

Task 2

Read the texts below. For questions (6–10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

Finding Freedom in a Tiny Home

Living in our tiny house in Asheville, North Carolina, has been a transformative experience for me, my husband Jake, and our two kids, Emily and Lucas. When we made the decision to downsize, it wasn't just about saving money—it was about living more intentionally and in harmony with our core values. We wanted to simplify our lives, reduce our environmental impact, and create a space that truly felt like home, even if it was small.

Our tiny house cost around \$52,000, which was a huge relief compared to the price of a traditional home. Without the burden of a hefty mortgage, we've been able to focus our finances on things that matter to us, like traveling to visit family in nearby Charlotte or taking weekend trips to the Blue Ridge Mountains. This financial freedom has allowed us to pursue our passions without the stress of being tied down by debt. We can invest in experiences that enrich our lives, and that has made all the difference.

Living in a tiny house as a family has also brought us closer together. The limited space means we spend more time in each other's company, and it has encouraged us to be more mindful of how we use our space. Every corner of our home is carefully thought out to serve a purpose. We've had to be

selective about what we keep, letting go of things that don't add value to our lives. This has helped us embrace minimalism, focusing on what truly matters: our relationships, our health, and our happiness.

Our tiny home is also a testament to our commitment to the environment. We wanted to reduce our carbon footprint, and living in a tiny house has helped us achieve that. Our energy use is minimal, and we've incorporated sustainable practices like using energy-efficient appliances and minimizing waste. The house itself produces far fewer emissions compared to a traditional home, and that's something we're really proud of. It's a small step, but it feels good to know we're contributing to a more sustainable future.

For our family, living in a tiny house isn't just about downsizing — it's about "right-sizing." We've found a balance that offers us financial freedom, a simpler, more meaningful life, and a way to live that aligns with our values. The experience has brought us closer together, made us more mindful of our impact on the world, and given us the freedom to focus on what truly matters. Tiny living isn't just a trend for us; it's a lifestyle that has changed our lives for the better.

6. What was the primary motivation for the author's family to move into a tiny house?
- A To escape from city life.
 - B To save money and live a humbler life.
 - C To follow a popular trend.
 - D To impress friends and neighbours.
7. How has living in a tiny house affected the family's travel habits?
- A They have stopped traveling to save money.
 - B They travel less frequently because they enjoy spending time in their tiny home.
 - C They now prefer to stay in eco-friendly resorts when they travel.
 - D Their greater financial flexibility allows them to travel to visit relatives and take weekend trips.
8. How does the author's family contribute to environmental sustainability through their tiny house lifestyle?
- A They collect water for daily use.
 - B They use solar panels to generate electricity.
 - C They consume less energy and produce less waste.
 - D They grow their own food.
9. What does the phrase "right-sizing" mean in the context of the text?
- A Moving into a home that is the perfect size for a large family.
 - B Achieving harmony between financial priorities and personal lifestyle choices.
 - C Downsizing to the smallest possible living space.
 - D Adjusting to a new standard of living.