

Sorry, no pets

LEARNING OUTCOME

learn how to write an advertisement offering and looking for a flat share

WARMER

Ask students where they would like to live when they grow up and leave home. Ask what kind of property they'd like to live in (e.g. a house, a cottage, a flat). Ask students to look at the learning outcome. Explain that in this lesson they are going to learn how to write an advertisement offering and looking for a flat share.

Everyday life

- 1 Ask students to work in pairs, look at the photograph and answer the questions.

Possible answers

The people in the photograph are looking in an estate agent's window. They are looking at flats and houses to buy or rent. To find accommodation to rent, you can look on a property website, in a letting agent's shop, or at ads in the local paper.

Everyday vocabulary

- 2 Draw students' attention to the phrases 1–10 which all describe features and facilities of rented accommodation. Ask them to work in pairs and to describe what the phrases mean. Encourage students to look up any unknown words in a dictionary or ask other students. Check answers as a class.

Answers

- 1 a room big enough for a double bed
 - 2 a sum of money in addition to the rent to cover the cost of any damage
 - 3 a share of the cost of bills (electricity, water, gas, etc.) is included in the rent
 - 4 in a good location
 - 5 close to useful public places in a community, such as shops, sports centre, cinemas, etc.
 - 6 a portion or part of the bills
 - 7 close enough to be able to walk to the town centre comfortably
 - 8 near to the tube station, rail station, bus stop, etc.
 - 9 without furniture
 - 10 decorated, repaired and improved
- 3 Ask students to work in pairs and brainstorm other features and facilities that are important when choosing rented accommodation and to add them to the list in 2. Ask pairs to share their ideas with the class.

Answers

Students' own answers.

- 4 Ask students to choose five features of rented accommodation that are most important for them. They then work in pairs and explain their choices and reasons to their partner.

Answers

Students' own answers.

Dialogue

- 5 Read the context for the situation aloud. Tell students that they are going to listen to a dialogue between Michel and Emma. Michel is planning to go to Brighton, to study in the summer. He needs to find somewhere to live while he's there. He's looking at a property website and he's asked his friend Emma to help him. Tell them not to worry about understanding every word. They should listen and find out which flat Michel decides to rent. Ask students to check their answer in pairs, before checking as a class.

Answer

None of them. He decides to post an advert of his own.

- 6 Ask students to look at the sentences from the dialogue. They listen again and complete the gaps with the missing phrases. They check answers in pairs, then listen to the dialogue again and check.

Answers

- 1 Use of all facilities. Deposit required.
- 2 10 minutes walking distance from the seafront.
- 3 Long or short term rental available.
- 4 It's a train-ride away.
- 5 All bills included, except food.
- 6 Can pay up to £125 a week.

EVERYDAY ENGLISH TOOLKIT

Ask students to look at the phrases in the box and to put them in the correct category in the Everyday English Toolkit. Students could try to do this from memory first, before listening again to the dialogue to check. Ask them to read through all the phrases and check they understand what they mean. Ask students to practise saying the phrases, using the correct intonation.

Answers

- 1 large, double room
- 2 en-suite shower room
- 3 10 mins' walking distance from the seafront
- 4 all bills included
- 5 deposit required
- 6 easy-going professional
- 7 £600 pcm

Over to you!

- 7 Tell students they are going to write an ad, offering their own room or an imaginary room to rent. Ask them to read the instructions and follow the steps. Remind students to use expressions from the Toolkit and the vocabulary in 2. Once they have written their ad, students pin them to the classroom wall. They read the other ads and choose one they would like to rent for themselves!

Extension: Students write an advert to find the flat or room of their dreams. Ask them to be creative!