

COMMUNICATION

# Discussing different living situations

**LEVEL**

Intermediate (B1)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B1\_3011X

**LANGUAGE**

English

## Learning outcomes

- I can use a range of adjectives and phrases to describe people and personalities.
- I can talk about my current and past living situations and say what works for me.





# Warm-up

**Brainstorm** adjectives and phrases for describing people for each category below.  
(Optional: work with a partner **in breakout rooms**. Share your lists with the class afterwards.)

1

**Positive  
adjectives**

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2

**Negative  
adjectives**

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3

**Phrases**

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# Reading

**Read** these profiles from a house-hunting website. **Write 3 key points** about each profile.

## Looking for a place to call home!



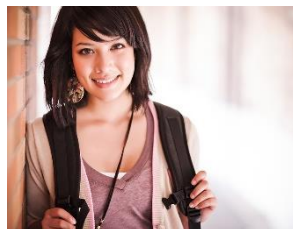
Kate and Ben

We're a young couple, both working in the music industry. We have a busy social calendar and are away quite a lot. Passionate about craft beer and techno!



Luke

I'm a 28-year-old software developer from the U.K. Very laid-back and open, with a curious mind. I love nothing more than deep conversations over good food.



Leila

I'm Leila, 19, just moved to the city to study languages at uni. Looking to make new connections. I'm bubbly, energetic and lots of fun (trust me!)



George

Need a room urgently!! My last housemates were awful – messy, rude and threw parties till 6 a.m. in our flat. I'm hard-working, responsible and very neat.



Jane

PhD student looking for a calm space to study in peace. I'm shy and mainly keep to myself – you won't even know I'm there most of the time!

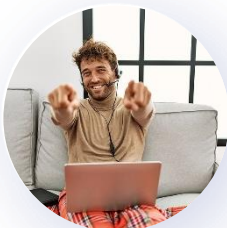
# Reading comprehension

1. **Complete the table** with your notes on the profiles from the previous slide.
2. **Discuss:** Would you like to live with any of these people? Why or why not?



**Kate and Ben**

Young couple...



**Luke**

28 years old...



**Leila**

Studies  
languages...



**George**

Hard-working...



**Jane**

PhD student...



# Reading

**Read the adverts.** What is being advertised in each one? What kind of tenant(s) do they want?

## Rooms to let!



**1.** Single room available in a three-person flat share. We are Helena (30) and Joel (29). We enjoy hanging out together in the living area, but it's also important for us to have our own space. Looking for someone sociable, easy-going and respectful of others.



**2.** Renting out our studio apartment for six months. Building is on a quiet street with lots of families. We have elderly neighbours, so the apartment isn't suitable for party people! It's fully furnished, modern and very bright. Ideal for a couple. N.B: must love plants!



**3.** Huge room in a brand-new apartment complex next to the university. Your housemates will be four Erasmus students. If you're friendly, outgoing and love meeting people from around the world, you'll be a good match! Students and non-smokers preferred.



# Vocabulary match

**Match** the vocabulary items (1-5) with a definition (a-e).

1

**flat share**

**a**

a small apartment, usually for one person or a couple

2

**studio apartment**

**b**

someone or something that is suitable

3

**apartment complex**

**c**

a large building or group of buildings that contain a lot of apartments

4

**housemate**

**d**

a living situation where two or more people live in an apartment and share rent costs

5

**a good match**

**e**

a person you live with

# Finding the right tenants

Read your notes from slide 5. Which profiles might be a **good match** for each advert? Why?

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I'm a very friendly person,  
but it's also important for  
me **to have my own space.**



Is it important for you **to have your own space?**

# Vocabulary review

**Read these adjectives** from the lesson. How many of them did you know already?  
Would you use any of these adjectives to describe yourself?



**sociable**

**laid-back**

**easy-going**

**hard-working**

**respectful**

**responsible**

**outgoing**

**messy**

**bubbly**

**shy**

# Talk about your current and past living situations

1. **Read** the examples on the right.
2. **Ask and answer** the questions in the red box with your classmates.

- What's the first place you moved to when you left home?
- Do you currently live alone or with other people?
- Describe your ideal housemate(s).
- What kind of housemate are you?
- What's the best living situation you've ever had? What's the worst?
- Do you think it's always a good idea to move in with good friends? Why or why not?

*At the moment, I live in a two-person flat share... We didn't know each other before we moved in together, but we're a very good match.*

*I like living with people who are outgoing, like me. I don't want to live with someone who never leaves their room!*

*I had a terrible experience in my last flat. My neighbours had parties every night. It was impossible to sleep!*



# End of the lesson

Idiom

***There's no place like home***

**Meaning:** Your home is the place where you feel most comfortable.

**Example:** I love going away for a few days, but there's really no place like home.





# Additional practice



# Vocabulary match

**Match** the vocabulary items (1-5) with a definition (a-e).

1

**shy****a**

A person who does not keep their living space clean and tidy

2

**laid-back****b**

Someone who thinks about others and values their time and space

3

**sociable****c**

A relaxed person who does not get stressed

4

**messy****d**

An outgoing person who likes to make friends

5

**respectful****e**

Someone who is not very confident in social settings



# Fill in the gaps with the options

Complete the sentences using the words in the red box.

- 1 A lot of landlords \_\_\_\_\_ to rent to non-smokers. This is something to consider when looking for a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Students often live in a \_\_\_\_\_ during their studies. It can be a very \_\_\_\_\_ time, living with people you have just met.
- 3 It is important that you and your \_\_\_\_\_ are a good \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 There is a new apartment \_\_\_\_\_ being built in my neighbourhood. The flats are modern but quite \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 My sister is looking for a new place to live. She needs somewhere with more space than her current \_\_\_\_\_.

sociable  
studio  
match  
expensive  
complex  
flat share  
housemates  
prefer  
flat mate

# Discuss



“

**My dream flatmate would be...**



Use the vocabulary from this lesson to finish the sentence above

Be ready to explain your answer

Your teacher will ask you follow-up questions



# Discuss



“

**My nightmare flatmate would be...**

Use the vocabulary  
from this lesson to  
finish the sentence  
above

Be ready to explain  
your answer

Your teacher will ask  
you follow-up  
questions





# Texting activity

*How was the viewing?*

Dan

*It was \_\_\_\_\_! It's a \_\_\_\_\_*

You

*How many \_\_\_\_\_ does it have?*

Dan

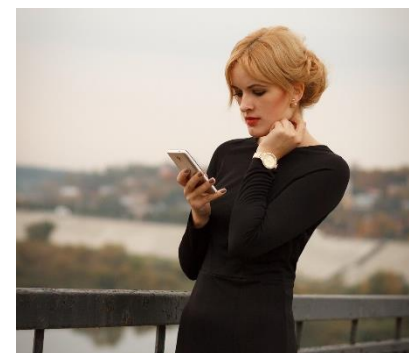
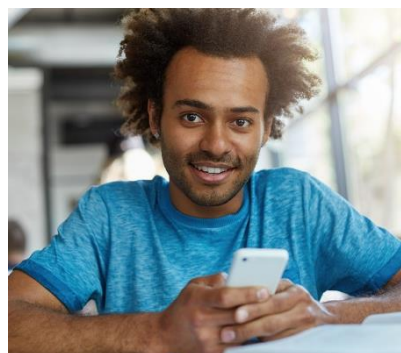
*It's got \_\_\_\_\_*

You

New message

You and your friend Dan are looking for a new flat. You go to view a flat. **Write a message** describing the flat to Dan. Read your descriptions to your teacher. Your teacher will ask follow-up questions

What are the current tenants like?  
 How have they decorated the flat?  
 How big is the flat?  
 How many rooms are there?





# Answer key

**P.7:** 1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (e) 5. (b)

## Additional practice

**P. 15:** 1. (e) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (b)

**P.16:** 1. prefer, flat mate 2. flat share, sociable 3. housemates, match 4. complex, expensive  
5. studio



# Summary

## **Describing people's personalities**

- Positive: easy-going, sociable, respectful, responsible, bubbly,
- Negative: messy, noisy, rude
- Neutral: hard-working, laid-back, shy, outgoing

## **Describing different homes and living situations**

- flat share, studio apartment, apartment complex; housemates, a good match
- to have your own space

## **Talking about your current living situation**

- *At the moment, I live in a two-person flat share*
- *I like living with people who are quiet because I am shy*
- *I am living with my partner in a studio apartment in a brand-new apartment complex*

## **Talking about your past living situation**

- *I had a terrible experience in my last apartment. My neighbours had parties every night*
- *I used to live with lots of friends in a flat share when I was at university*
- *I didn't like living on my own. I am a very sociable person*



# Vocabulary

flat share

studio apartment

apartment complex

housemate

sociable

easy-going

respectful

outgoing

bubbly

laid-back

to rent out (a room)

hard-working

responsible

messy

shy

to have your own space



## Notes