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«Гомельский государственный университет
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В. В. АВЕРЬЯНОВА

ENGLISH SPEECH PRACTICE. HOME

Практическое пособие

для студентов специальности
6-05-0231-03 «Лингвистическое обеспечение
межкультурной коммуникации (английский, немецкий)»

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Практическое пособие направлено на комплексное развитие навыков говорения, восприятия речи на слух, чтения и письма на английском языке. В издании предлагаются новые подходы и методы обучения, включая применение инструментов искусственного интеллекта и метод КЭСПА. Представлен особый тип заданий, способствующий развитию критического мышления. Издание содержит ролевые игры, дебаты и проектные задания, включает материал по разграничению американского и британского вариантов языка, а также реализует воспитательный аспект обучения.

Адресовано обучающимся факультета иностранных языков специальности 6-05-0231-03 «Лингвистическое обеспечение межкультурной коммуникации (английский, немецкий)».

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ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Практическое пособие направлено на развитие навыков говорения, восприятия речи на слух, чтения и письма на английском языке. Упражнения, представленные в издании, прошли практическую апробацию на занятиях по практике устной и письменной речи.

В практическом пособии представлены новые подходы и методы обучения. Некоторые задания предполагают использование инструментов искусственного интеллекта, например, для проведения дебатов с ИИ-ботом, для создания иллюстраций и др. Также вместо классических упражнений на перевод с русского на английский язык предлагаются задания, созданные с использованием принципов метода КЭСПА (Как Это Сказать По-Английски) на основе изучаемой лексики по теме «Дом». Метод КЭСПА, разработанный И. Гивенталь, обеспечивает одновременное развитие всех основных языковых компетенций – восприятия речи на слух, говорения, чтения и письма [1]. Данный метод также способствует автоматизации языковых навыков благодаря многократным повторениям и формирует правильное произношение за счет применения техники синхронного повторения за диктором (shadowing).

В издании включены ролевые игры, дебаты, проектная работа, обсуждение проблемных ситуаций, которые снабжены подробными инструкциями и ролевыми карточками. Представлен отдельный тип упражнений, посвященный развитию критического мышления.

Практическое пособие состоит из двух основных разделов, каждый из которых содержит тематический словарь и систему упражнений. Словарь составлен с учетом современных языковых реалий; в него добавлена транскрипция слов, произношение которых традиционно вызывает трудности. Отдельные упражнения сопровождаются иллюстрациями. Особое внимание уделяется разграничению американского и британского вариантов английского языка. Издание также реализует воспитательный аспект обучения: несколько упражнений посвящены профилактике бытового травматизма и формированию навыков оказания первой помощи в чрезвычайной ситуации.

Издание предназначено для студентов лингвистических направлений подготовки, изучающих английский язык, и может использоваться как в аудиторной, так и в самостоятельной работе.

1. GENERAL VOCABULARY.

TYPES OF DWELLINGS

Vocabulary

accommodation	skyscraper
dwelling	three-storey building (BrE) –
property – real estate	three-story building (AmE)
permanent/temporary residence	ground floor (BrE) –
residential area	first floor (AmE)
city centre (BrE) –	amenities – facilities
downtown (AmE)	modern conveniences
suburb ['sʌb.ɜ:b] – outskirts	mod cons <i>informal</i> (BrE)
detached house	utilities: electricity, gas, water,
semi-detached house	trash (rubbish) collection, Internet
duplex ['dʒu:.pleks]	maintenance ['mem.tən.əns]
terraced ['ter.əst] house (BrE)	landlord, landlady – tenant
row house (AmE)	host
townhouse	owner
bungalow ['bʌŋ.gəl.əʊ]	resident
cottage ['kɒt.idʒ]	inhabitant
country house	mortgage ['mɔ:.gɪdʒ]
manufactured [,mæn.jə'fækt.tʃəd]	loan [ləʊn]
home	down payment
flat (BrE) – apartment (AmE)	deposit [dɪ'pɒz.ɪt]
two-bedroom flat (apartment)	home insurance [hɒm'ʃʊ:.rəns]
studio ['stju:.di.əʊ]	lease agreement [li:s ə'gri:.mənt]
loft	heritage ['her.ɪ.tɪdʒ]
penthouse ['pent.haʊs]	housewarming party
condominium (AmE)	rent – rent out – let (BrE)
condo <i>informal</i> (AmE)	lease [li:s] v, n <i>formal</i>
block of flats (BrE)	move – move into – move out
apartment building (AmE)	inherit
dormitory ['dɔ:.mɪ.tər.i] –	reside [rɪ'zaɪd]
(dorm <i>informal</i>) (AmE)	settle in
halls of residence	inhabit
(halls <i>informal</i>) (BrE)	evict [ɪ'vɪkt]
campus ['kæm.pəs]	in front [frʌnt] of – opposite
hostel	upstairs – downstairs

1. Match words with pictures.

1) terraced house (Br)/
row house (AmE);

2) semi-detached
house;

3) bungalow;

4) detached house;

5) loft;

6) penthouse;

7) condominium;

8) dormitory;

9) skyscraper;

10) suburbs.

a



b



c



d



e



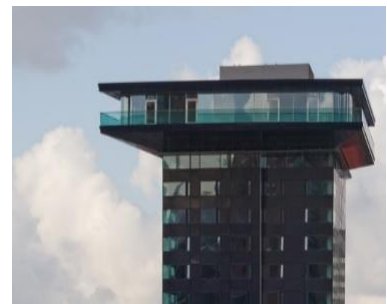
f



g



h



j



k



2. A. Match the beginning of each expression (1–9) with its correct ending (a–j).

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) to perform; | a) home; |
| 2) to take out; | b) maintenance; |
| 3) a security; | c) a tenant; |
| 4) to sign, to break; | d) upstairs; |
| 5) to go; | e) a lease agreement; |
| 6) a utility; | f) bill; |
| 7) to evict; | g) deposit; |
| 8) to make; | h) a down payment; |
| 9) a manufactured. | j) a mortgage. |

2. B. Write a short connected text (70–100 words) using at least 5 collocations from the matching exercise above.

3. Read the sentences and pay attention to the use of words in bold. Then match the words in bold with the definitions below the sentences.

I.

1. The company provided **accommodation** for its employees near the construction site.

2. **The landlord** fixed the broken heater because it was his legal responsibility as the property owner who rents it out.

3. **The tenant** pays rent on the first of every month and does not own the apartment.

4. **The** Airbnb **host** welcomed the guests personally and showed them how to use the coffee machine.

5. **The owner** decided to sell the building because she legally possessed the property.

6. The building has over 200 **residents**, including both owners and renters.

7. She works in **real estate**, helping people buy and sell houses.

8. The luxury condo offers high-end **amenities** such as a rooftop pool and a private cinema.

9. The university provides excellent sports **facilities**, including gyms and training halls.

10. If you break the lease agreement, you could get **evicted**.

a) someone who pays rent for the place they live in;

b) luxury or comfort features that improve experience, especially in hotels or housing;

- c) a person who lives in a particular place;
- d) to force someone to leave a place, typically through a legal process;
- e) the buildings, equipment, and services provided for a particular purpose;
- f) someone who owns and rents out property;
- g) a place to stay or live;
- h) a person who legally owns something;
- j) property in the form of land or buildings;
- k) a person who rents out property on a short-term basis; someone who receives or entertains guests.

II.

1. She took out **a 25-year mortgage** to buy her condominium.
 2. He saved for years to afford **the down payment** required before getting the mortgage.
 3. They decided **to rent out** their condo while living abroad.
 4. They decided **to rent** instead of buying because they move frequently for work.
 5. She signed **a one-year lease**, which legally allowed her to live in the apartment.
 6. He currently **resides** in Chicago but travels frequently for work.
 7. After years of traveling, they decided **to settle in** a quiet suburban neighborhood.
 8. She **inherited** the house from her grandmother and became its new owner.
 9. Regular **maintenance** prevents expensive repairs.
-
- a) to receive money or property from someone after they die;
 - b) the first part of a total payment required at buying;
 - c) to pay money to live in a house, room etc., that belongs to someone else;
 - d) to allow someone to use property for money;
 - e) keeping something in good condition by checking or repairing it regularly;
 - f) to live in a place;
 - g) a written agreement allowing use of property for a period;
 - h) to go and live somewhere, especially permanently;
 - j) a loan to buy property.

4. A. Watch the video “Apartment vs Condominium: what really is the difference” and answer the questions (figure 1).

Before watching, make sure you understand these words: *entity, to build equity, outright, to appreciate in value, to foster, negligence, perks, HOA (a homeowners association), to foster, the flip side.*



Figure 1 – Apartment vs Condominium

1. What is the primary difference between apartments and condos?
 - a) location (city vs. suburbs);
 - b) size of the building;
 - c) ownership structure;
 - d) amenities offered.

2. Who owns the building in an apartment complex?
 - a) individual residents;
 - b) the renters themselves;
 - c) a single entity (landlord/management company);
 - d) a homeowners association (HOA).

3. If you rent a condo, who is your landlord?
 - a) a property management company;
 - b) a private individual (the unit owner);
 - c) the homeowners association (HOA) board;
 - d) the city housing authority.

4. If you own a condo, who is responsible for repairs inside your unit?

- a) the city maintenance department;
- b) the homeowners association (HOA);
- c) you, the owner;
- d) the building's management company.

5. In an apartment, who usually handles maintenance issues like a leaking sink?

- a) the tenant;
- b) the homeowners association (HOA);
- c) the landlord or property management company;
- d) a private contractor hired by the tenant.

6. What is one potential downside of owning a condo?

- a) you cannot rent it out;
- b) homeowners association (HOA) fees can be expensive;
- c) you cannot make interior changes;
- d) condos never appreciate in value.

4. B. Watch the video “Apartment vs Condominium: What really is the difference” from the beginning to 04:30 and fill the gaps. There can be one or more words.

1. When you walk into an apartment complex, all the units are typically owned by one (1)_____, usually a landlord, property management company, or an investor group.

2. But with a condo, the unit is owned by an individual. That person may live in it themselves, or they might choose (2)_____.

3. In an apartment complex, the landlord or property management company takes care of (3)_____. If your (4)_____ or your heater stops working, you call the office and they (5)_____. Pretty straightforward, right? You're not responsible for paying (6)_____ unless you broke something through negligence. Condos, on the other hand, are a bit more complex. If you own a condo, you're responsible for the inside of your unit: (7)_____, appliances, and repairs are on you. But the shared spaces like the lobby, gym, or pool are maintained by (8)_____, often called an HOA.

4. Because condo owners pay HOA fees, they often have a say in what amenities (9)_____. That means condo complexes sometimes have fancier (10)_____ – think private movie theaters, (11)_____, or concierge services.

5. You pay (12) _____ and your first month's rent and you're set. Monthly rent is generally stable, but keep in mind landlords can raise rent (13) _____, depending on market conditions and local laws. Owning a condo is a bigger financial commitment. You'll need (14) _____, property taxes, (15) _____.

(The video script is in the Appendix A).

5. Extra Listening Practice.

1. Listening activity “Great Apartment Living”

<https://www.esl-lab.com/intermediate/apartment-living/>



2. Listening activity “Ginger’s Place”

<https://www.elllo.org/english/1001/1041-Ginger-Apartment.htm>



6. A. Compare the types of dwelling in Belarus (table 1), the UK (table 2) and the USA (table 3) and answer the questions.

1. What are two distinctive features of housing in Belarus compared to the UK/USA? Where do approximately 70–80 % of urban Belarusians live?
2. What is the most common type of housing in England and Wales?
3. What percentage of U.S. housing units are single-family detached homes?
4. What term is used in the USA for a factory-built, budget-friendly home?
5. Which housing type is culturally unique to Belarus and has no direct functional equivalent in the UK/USA?
6. What are two functions of a modern Belarusian dacha mentioned in the table? What does the word “dacha” literally come from?

Table 1 – Belarus: Main Housing Types

Type of Dwelling	Description	Key Features
Apartment in a multistory building	Main urban housing	Primary housing type in cities; approximately 70–80 % of urban population lives in apartments
Private house (detached)	Individual house in village/suburb	Common in rural areas; stand-alone dwelling
Cottage	Modern private house	Popular among middle class in suburbs; newer construction
Dacha	Seasonal country house	Unique cultural phenomenon; second/temporary country residence for urban dwellers; serves as both a vegetable garden and a leisure retreat; typically located in gardening cooperatives near cities; often basic amenities; originated in early 18th century as land “given” (дача < дать) by the Tsar, became mass phenomenon in USSR

Table 2 – Great Britain: Main Housing Types

Type of Dwelling	Description	Key Features
Semi-detached house	House joined to one other house	Most common type in England and Wales (31.5 % in England, 32.1 % in Wales); joined by a common shared wall
Detached house	Stand-alone house	No shared walls with neighbors; often has a garden; none of the living accommodation is attached to another property (but can be attached to a garage)
Terraced house	Row house	Houses in a row with shared side walls; typical in urban areas
Bungalow	Single-storey house	All living accommodation on one floor
Cottage	Small country house	Cozy house, typically in rural areas; often has traditional character
Flat	Apartment / duplex apartment	Approximately 22 % of housing in England and Wales; purpose-built block of flats

Table 3 – USA: Main Housing Types

Type of Dwelling	Description	Key Features
1	2	3
Single-family detached home	Stand-alone private house	Approximately 64 % of all U.S. housing units (about 82–85 million properties); about 88.6 % of homeowners live in single-family homes

End of table 3

1	2	3
Townhouse	Multi-floor attached home	Multiple floors with shared walls with neighbors; attached housing type
Condo/ Apartment	Condominium/ rental apartment	Approximately 20–30 % of housing; more common in large cities; 27 % are multifamily units
Manufactured/ mobile home	Factory-built home	Budget-friendly option; often located in special parks; about 6 % of U.S. housing stock

6. B. Online investigation. There are differences in the most common types of dwellings in Belarus, the USA and the UK.

What factors (historical, economic, cultural, geographical) might explain these differences? Which factor do you find most surprising or interesting? Why?

7. Translate the text into English in writing and prepare to retell it using the KESPA speech training method [1]. This method integrates speaking, listening, writing, reading, pronunciation practice, and automaticity.

Sequence of Actions:

1. Translate the text into English in writing. **Use American English, the vocabulary list below the text and vocabulary on p. 5.**

2. Check your translation against the answer key (the answer key – the English text for checking – is in the Appendix A. If there are grammatical errors, review the relevant grammar topic.

3. Listen to how a native speaker reads the text aloud (the QR code for the audio is in the Appendix A).

4. Now repeat each phrase after the speaker without looking at the text.

5. Shadow the speaker (i.e., read aloud simultaneously with the recording) – you can look at the English version of the text.

6. Look at the Russian text and translate it into English orally.

7. Now do the same, but in a whisper.

8. If you still make many mistakes, repeat step 6 one or two more times.

Новый дом Анны

Анна работает в агентстве недвижимости. Она живёт отдельно от родителей в пригороде. Дом находится на тихой улице напротив парка. Это двухэтажное здание, а квартира Анны – наверху. Это двухкомнатная квартира, очень уютная и близко к метро.

Раньше Анна жила в многоквартирном доме в центре города. Она была арендатором там. Но ей хотелось постоянного места жительства, поэтому она решила купить своё жильё. Она собрала деньги на первый взнос, взяла ипотеку и теперь выплачивает кредит каждый месяц.

Её друг Марк живёт в кондоминиуме в центре. Он сдаёт одну комнату студенту. Марк зависит от арендной платы, так как ему нужно выплачивать ипотеку.

Анна предпочитает жить самостоятельно. В прошлом месяце Анна устроила новоселье. Все её друзья пришли. Они помогли ей переехать в новую квартиру – носили коробки, расставляли мебель.

Требуется 25 минут, чтобы добраться от дома до её офиса. Неплохо! Анна без ума от своего нового дома. Здание принадлежит небольшому сообществу. Анна обосновалась здесь быстро. Она переехала в понедельник и чувствовала себя как дома уже к пятнице.

Анна рада, что владеет своим жильём. Она подписала договор аренды только один раз – когда арендовала старую квартиру. Теперь она подписывает документы с банком, а не с арендодателем. Дом принадлежит ей.

жить отдельно от... – to live apart from...

находиться – to be located in (on)

уютный – cozy

близко к – close to

метро – subway (AmE)

купить своё жильё – to buy one's own place

собрать деньги – to save money

выплачивать кредит каждый месяц – to make monthly payments on the loan

зависеть – to depend on

выплатить (полностью) – to pay off

жить самостоятельно – to live on one's own

переехать в квартиру – to move into an apartment

расставлять (мебель) – to arrange

требуется... минут, чтобы добраться до – it takes... minutes to get to

быть без ума от – to be crazy about

сообщество – community

принадлежать – to belong to

обосноваться здесь – to settle in

чувствовать себя как дома – to feel at home

подписать – to sign

8. Critical Thinking.

Work in pairs. Read each statement and think about your opinion. Explain your reason to your partner. The partner should find a counter-argument.

1. **The down payment for real estate** is now so high that most young people will never have a **permanent residence**.
2. Making a **down payment** is the hardest step when buying **property**.
3. **Temporary residence** (like apartments or hotels) is more exciting than living in one place for your whole life.
4. **Renting** lodgings gives more freedom than owning property.
5. A **tenant** should take care of **the apartment** as if they were **the owner of the property**.
6. A **mortgage** is a better solution than **renting** if you want a feeling of stability.
7. It is better **to rent** a flat for a long time than **to inherit** an old house in a poor condition.
8. **Real estate agencies** don't really help **tenants**; people should search for **accommodation** by themselves.
9. A **housewarming party** is unnecessary for **temporary residence**.
10. Living **opposite** a park is better than living **in front of** a supermarket.
11. Pets should be allowed in all **apartments**.

9. Critical Thinking.

Read the statements below. For each statement, first decide which type of accommodation it refers to:

Hotel Apartment Dormitory (Halls of Residence)

Then decide whether the statement describes an advantage or a disadvantage for that type of accommodation.

Continue each sentence by giving counter-arguments.

1. You have to share a bathroom and kitchen with many strangers, but...
2. Someone cleans your room and changes the bedsheets every day, but...
3. There is often a strict curfew and rules about visitors, but...
4. You can choose the location and style of the property, but...
5. It is usually very expensive for long-term stays, but...
6. It is a great way to meet other students and make friends, but...
7. You are responsible for paying utilities like electricity and water, but...
8. You have complete privacy and can decorate the space as you like, but...
9. It feels impersonal and lacks a sense of home, but...

10. Answer the questions.

1. Which type of accommodation (apartment, dormitory or something else) is best for a student? Why?
2. Would you prefer to live in an apartment alone or with roommates? What are the pros and cons of each option for you? Explain.

11. You are writing to a friend who is moving to your city. They are deciding between renting a studio apartment, living in a shared apartment or in a hotel. Write an informal message (100–150 words) giving them advice.

In your message:

- recommend the best option;
- explain why (mention cost, location, or comfort);
- warn them about potential disadvantages of the other options.

12. Critical Thinking. AI-Powered Debate.

You will debate an AI. Choose a topic from the list below and take one side; the AI will argue the opposite. Repeat for the next topic (debate at least 3 topics).

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Choose the topic from the list below.
2. Decide your position (Pro or Con).
3. Copy and paste the AI prompt (customized with your topic) into your AI tool. Sample role-play AI-prompt:

*“You are my conversation partner. I believe that **living in a suburb is better than living in the city centre**. You must argue the opposite: that living in the city centre is better. Ask me questions sometimes to keep the conversation going.*

Use the following vocabulary naturally in your arguments (optional): ...”

4. Debate.

Topics for discussion:

1. Living in a suburb is better than living in the city centre.
2. Renting a property is better than buying one.
3. Living on the ground floor is better than living upstairs.
4. A studio apartment is better for a single person than a two-bedroom flat.
5. Living in a dormitory (halls of residence) is better than renting a private flat as a student.

2. ROOMS, HOUSE PARTS AND OUTBUILDINGS

Vocabulary

living room (BrE, AmE)	stairs – staircase – step – ladder –
lounge [laʊndʒ] (BrE)	stepladder
dining room	banisters
kitchen	handrail
open-plan (kitchen)	tile
kid's room, nursery	chimney ['tʃɪm.ni]
home office, study	sauna ['sɔː.nə]
bedroom	ledge
master bedroom	threshold ['θreʃ.həʊld]
hall, hallway	wooden
bathroom	brick [brɪk]
en-suite [ˌɒn 'swiːt] bathroom	concrete ['kɒŋ.kriːt]
toilet (BrE)	marble ['mɑː.bəl]
restroom (AmE)	insulation [ˌɪn.sjə'leɪ.ʃən]
WC [ˌdʌb.əl.juː'siː] (water closet)	lift (BrE) – elevator (AmE)
loo <i>informal</i> (BrE)	sewer [suə] system
lavatory <i>formal</i>	plumbing ['plʌm.ɪŋ]
utility [juː'tɪl.ə.ti] room	central heating
pantry	patio ['pæti.əʊ]
storeroom	paved (patio)
laundry ['ləʊn.dri] room	shed
wall	gazebo [gə'ziː.bəʊ]
ceiling ['siː.lɪŋ]	yard
basement	backyard (AmE)
cellar	garden
attic	lawn [lɔːn]
garage ['gær.ɑːʒ]	flowerbed
roof	path
entrance ['en.trəns]	driveway (AmE)
rear entrance [rɪər 'en.trəns]	gate
porch	fence
storey (BrE) – story (AmE)	hedge
floor	

13. Match words with pictures.

1) ladder;

2) patio;

3) laundry room;

4) fence;

5) stairs;

6) attic;

7) chimney;

8) gazebo;

9) porch;

10) tile.

a



b



c



d



e



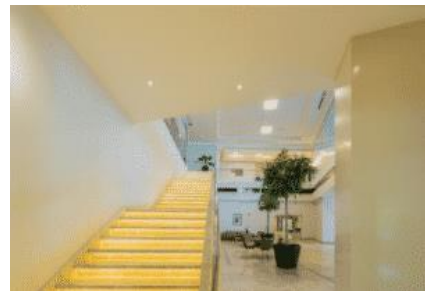
f



g



h



j



k



14. A. Match the beginnings (1–11) with the endings (a–l). Some beginnings can match with more than one ending.

Beginnings

- 1) a master;
- 2) a leaky;
- 3) a rear;
- 4) a multi-storey;
- 5) ceramic;
- 6) thermal;
- 7) to mow;
- 8) an en suite;
- 9) an open-plan;
- 10) a window;
- 11) a paved.

Endings

- a) insulation;
- b) driveway;
- c) bedroom;
- d) ledge;
- e) entrance;
- f) building;
- g) kitchen;
- h) tile;
- j) bathroom;
- k) roof;
- l) the lawn.

14. B. Write a short connected text (80–120 words) using at least 6 collocations from the matching exercise above.

15. A. Choose the best word for the definition.

1. A small room or large cupboard in a house where food is kept.

- a) utility room;
- b) gazebo;
- c) pantry;
- d) lavatory;
- e) porch.

2. A room, especially in a private house, that contains large pieces of equipment such as a washing machine, freezer etc.

- a) attic;
- b) basement;
- c) utility room;
- d) lounge;
- e) loo.

3. A row of bushes or small trees planted close together, usually along the edge of a field, garden or road.

- a) hedge;
- b) path;
- c) lawn;
- d) flowerbed;
- e) fence.

4. Building material that is made by mixing together cement, sand, small stones and water.

- a) brick;
- b) concrete;
- c) ceiling;
- d) marble;
- e) rear.

5. The system of pipes etc. that supply water to a building.

- a) plumbing;
- b) threshold;
- c) water closet;
- d) chimney;
- e) ledge.

6. Material that is used to prevent heat, sound, or electricity from escaping or entering a building, often placed in walls, roofs, or floors.

- a) brick;
- b) concrete;
- c) plumbing;
- d) marble;
- e) insulation.

15. B. Choose 3 words from the exercise and write your own definitions for a partner to guess.

16. Complete the table, providing equivalents in American and British variants of English (table 4).

Table 4 – American and British variants

Russian	American	British
центр города		
лифт		
дом в ряду		
квартира		
общежитие		
туалет в общественном месте		
этаж		
на первом этаже		
многоквартирный дом		

17. Sarah is a British student writing about her life in Manchester, England. However, she accidentally used some American English words. Find American English words in the text. Replace each one with the correct British English equivalent.

Hi! I'm Sarah, and I'm a second-year student at Manchester University. I rent a lovely flat on the first floor of a Victorian block of flats just a ten-minute walk from downtown.

When I first moved here, I looked at a condo near the campus, but I preferred this place. My friends who live in the student dormitory across the road often come over.

Yesterday, I took the lift down to the street level because I needed to go to the restroom at the nearby café.

By the way, my landlord lets the apartment on the first floor to a young family.

I really love living here – the location is perfect, and my flat feels like home.

18. Read the riddles and guess what each one describes.

1. I have shelves full of books, but I am not a library. I am in a house. You come here to work on the computer or read in peace.

2. I am a room with a crib and soft toys. A baby sleeps and plays inside me.

3. I am green and cover the ground outside your house. You need to cut me regularly in summer.

4. I am a small wooden building in the garden. I hold your tools and lawnmower, but no one sleeps inside me.

5. I am small, hard, and often red. Many houses are built using me.

6. I am below the ground floor, but I'm not a cellar. I am often dark and cool, used for storage or utilities. I can have windows.

7. I am a narrow strip of wood or stone at your feet. You step over me to enter the house. I am the boundary between outside and inside.

8. I am a private path for cars, not for walking. I lead from the public road to your garage. You park your vehicle on me before going indoors.

(The answers are in the Appendix A).

19. A. What can you see in the picture? Describe the picture (figure 2).



Figure 2 – Country House

19. B. Read the advertisement for this house in the picture. Write English equivalents of the words in brackets. Use British English.

A Large Country House for a Family

This spacious (1)_____ (трехэтажный) family house is located (2)_____ (в тихом жилом районе), just a short walk from the entrance to the community and the bus stop.

(3)_____ (На первом этаже) there is (4)_____ (широкий холл с лестницей и деревянными перилами) leading to the upper floors. The hall connects the living room, the dining room, (5)_____ (кабинет и подсобное помещение) for cleaning supplies. The modern kitchen has (6)_____ (полы с мраморной плиткой), (7)_____ (большую кладовую) for food storage, and direct access (8)_____ (во внутренний дворик), where you can have breakfast outside.

On the first floor there is (9)_____ (светлая детская комната), and a master bedroom (10)_____ (с ванной, смежной со спальней).

(11)_____ (На втором этаже) there is (12)_____ (чердак) with a sloping (13)_____ (потолком) and a small window (14)_____ (под трубой). In the basement there is (15)_____ (холодный погреб) for wine and vegetables, (16)_____ (кладовая) for tools. The house has (17)_____ (современную сантехнику).

Outside, the property has (18)_____ (большой двор с газоном, клумбу вдоль дорожки) to the front (19)_____ (крыльцу), and (20)_____ (кирпичный забор с металлической калиткой). There is a private garden with trees, (21)_____ (деревянная беседка) for summer dinners, and (22)_____ (маленький сарай) for garden equipment. (23)_____ (Бетонные дорожки) connect (24) _____ (внутренний дворик, беседку и сарай), and (25)_____ (низкая живая изгородь) separates the garden from the neighbouring yard.

This house is ideal for a large family that wants comfortable rooms, plenty of storage space and a safe outdoor area for children.

20. Insert the words from the list.

Threshold, nursery, banisters, storeroom, tiled floor, handrail, elevator, ceiling, pantry, utility room, ledge, rear, stairs.

Condo Listing: Modern City Apartment

This modern two story condo is located in a quiet residential building with an (1)_____ and secure gate at the main entrance. As you enter the condo, you step over a low (2)_____ into a small hall that opens into a bright living room. The living room has a high (3)_____, large windows and a small balcony with a metal (4)_____ and a narrow (5)_____ where you can put flowerpots. There is also a comfortable study with a window facing the (6)_____ yard of the building. A short hallway connects the living room with the study.

The condo has a fully equipped kitchen with (7)_____ and walls, marble countertops and plenty of cabinets. Next to the kitchen there is a small (8)_____ for food, a (9)_____ for a washing machine and cleaning supplies, and a separate (10)_____ for suitcases and seasonal clothes.

Inside the condo, (11)_____ with wooden steps and simple (12)_____ lead to the upper level, where you can find two cozy bedrooms and a big (13)_____, where two children can live. There is also access to a small attic space that can be used for storage.

The well-kept common areas and the building's excellent maintenance make this condo a very attractive and comfortable place to live for a small family or a couple.

21. Work in pairs. Student A and Student B will take turns explaining the differences between the sets of words below. Use full sentences and give examples where possible.

Student A, be prepared to explain the difference between the next words.

utility room – pantry – storeroom – laundry room

living room – lounge – dining room

lift – elevator

basement – cellar

sewer system – plumbing

patio – gazebo – porch

stairs – stair case – step – ladder

Student B, get ready to explain how the following words differ from one another.

yard – backyard – garden

fence – hedge

toilet – bathroom – en-suite bathroom – lavatory – loo – restroom – WC

threshold – ledge

brick – concrete – marble

floor – storey – story

dormitory – halls of residence – hostel – campus

22. A. Do you think your home is completely safe? What hidden dangers can you think of?

What's the most dangerous room in your house? Why?

Have you or someone you know ever had an accident at home? What happened?

22. B. Read the text. Before reading, make sure you understand these words: *cluttered floors, carbon monoxide, swallow, suffocation, choking hazard, blind cords, strangulation risk, electrocution, electric current, extension cords, exhaust fumes, engine.*

Hidden Dangers at Home

Most people believe their home is the safest place, but statistics show that thousands of people die or get seriously injured at home every year. Many accidents happen because of simple carelessness.

Falls: The Number One Danger

According to statistics, falls are the leading cause of home injuries and deaths. Stairs are particularly dangerous, especially for young children and

older adults. Loose rugs, cluttered floors, poor lighting, and unstable ladders are common causes. Many people fall while standing on chairs or tables to reach high places instead of using a proper stepladder. These falls often result in broken bones, head injuries, or worse.

Fires and Burns

House fires are another major threat. Cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Additionally, heaters placed too close to curtains or bedding cause numerous fires each winter. Smoke alarms save lives, but only if they have working batteries.

Poisoning

Poisoning is now one of the leading causes of accidental death at home. This includes not only carbon monoxide but also cleaning products, medications, and even cosmetics. Young children are especially at risk from swallowing household chemicals or pills left within reach.

Choking and Suffocation

Small objects, plastic bags, and food are common choking hazards, particularly for children. Food is the most common cause of nonfatal choking in young children. Approximately 12,000 U.S. children are taken to a hospital each year with injuries from food choking. Hot dogs are the leading cause of food-related choking in children under 3 in the USA. Other high-risk foods include: nuts and seeds, raw vegetables (e.g., carrots, celery), hard candy and gum, grapes, cherries, cherry tomatoes, and melon balls, popcorn (should be avoided in children under 4), peanut butter (can stick to the throat), chunks of cheese or meat.

Blind cords pose a hidden strangulation risk that many parents don't think about. Suffocation from bedding or soft surfaces is another danger for infants.

Electricity and Water

One of the most dangerous combinations is electricity and water. Never use your mobile phone while it's charging, especially in the bathroom. Several people die each year from electrocution when they drop their charging phone into the bathwater. The electric current can kill instantly. Always keep electrical devices away from water, and never touch them with wet hands. Overloaded extension cords also cause many electrical fires.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Another silent killer is carbon monoxide gas. Never start your car in a closed garage, even if the door is slightly open. In winter, some people run their cars in the garage to warm them up, but the exhaust fumes can fill the garage and cause deadly poisoning. You might fall asleep and never wake up. Always open the garage door completely before starting the engine, or better yet, warm up the car while driving slowly.

22. C. Match the danger to the prevention tip (table 5).

Table 5 – Dangers and Prevention Tips

Danger	Prevention Tip
1) falls;	a) keep small objects, plastic bags away from young children;
2) fires;	b) install smoke alarms and check batteries regularly;
3) poisoning;	c) keep electrical devices away from water; never touch them with wet hands;
4) choking;	d) never run a car in a closed garage;
5) electrocution;	e) use a proper stepladder, keep floors clear, and improve lighting;
6) carbon monoxide.	f) store cleaning products and medicines in locked cabinets.

22. D. Answer the questions in complete sentences based on the text.

1. According to the text, what is the number one cause of home injuries and deaths?
2. Why are stairs particularly dangerous, and for whom?
3. What is the leading cause of house fires?
4. What hidden danger do blind cords present?
5. Why should you never use a charging mobile phone in the bathroom?
6. What mistake do some people make when warming up their car in winter?
7. Based on your own experience or the experiences of people you know, give two examples of home accidents. What caused each accident, and what could have been done to prevent it?

23. A. What should you do if someone is choking? Discuss with a partner.

23. B. Watch the video “How to do the Heimlich maneuver (abdominal thrusts) on others and yourself”. Before watching, make sure you understand these words: *abdominal thrusts, waist, fist, belly button, chest, breastbone.*

While watching, pay attention to:

- the order of steps;
- the exact hand position;
- what to do if you are alone and choking.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hcFVb-Oj-2paevlev5Uu2org29WZcmYw>



(The video script is in the Appendix A).

23. C. Number the steps from 1 to 5 in the correct order for performing the Heimlich maneuver on another person.

- ___ Give quick, inward and upward thrusts.
- ___ Stand behind the person and wrap your arms around their waist.
- ___ Repeat until the object comes out or the person starts to breathe.
- ___ Make a fist and place it just above the belly button.
- ___ Grasp your fist with your other hand.

23. D. Watch the video one more time and answer the questions.

1. When should you NOT use the Heimlich maneuver?
2. What should you do first if someone is choking?
3. Where exactly should you place your fist when doing abdominal thrusts?
4. What is the correct direction of the thrusts?
5. What are two ways to help yourself if you're choking alone?

23. E. Practise the self-Heimlich maneuver for when you are choking alone. One volunteer pair will demonstrate the technique on another person for the group.

24. Critical thinking.

Choose your top 3 features (from the list below) for each situation. Then choose one feature that is completely unimportant. Give reasons for each choice.

You are:

- A permanent resident (you live there with your family, including a 5-year-old child);
- A tourist (you stay for 4 days).

Neighborhood & Area Features

1. Close proximity to parks, and play structure for kids.
2. Walking distance to shopping centers, local farmer's markets.
3. Access to public transportation, including bus stops, train stations and airports.
4. Nearby medical facilities such as hospitals or clinics.
5. Low crime rate and safe neighborhood.
6. Beautiful views of natural landmarks, such as mountains, lakes, or beaches.
7. Cultural attractions like museums, theaters, or art galleries.

8. Availability of nearby gyms, fitness centers, or sports facilities.
9. Access to quality schools, colleges, or universities in the area.
10. Active nightlife with bars, clubs, or entertainment venues nearby.

What is the main difference between a resident's and a tourist's priorities?

25. A. Read the statements below. Are they true for you? Explain your answer in full sentences. Give at least one reason or example.

Comfort & Space

I have a private room/personal space.

My house/flat is provided with all modern conveniences (e.g., reliable Wi-Fi, a washing machine, heating etc.).

There is plenty of natural light and space.

It can get noisy at night (city centre/traffic).

Location & Transport

It is within walking distance of shops and cafes.

Public transport links are excellent.

It is quite a long way from where I study/work.

Atmosphere & Community

My neighbourhood feels safe and quiet.

I have a good relationship with my neighbours.

Personal Feelings

The view from my windows is inspiring.

There is a balcony / garden where I can relax.

The interior design reflects my personality.

25. B. Name two-four things you would like to change about the place where you live. For each, explain:

What is the problem?

Why would you change it?

How would it improve your life?

26. A. Online Investigation: Finding Your Ideal Home Abroad

Scenario:

You are planning to move to the United States or the United Kingdom for study or work. You need to rent a two-bedroom apartment/flat. Your task is to research real options and present your best choice. Find the best place for you based on location, price, convenience (work/shops/transport), and amenities.

Step-by-step instructions:

1. Choose your destination: pick one city (e.g., Boston, Manchester, Bristol etc).

2. Set your budget:

USA: \$1,000–\$2,500 per month

UK: £800–£2,000 per month.

3. Search on real estate websites. Use filters for bedrooms, price, and location.

USA

<https://www.realtor.com/>

<https://www.zillow.com/>

<https://www.redfin.com/>

<https://www.trulia.com/>

UK

<https://www.zoopla.co.uk/>

<https://www.onthemarket.com/>

<https://www.openrent.co.uk/>

26. B. Discussion questions (prepare answers, then discuss in pairs/groups).

1. Why did you choose this city?

2. Which apartment/flat would you choose? Why?

3. What was the biggest challenge when searching?

4. Did you find any apartments that looked good but were too expensive?

Why do you think they were so expensive?

5. Would you prefer a cheaper apartment further from the centre or a more expensive one in the city centre?

6. What amenity could you not live without? (e.g., washing machine, parking, elevator, Wi-Fi etc.).

27. A. Read a description of an apartment in Mexico City for a rental website. Underline any adjectives that help to “sell” the apartment.**Beautiful one-bedroom apartment in Mexico City**

This apartment is perfectly situated on a quiet street in Mexico City’s Reforma area. It’s a cozy, 750-square-foot apartment on the first floor of a three-story building.

This beautiful apartment has one bedroom with a queen-size bed, a spacious living/dining room, a modern, well-equipped kitchen, and a bathroom with a shower. There is a flat-screen TV in the living room and there is also wi-fi and air conditioning.

The Reforma area is a lively neighborhood near the center of Mexico City, with plenty of stores and cafés. The Paseo de la Reforma, subway stations, and bus stops are just a short walk away.

This apartment is ideal for a couple who would like to go sightseeing in this beautiful city. It’s a non-smoking apartment, and pets are not allowed.

27. B. Imagine that you are going to rent out your apartment/house. Write a description for a rental website according to the plan below. Use ideas from exercises 26 and 27 A.

Take real photos of your place or write an AI image prompt in English to generate photos of your apartment/house. If using AI, write down the exact prompt you used.

Paragraph 1. A brief introduction. What kind of apartment/house is it? Where is it exactly? (e.g., *in the heart of... / just steps from... / on a quiet street near...*)

Paragraph 2. Describe the apartment/house. What rooms does it have? Does it have any special features (*fireplace, balcony, garden, view* etc.) and modern conveniences (*Wi-Fi, dishwasher, smart TV, washing machine* etc.)?

Paragraph 3. Describe the neighborhood and atmosphere (*peaceful, vibrant, green* etc.). How far is it from places of interest? What public transportation is there?

Paragraph 4. Who is the house/apartment suitable for? Are there any restrictions (*no smoking, no pets, no parties, quiet hours after 10 PM* etc.)?

27. C. Work in groups of four or five. If possible, form separate groups for those renting out a house vs. an apartment.

- **take turns presenting your place, advertising its best features, and showing your photos (real or AI-generated);**
- **answer one-two questions from the group;**
- **after all presentations, each group member chooses the best place to live (not their own) and explains why.**

28. A. Role-Play Activity: Renting a Condo

General Instructions

1. Read your role card carefully:

Student A – Appendix A,

Student B – Appendix A.

Do not show your card to your partner.

2. Prepare. Think about what you want to achieve. Look at the “Useful Language” box below (table 6).

3. Act. Start the conversation. Student A (Landlord) welcomes Student B (Tenant). Student B asks questions about the property.

4. Negotiate. Try to reach an agreement about the price, the lease duration, and the house rules.

5. Decide. At the end, decide if you will sign the contract or not.

Table 6 – Useful Language

Asking Questions	Making Offers & Requests
Could you tell me more about...? Is the rent negotiable? Are utilities included in the price? What are the rules regarding...? When is the earliest we can move in?	Would you consider...? We would like to propose... Is it possible to...? Could we sign a... month lease? I am willing to pay...
Agreeing	Disagreeing / Refusing
That sounds acceptable. Yes, we can agree to that. Let's shake hands on it. Great, let's sign the contract.	I'm afraid that's not possible. Unfortunately, the rules say... I cannot lower the price because... That doesn't suit our needs.

28. B. After the role-play, discuss these questions with your partner or in the group:

1. Did you reach an agreement? Why or why not?
2. What was the most difficult part of the negotiation?

29 A. Critical thinking.

Read the statements about living with parents. Do you completely agree with them? Find counter-arguments for at least 5 statements.

Are these statements true for you? Explain your answers.

When living with your parents...

1. You save money on rent, utilities, and groceries.
2. You have less freedom to make your own decisions.
3. You have emotional support and company at home.
4. You may feel embarrassed to bring friends or a partner over.
5. You can focus on your studies or career without financial stress.
6. Your parents may treat you like a child even if you are an adult.
7. You don't have to cook or clean unless you want to.
8. It can be difficult to develop independence and life skills.
9. You can save up for a mortgage or a big trip.
10. There may be conflicts about rules, curfews, or lifestyle.

29. B. Answer the questions.

1. Do you think living with parents is a good idea for you right now? Why or why not?
2. What are the main advantage(s) and disadvantage(s) of living with your parents as a young adult?

3. At what age should a person move out of their parents' house? Why?
4. Should adult children pay rent or contribute to utilities if they live with parents?

30. Answer the questions.

1. Where would you prefer to live – in the city or in the country? Why?
2. Would you like to live on your own? What age do you think is the best to get separated from one's parents? Why? Do you think that several generations of a family should live together?
3. What does "home" mean to you?
4. What do you think makes your home comfortable?
5. Do you like moving to new places? Is it easy for you to leave your home? Why?
6. Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place?
7. Does your family have a dacha? Can you describe it?

31. Critical thinking.

Debate: Flat vs. House – Which Is Better to Live In?

Preparation

Split into two teams: Pro-Flat and Pro-House.

Choose two judges (teacher + one student, or two students).

Each team brainstorms strong arguments for their side.

Round 1: Presenting Arguments

Teams speak one after another, using table 7.

1. One of the teams goes – each member gives their main argument.
 2. After everyone in the team has spoken, some of the members can add extra arguments.
 3. Then the other team follows the exact same procedure.
- While one team speaks, the other team writes down:
- the speaker's name;
 - a short note of their main argument.

Round 2: Counter-Arguments (No Phones!)

1. Teams are given 10–15 minutes to write a counter-argument to every point the other team made.
2. Every student must write a rebuttal to each argument from the opposite team.
3. No mobile phones – to prevent AI use.

Round 3: Defense

1. Team members speak one by one.
2. Each speaker:
 - chooses one person from the opposite team;
 - gives them a rebuttal or a question.

That person must answer immediately and defend their point.

Teacher checks: every student must ask a question and answer a question at least once.

Table 7 – Useful Language for the Debate

Agreeing/ adding	<i>That's true, and furthermore... / We also think that...</i>
Disagreeing	<i>I see your point, but... / That's not always true because... / We have a different opinion.</i>
Agreeing partially	<i>We acknowledge that..., however... / It's true that..., but we must also consider...</i>
Asking a question	<i>How would you explain...? / What about...? / Can you give an example?</i>
Defending a point	<i>What I meant was... / Let me clarify... / The evidence suggests that...</i>

Round 4: Scoring & Feedback

Judges' Scorecard.

Judges must explain every score with examples from the debate (table 8).

Table 8 – Scoring and Feedback

Criterion	Pro-Flat (1–10)	Pro-House (1–10)
Strength of arguments		
Use of examples/evidence		
Politeness and teamwork		
Language use (vocabulary, grammar)		
Ability to answer questions		
Total		

Anonymous Poll

After the debate, conduct an anonymous poll in your group messenger:

“Which team presented more convincing arguments?”.

(Options: Pro-Flat / Pro-House / Both were equally strong).

Judges' Verdict

Judges announce the scores, give examples, and explain who won and why.

Post-Debate Discussion

Discuss in the group:

1. What was the strongest argument you heard today (from either side)?
2. Has any argument from the opposite side changed your opinion?

Which one?

3. What was the most challenging part of debating for you?

32. Writing task: “My Personal Space”.

Your friend from another country wants to understand your lifestyle and personality through your living space. Write a descriptive letter about your bedroom, apartment or house that reveals who you are.

Make your letter vivid and personal by addressing these aspects:

Time & Feelings: How much time do you actually spend there? What emotions does your room evoke when you're alone in it?

Space & Layout: Is it spacious or cozy? Describe the furniture and how you've organized your space.

Freedom & Control: Do you have full creative freedom to decorate, or are there household rules or restrictions you need to follow?

Changes & Creativity: Do you like to redecorate or rearrange things when you feel restless? What inspires these changes, and how do you usually go about them?

Collections & Decor: Are you into collecting things or buying decorative items? What's worth spending money on for you?

Storytelling Objects: Pick 2–3 objects that say something meaningful about your past, hobbies, dreams, or personality. Explain why they matter to you.

3. REVISION

33. Look back at the vocabulary from the topics “General Vocabulary. Types of Dwellings” (Vocabulary, part 1), “Rooms, House Parts and Outbuildings” (Vocabulary, part 2).

Choose words that you: have forgotten, or don’t feel confident using, or want to practise more.

Write a prompt for Artificial Intelligence tool asking it to create sentences or a short text with examples of how to use your chosen words. Then ask AI to create a gap-fill exercise using the same words.

Example AI-prompt:

“Here are words related to the topic «Home»: suburbs, evict, inherit, maintenance, banisters, threshold, porch. Please write separate sentences (one for each word) that show clearly how to use these words in context. Then create a gap-fill exercise, using the same words. B2 level”.

34. Choose 8–12 words from the “Home” topic that you have forgotten or want to practice more. Create a crossword puzzle with words you need to review, then swap with a partner to solve each other’s puzzles.

35. Project: My Ideal Home.

Design, visualize, and present your dream living space. Use AI to generate images (exterior and interior), and a floor plan.

Then present your ideal home to the group.

Use these questions as a checklist. You don’t have to answer every single one, but try to cover at least 10–12 of them.

Location & Type of Home

1. Would you rather live in a house, a flat or something unconventional (e.g., tiny home, eco-cabin, converted loft etc.)? Why?

2. Would you prefer a city, suburbs, a small town, or the countryside? Give your reasons.

3. Where exactly would your ideal home be? (e.g., by the sea, in the mountains, near a forest, in a quiet suburb etc.)

4. Who would you like to live with? (e.g., with a family, with friends, alone, multi-generational, with a pet?)

5. How many rooms would your ideal home have? Which rooms are essential?

Design & Atmosphere

6. Is your home spacious or cozy? What style of decor? (e.g., minimalist, modern, rustic etc.)
7. What colors and materials dominate? (e.g., wood, glass, concrete, brick, recycled materials etc.)
8. Do you prefer open-plan living or separate rooms? Why?
9. Is natural light important to you? Would you have large windows, skylights, or a glass wall?
10. Do you want an outdoor space (balcony, terrace, garden, rooftop, pool)? Describe it.

Modern Technologies & Automation

11. How much automation is there in your home? (e.g., nothing, a few smart devices, fully automated etc.).
12. What would you expect to find in a fully automated house? List at least 3–5 features. (e.g., voice-controlled lights, smart fridge, automated blinds, robot vacuum, self-adjusting thermostat etc.).
13. Would you use a smart speaker (e.g., Alexa, Google Home, Siri etc.) to control your home? Why or why not?
14. What about security? Would you have smart locks, video doorbells, or security cameras?
15. Would your home have energy-saving technologies? (e.g., solar panels, rainwater collection, smart meters etc.).
16. How about entertainment? (e.g., home cinema, smart TV, hidden speakers, gaming room etc.).
17. Would you have a home office with special tech for remote work? (e.g., noise-canceling walls, high-speed internet etc.).
18. How do you balance automation with digital wellness? (e.g., tech-free zones, screen curfews, offline rituals etc.).
19. What future technology would you love to have in your home that doesn't exist yet? (e.g., teleportation room, food replicator, self-cleaning floors, health-monitoring mirrors etc.).

Comfort & Lifestyle

20. Do you care about eco-friendliness? Would your home be energy-efficient or made of sustainable materials?
21. Would you have any special rooms? (e.g., gym, cinema room, library, art studio, music room, indoor garden, sauna etc.).
22. How important is storage space? (e.g., walk-in closet, garage, basement, attic etc.).

Conclusion

23. Would you prioritize affordability, luxury, or sustainability? Why?

24. What makes this home *ideal for you*? What makes it uniquely yours?

To create pictures of your ideal home, use detailed AI-prompts. Here are some examples:

Example 1 (exterior, modern house in nature):

“A futuristic two-story eco-home in a green forest, with large glass windows, solar panels on the roof, a wooden terrace, surrounded by pine trees, soft morning light, photorealistic style.”

Example 2 (interior, smart living room):

“Minimalist living room with voice-controlled smart lights, a large TV on the wall, a white sofa, wooden floor, a robot vacuum in the corner, floor-to-ceiling windows showing a mountain view, warm cozy atmosphere.”

Example 3 (floor plan):

“Simple black and white floor plan of a two-bedroom smart home, labeled rooms: bedroom, living room, kitchen, home office, bathroom, laundry room, garden, terrace, architectural drawing style.”

36. Pair Work: Ideal Home Interview.

Work with a partner. You will interview each other about their ideal home concepts from Exercise 35.

Choose 10 questions from Exercise 35 to ask your partner. Ask at least one follow-up question (e.g., *Why?* / *Can you give an example?* / *How would that work in practice?*)

Switch roles.

Take brief notes on:

- one thing you have in common with your partner;
- one thing that is completely different;
- the most surprising answer.

After the interview, discuss together:

- what is the biggest difference between your ideal homes?
- what do you have in common?
- would you like to live in your partner's ideal home? Why or why not?

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APPENDIX A

(обязательное)

Answers

Ex. 4. Video transcript: “Apartment vs Condominium: What really is the difference”

Let’s start with the basics. Both condominiums, better known as condos, and apartments are housing units within a larger building or community. They’re popular in cities where land is limited and people need efficient housing solutions. But what makes them different really comes down to ownership and how the properties are managed. When you walk into an apartment complex, all the units are typically owned by one entity, usually a landlord, property management company, or an investor group. People live there by renting. In contrast, a condominium building is divided into individually owned units. One person owns unit 302, another person owns 402, and so on. So while it might look the same from the outside, the structure of ownership is very different.

Ownership is probably the clearest distinction between condos and apartments. If you rent an apartment, you’re paying a landlord each month, and that landlord or property company owns the building. You don’t build equity in the unit, no matter how long you stay. Once you move out, that’s it – your financial relationship ends. But with a condo, the unit is owned by an individual. That person may live in it themselves, or they might choose to rent it out. For example, if you’re living in a condo, your landlord is actually a private owner, not a big management company. And if you buy a condo, you own that property outright, just like owning a house. But instead of a yard and roof, you share walls, hallways, and amenities with your neighbors.

Here’s where things get more practical. In an apartment complex, the landlord or property management company takes care of maintenance. If your sink leaks or your heater stops working, you call the office and they send someone to fix it. Pretty straightforward, right? You’re not responsible for paying repair bills unless you broke something through negligence. Condos, on the other hand, are a bit more complex. If you own a condo, you’re responsible for the inside of your unit: plumbing, appliances, and repairs are on you. But the shared spaces like the lobby, gym, or pool are maintained by a homeowners association, often called an HOA. Condo owners pay monthly HOA fees that cover these expenses. Renters in condos may not deal with HOA directly, but the condo owner (your landlord) does. So maintenance can vary depending on whether you’re renting or owning.

Now let's talk about lifestyle perks. Both apartments and condos can offer amenities like gyms, pools, lounges, or even rooftop gardens. But here's the subtle difference: in apartments, these amenities are included as part of your rent and they're standardized for everyone in the building. The landlord maintains them and you just use them. In condos, amenities are part of what makes ownership appealing. Because condo owners pay HOA fees, they often have a say in what amenities get added or upgraded. That means condo complexes sometimes have fancier perks – think private movie theaters, wine cellars, or concierge services. Of course, the cost of those extras comes out of the HOA dues, which can be expensive. If you're a renter in a condo, you might benefit from these high-end perks without paying the ownership costs, but keep in mind your rent may reflect those expenses.

Let's dig into money, because that's often the dealbreaker for people deciding between the two. Renting an apartment usually has fewer upfront costs. You pay a security deposit and your first month's rent and you're set. Monthly rent is generally stable, but keep in mind landlords can raise rent when your lease is up, depending on market conditions and local laws. Owning a condo is a bigger financial commitment. You'll need a down payment, a mortgage, property taxes, and homeowners insurance. On top of that, you'll pay HOA fees every month. Those fees can range from modest to very expensive, depending on the building and its amenities. The upside is that condos can appreciate in value, so you might be building equity over time. Apartments don't give you that benefit; you're essentially paying to live there without building ownership wealth.

This one's more about the vibe. Apartment complexes often feel more temporary. People move in and out frequently, so you may not know your neighbors well. For some that's great, for others it can feel less like a community. Condo buildings however usually have more long-term residents. Since many people own their units, they stick around for years, which fosters a stronger sense of community. You might see the same neighbors at HOA meetings, holiday events, or just in the lobby year after year. If you're someone who likes stability and community, condos might feel more like home.

From an investment point of view, apartments are strictly a rental expense. You don't own them and they don't build wealth. But condos can be considered an entry point into real estate ownership. For people who can't afford a standalone house, buying a condo offers a chance to invest, build equity, and potentially earn rental income if you later decide to rent it out. The flip side is that condos don't always appreciate in value as much as houses do, especially in oversaturated markets. Plus, those HOA fees don't go away, which can eat into your investment returns.

At the end of the day, condos and apartments may look alike on the outside, but the differences in ownership, responsibility, and lifestyle can

be huge. Apartments offer flexibility and simplicity, while condos offer stability and investment potential. Understanding these differences isn't just about real estate; it's about figuring out what works best for your life, your budget, and your future plans. So next time someone asks you the difference between a condominium and an apartment, you'll have a clear, confident answer. And if you're considering a move, you'll know exactly what to look for.

Ex. 28. Role-Play Activity: Renting a Condo.

Role-Play Card

Student A: The Tenant

Your Goal:

You are looking for a home for your family. You like the condo, but you have some specific needs and a budget limit.

Family Situation:

You are a couple with one small child (you need a nursery or extra bedroom).

You have one small cat (very quiet and clean).

You work from home (you need a quiet space/study).

Budget & Preferences:

Maximum Budget: \$2,400 per month.

Lease: You prefer a 6-month lease first (to test the neighborhood).

Move-in: You need to move in immediately (next week).

Utilities: You hope some utilities are included in the price.

Questions to ask:

Are utilities (water, electricity, Internet) included in the rent?

Is the parking space free or extra?

Is the area safe for children?

Can you paint the walls or put nails for pictures?

Is the deposit fully refundable?

Are pets allowed?

Ex. 7. Translate the text into English in writing and prepare to retell it using the KESPA speech training method.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hcFVb-Oj-2paevlev5Uu2org29WZcmYw>



Anna's new house

Anna works in a real estate agency. She lives apart from her parents in the suburbs. The house is located on a quiet street opposite a park. It's a two-story building, and Anna's apartment is upstairs. It's a two-bedroom apartment, very cozy and close to the subway.

Before this, Anna lived in an apartment building downtown. She was a tenant there. But she wanted permanent residence, so she decided to buy her own place. She saved money for a down payment, took out a mortgage, and now she makes monthly payments on the loan.

Her friend Mark lives in a condo downtown. He rents out one room to a student. Mark depends on the rent because he has to pay off his mortgage. But Anna prefers to live on her own.

Last month Anna had a housewarming party. All her friends came. They helped her move into the new apartment – they carried boxes, arranged furniture.

It takes 25 minutes to get to her office from home. Not bad! Anna is crazy about her new home. The building belongs to a small community. Anna settled in quickly. She moved in on Monday and felt at home by Friday.

Anna is glad she owns her place. She signed a lease only once – when she rented her old apartment. Now she signs papers with the bank, not with a landlord. The house belongs to her.

Ex. 18. Read the riddles and guess what each one describes.

1. A home office, a study.
2. A kid's room, a nursery.
3. A lawn.
4. A shed.
5. Brick.
6. A basement.
7. A threshold.
8. A driveway.

Ex. 23. Video transcript: "How to do the Heimlich maneuver (abdominal thrusts) on others and yourself".

In this video, we're going to show you how to do the Heimlich maneuver, also called abdominal thrusts. We'll show you what to do if the Heimlich maneuver isn't possible.

Hi, I'm Dr. Haroun Zayed, an emergency physician at the Ottawa Hospital. If someone is choking and can't cough, speak, or breathe, you need to act fast. Tell someone to call 911, or call yourself if you're alone. It's important to note that the Heimlich should not be used on infants under one years old.

First, get into position. Stand behind the person. Reach around their waist and make a fist with one hand. Place your fist just above their belly button. Cover your fist with your other hand.

Next, give quick thrusts. Pull inward and upward in a sharp motion, like a J-shape. Keep going until the object comes out or the person starts breathing normally.

If the person is pregnant or you can't reach around their stomach, you'll use chest thrusts instead. Stand behind them and place your fist in the center of their chest, right over the breastbone. Cover your fist with your other hand. Pull straight back toward you with firm, quick thrusts. Repeat until the airway is clear or they collapse.

If you start choking and there's no one around to help, you can still take action and save yourself. First, call 911. Even if you can't speak, leave the line open so the dispatcher can send help. Then, immediately start giving yourself the Heimlich. Make a fist and place it above your belly button. Grab your fist with your other hand and thrust inward and upward. Or, lean over the back of a chair or the edge of a counter or table and press your upper belly into it quickly and forcefully.

Choking happens fast, but knowing these steps could help you save a life, even your own. To be prepared for other emergency situations like this, check out the rest of our first aid series.

Ex. 28. Role-Play Activity: Renting a Condo.

Role-Play Card

Student B: The Landlord

Your Goal:

You want to rent out your condo to a responsible tenant. You want to keep the price high, but you need to fill the apartment quickly.

Property Information:

Type: Modern two-story condo.

Features: Tiled kitchen, marble countertops, balcony, utility room.

Rent: \$2,500 per month.

Deposit: \$2,500 (equal to one month's rent).

Utilities: NOT included (tenant pays for electricity, water, and internet).

Available from: November 1st.

Parking: One space included in the price.

House Rules:

No smoking inside the condo.

No pets allowed.

Minimum lease: 6 months (you prefer 12 months).

Secret Instructions (do not tell anyone):

If the tenant agrees to sign a 12-month lease, you can reduce the rent to \$2,400.

If the tenant has a pet, you must say “No” initially. However, if they offer to pay an extra \$500 pet deposit, you can agree to let them have one small pet.

You cannot change the move-in date (it must be November 1st).

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