

TEXT A: Introduction into the topic

If you have ever camped in the great outdoors, you have probably been reawakened to the joys of modern _____ (1). By going without running water, a hot shower, or a flushing _____ (2), you can fully appreciate how important these are to daily life.

A home's plumbing system is a complex network of water supply pipes, drainpipes, _____ (3), and more. Because plumbing is complicated and one of the costliest systems to repair or install in a home, it pays to understand how the system _____ (4).

Understanding the fundamentals of a plumbing system allows you to better understand the types of _____ (5) that occur or, if you're planning a remodel or new home, it helps you design a system that will work properly and pass plumbing codes.

A properly designed system will _____ (6) water to the various faucets, fixtures, and water-using appliances efficiently and carry away waste water without clogs. Second, it may save you money. By planning _____ (7), you can often reduce the overall plumbing expense significantly by locating bathrooms, kitchens, or laundry rooms near one another so that they can share _____ (8) of the system.

Several different systems make up a house's plumbing. Fresh water is delivered to a home through water supply pipes from the mains or a well and is then distributed to sinks, toilets, dishwashers, bathtubs, and related fixtures. The drain-waste-vent system carries away _____ (9) water and wastes to sewers or septic tanks. Natural-gas plumbing delivers this fuel to gas-burning cooktops, furnaces, _____ (10), and clothes dryers.

→ Tasks:

1. Complete the text with the missing words (see the Box A below):

BOX A: used/ vent pipes / plumbing / works / wisely / problems / toilet / parts / water heaters /deliver

2. Read the text and underline the most important information of the text. Prepare a short German summary.

3. Find the English equivalents to the German words from the text (see Box B below):

BOX B:

Installationssystem:

Wasserversorgungsleitung:

Abflussleitung:

Abluftleitung:

reparieren:

einbauen/installieren:

Ofen:

richtig funktionieren:

Wasserhahn:

Abwasser:

Geld sparen:

Kosten reduzieren:

Hauptversorgungsleitung:

Brunnen:

Klär tank/biologische Klärgrube:

TEXT B: Water Supply System and Drain-Waste-Vent System**Water Supply Systems**

A home's water supply system routes _____ (1) water from the street to your house, where it branches out to _____ (2) the water to faucets, showers, toilets, bathtubs, and appliances such as the water heater, dishwasher, and washing machine.

The _____ (3) for this delivery and distribution is essentially a system of water pipes, fittings, service valves, and faucets. These _____ (4) and other fittings are commonly made of plastic, copper, or galvanized iron. The pipes range in diameter from 1/2 inch to 4 inches or more.

Drain-Waste-Vent Systems

Though it isn't one of the most glamorous parts of a house, the _____ (5) system is one of the most crucial. The job of the drain-waste part of the system is to carry waste water and sewage from sinks, _____ (6), showers, toilets, and water-using appliances such as dishwashers and washing machines and deliver those wastes to the _____ (7+8) or public sewer.

The vent system—part of the plumbing that is usually less well known to most homeowners—is connected to the drain-waste piping, and its job is to ventilate sewage _____ (9) so they don't build up in the house. The vent system also helps drainpipes maintain the right pressure for proper drainage.

The pipes of the DWV system are usually out of sight, hidden in the walls, beneath the floors, and in the attic. But when the system ceases to do its job properly, it is hardly out of mind. _____ (10) drains are among the most common problems that occur in a DWV system.

→ Tasks:

1. Complete the text with the missing words (see the Box A below):

BOX A: pipes/ deliver / municipal / drain-waste-vent / septic tank / clogged / equipment / bathtubs / gases /

2. Read the text and underline the most important information of the text. Prepare a short German summary.

3. Find the English equivalents to the German words from the text (see Box B below):

BOX B:

Wasserversorgungsleitung:

Entwässerungsanlage für Schmutzwasser:

Vorrichtung/Gerät:

Kupfer:

Durchmesser:

äußerst wichtig:

Schmutzwasser:

Hausbesitzer:

Kanalgas:

den richtigen Druck aufrechterhalten:

Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn:

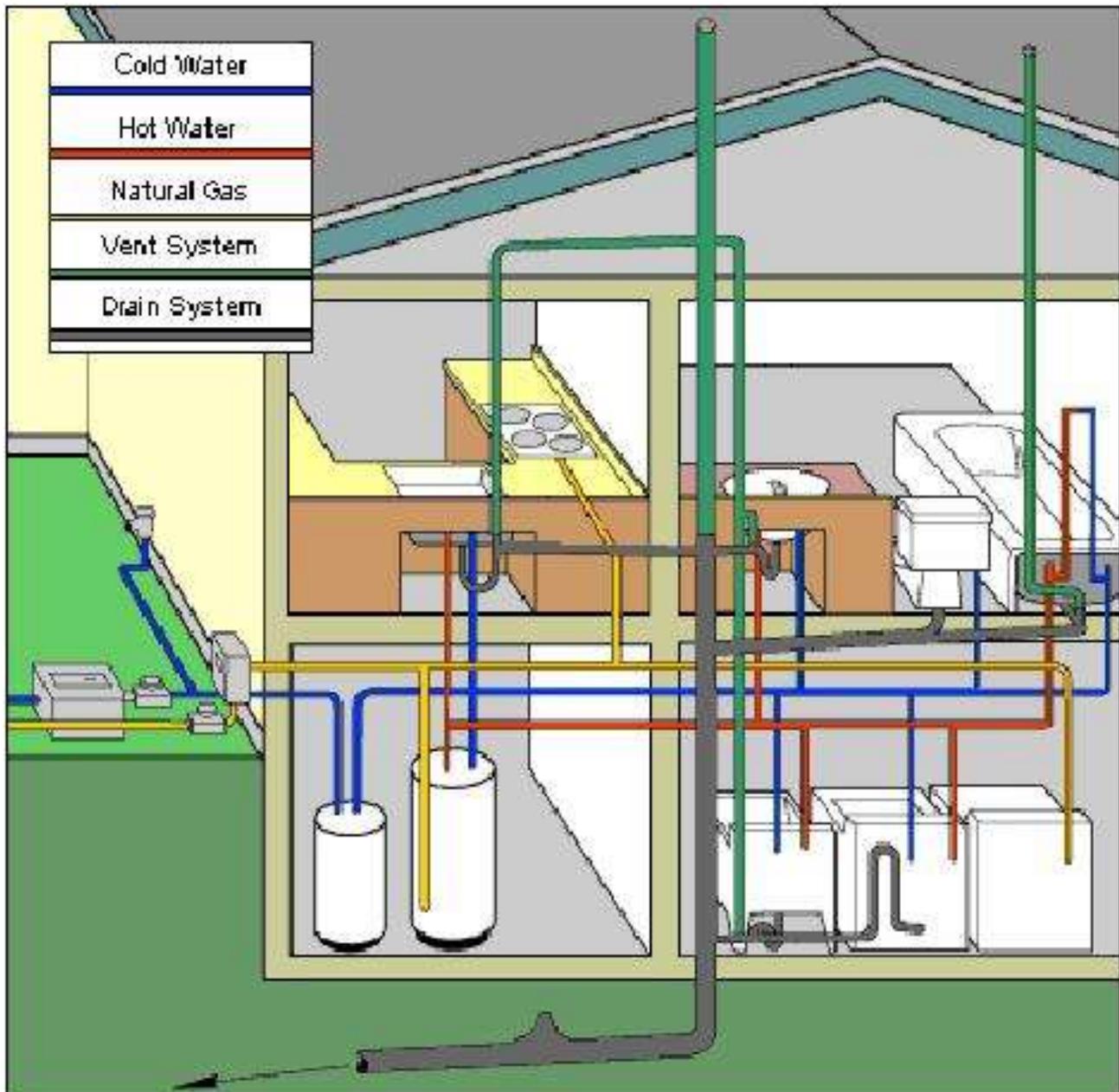
auftreten/sich ereignen:

die üblichsten Probleme:

Geschirrspülmaschine:

JOINT TASKS:

- 1) Using the information from Text A and Text B, label as many components of a plumbing system as possible (see the drawing below). Furthermore, use different colours and colour the pipes according to their function: cold water = blue color, hot water = red, natural gas = yellow, vent system = green, drain system = grey.
- 2) List difficulties or problems that could occur in home plumbing systems and how they could be avoided or removed.



Sample solution:

