

1. I'm looking forward to some ... on this holiday.
    - a. R and D - Wrong – you want to relax on holiday, not research.
    - b. P and P - Wrong – you want to relax on holiday, not deliver a package.
    - c. trials and tribulations - Wrong – you want an easy life on holiday, not a difficult one!
    - d. **R and R – Correct – rest and relaxation is exactly what you want on holiday.**
  
  2. Married one year, divorced the next. These are the ... of life.
    - a. **ups and downs - Correct – marriage is an up, divorce is a down.**
    - b. ins and outs - Wrong – marriage is a good event, divorce is a bad one.
    - c. down and outs - Wrong – marriage is a good event, divorce is a bad one.
    - d. ifs and buts - Wrong – marriage is a good event, divorce is a bad one.
  
  3. The police, not the army, are responsible for ... in my country.
    - a. research and development - Wrong – you need to refer to rules, not science.
    - b. **law and order - Correct – the police enforce the law and catch criminals.**
    - c. pros and cons - Wrong - you need to refer to rules, not advantages.
    - d. peace and quiet - Wrong – you need to refer to rules, not the general atmosphere.
  
  4. Let's look carefully at the ... before we make these changes.
    - a. cons and pros - Wrong – remember, word order is important in binomials.
    - b. pro and con - Wrong – you need plural nouns, not singular ones.
    - c. **pros and cons - Correct – the advantages and disadvantages of the change.**
    - d. con and pro - Wrong – remember, word order is important in binomials.
  
  5. I prefer the ... of the countryside to the ... of the city.
    - a. fish and chips / salt and vinegar - Wrong – you need words which describe the lifestyle, not the food.
    - b. odds and sods / life and times - Wrong – you need words which describe the lifestyle and atmosphere of these places.
    - c. R and R / R and D - Wrong – you need words which describe the lifestyle and atmosphere of these places.
    - d. **peace and quiet / hustle and bustle - Correct – life in the countryside is much slower than in the city.**
  
  6. I don't know the ..., but the ... department is definitely going to close.
    - a. odds and sods / R and D - Wrong – the second part is acceptable, but in the first part you need a binominal which refers to the details, not the unimportant things.
    - b. ins and outs / R and R - Wrong – the first part is acceptable, but it is unusual for a business to have a rest and relaxation department!
    - c. **ins and outs / R and D - Correct – the research and development department is going to close, but the person doesn't know all the details.**
    - d. ups and downs / R and R - Wrong – the person doesn't know all the details, and it is unusual for a business to have a rest and relaxation department!
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Would you like to look at the language point that this quiz was based on? Go to:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode81/languagepoint.shtml>

Or you can download the language point from:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode81/fm\\_languagepoint070220.pdf](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode81/fm_languagepoint070220.pdf)

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