

Keywords

abandoned (adj) left empty

basic (adj) not difficult to understand and with no special features

demolish (v) to destroy something completely, especially a building, in order to use the land for another purpose

deserted (adj) used to describe a place that has no people in it

devastating (adj) causing a lot of damage or hardship

failed (adj) completely unsuccessful

grand (adj) large and impressive

household (n) all the people living together in a house

shrink (v) to become less or smaller

widespread (adj) existing or happening in many places

Vocabulary practice

1 Complete these sentences with words from the *Keywords* box.

- 1 How many people are there in your _____?
- 2 The building is in a dangerous condition, so it's going to be _____.
- 3 What can you do if your clothes _____ when you wash them?
- 4 The new arts centre is a very _____ building, with a beautiful entrance.
- 5 There was _____ violence during the riots, affecting much of the city.
- 6 When we arrived at the station, it was completely _____.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct adjective form of the verb given. The first three are in the *Keywords* box.

- 1 The city was full of _____ *abandon* houses.
- 2 We walked through _____ *desert* streets.

- 3 The effect of the financial crisis was _____ *devastate*.
- 4 There was _____ *shock* news about the crime rate.
- 5 The _____ *damage* products are sold at half price.
- 6 The old and _____ *neglect* houses need to be demolished.
- 7 The government has helped _____ *struggle* cities like Detroit.
- 8 We didn't apply for a grant and that was a _____ *waste* opportunity.

Grammar practice

3 Read the extracts from the article. What's the missing word? Look at the article and check your answer.

- 1 An autoworker could own a home, plus a boat, maybe _____ a holiday cottage.
- 2 Photographers _____ went especially to Detroit ...
- 3 ... which scared _____ more people away from the city.
- 4 ... grocery stores, juice bars, coffee shops, _____ bicycle makers.

4 Insert *even* into the correct place in these sentences.

- 1 I had no money, not a penny.
- 2 They worked every day of the year, Christmas.
- 3 We asked everyone for help – we asked strangers.
- 4 San Francisco is big but Detroit is bigger.
- 5 The store sells everything, it sells animals.
- 6 Jack's had a car accident? I didn't know he could drive.