

## COMMUNICATION

**NUMBER  
EN BE 2442X**





## Goals

- Can make an enquiry in the housing market.
- Can describe in simple terms my housing requirements.







## Preview and warm-up

In this lesson, you will learn about **making an enquiry** in the **housing market**.



Is it possible to find a new home for my **budget**?



## Vocabulary review

listing

property

estate agent

on the market

to organise a  
visit

vendor

to close a sale

owner



to look for

When you are **making an enquiry**, you can use the verb **to look for** to describe what type of property you want to buy or rent.

You should use the **present continuous** tense of the verb.



I am **looking for** a four-bedroom property.



## Unscramble the sentences

He's

for

looking

a studio

We're

for

a family house

looking



I'm

a large  
apartment

for

looking



## Write a full sentence using present continuous

1. I/look/for/apartment/an

→ I am looking for an apartment.

2. He/for/new/a/house/look/

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. We/for/look/studio/a

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. You/for/look/what/?

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. She/big/property/look/  
for/a/new

→ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## square metres

**Square metres** refers to the **exact size** of a property. It relates to the amount of floor space.



I'm looking for a 30 **square metre** apartment.

**furnished**

**unfurnished**

A **furnished** property has **furniture** when you buy or rent it, an **unfurnished** property does not.



We'd like to buy a **furnished** two-bedroom apartment.

## appliances

**Appliances** include ovens, stoves, and refrigerators. They can be included with an apartment or house or not.



The apartment has all new **appliances** in the kitchen.



## More new words

lift

The building has 4 floors with a **lift**.



balcony

I enjoy the view from my **balcony**.



garage

Does the house have a **garage** for my car?



garden

There is a large **garden** behind the house.





## Fill in the gaps

**Fill in the gaps using the new vocabulary.**

1. We need a \_\_\_\_\_ to park our two cars in.
2. The apartment is \_\_\_\_\_. It even has two beautiful sofas in the living room.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ is incredible. I can see the whole city from there.
4. The apartment is \_\_\_\_\_ so you will need to buy all new furniture for it.
5. You can grow vegetables in the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The house is old but the \_\_\_\_\_ are brand-new. I love the refrigerator.

**furnished  
balcony**

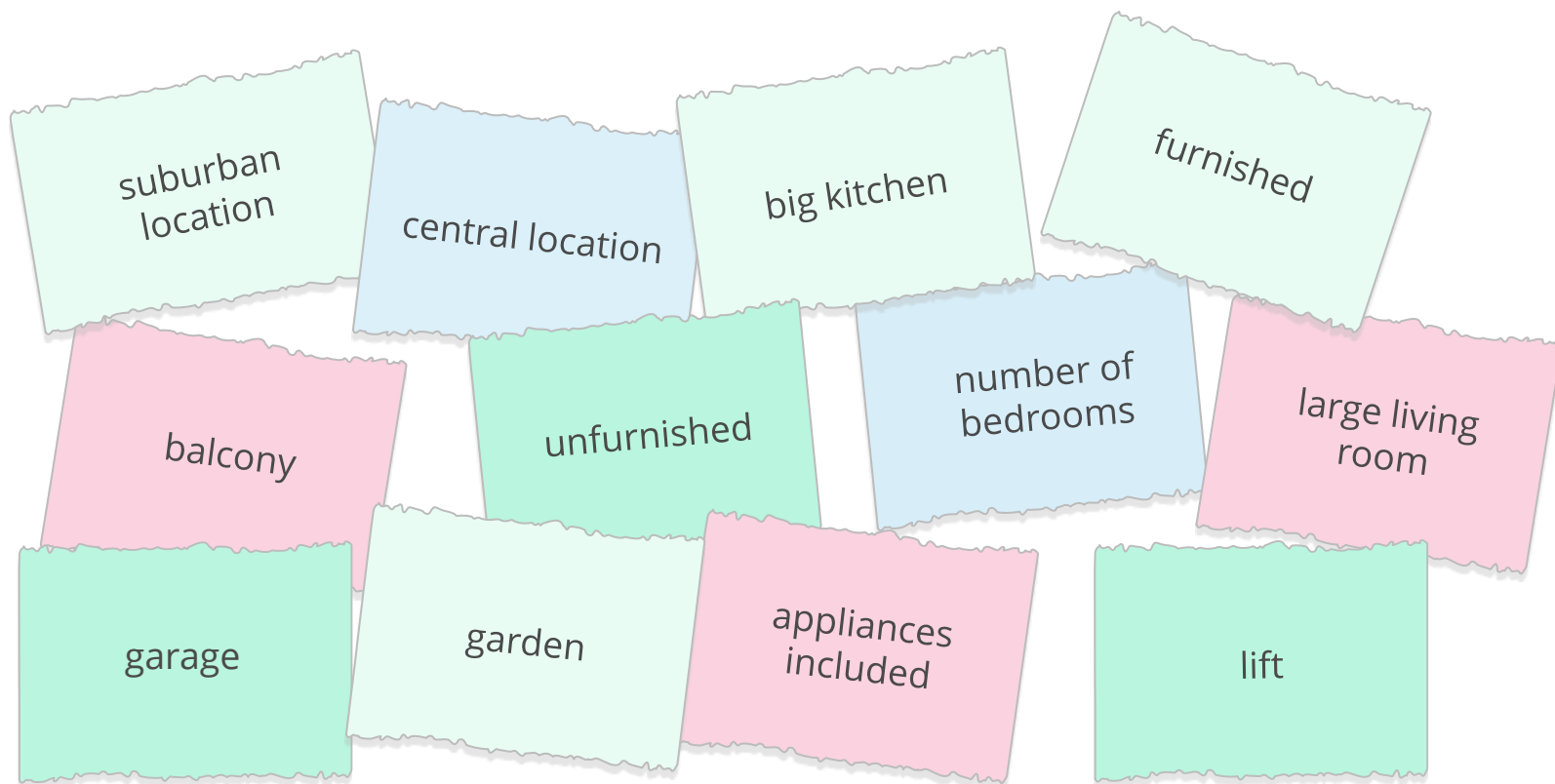
**unfurnished  
garden**

**appliances  
garage**



## You are looking for a new place to live

Which three of these needs are most important to you? Which are least important? Share your ideas with the class.





## Making polite requests

- When making an enquiry with an estate agent, you should make polite requests, rather than demands.
- Look at the following phrases:

### Phrases for making a request

**Could you** ask the vendor if the price includes appliances?

**Would you be able to** show me this listing?

**Would it be possible to** have a furnished property?

**Do you mind** calling me if the apartment becomes available?

**Would you mind** checking if the building has a lift?





## Making polite requests

**You want your estate agent to do something for you. Ask polite questions using the phrases from the previous slide and the information given below.**



1

show me only furnished  
apartments with a balcony

2

describe the available listing

3

meet me at the property at  
9am



## budget

Your **budget** is how much money you can spend.



Our **budget** for the apartment is between £1,000 and £1,200 per month.

rent

deposit

Many people **rent** a property and don't buy it. The amount of money they pay each month to live there is also called the **rent**.

Before they enter the property, they also pay a **deposit**. This is usually the price of one month's rent.



My **rent** costs £750 per month.



We paid our **deposit** directly to the owner.



## New words

### utilities

**Utilities** are extra costs like gas or electricity.



### lease

A **lease** is a contract a person who rents a property signs.





## New words in context



Could I pay my **deposit** by credit card?

£2000 a month **rent**? That's not in my **budget**!



Does the final price include **utilities**?

The **lease** is for 12 months.





## Matching

**Match the vocabulary on the left to items on the right.**

budget

£590 per calendar month (pcm)

utilities

24 months

lease

electricity

rent

£2,000 – £2,500



Have you ever...

paid a deposit for an  
apartment?

had a short lease?

had to change your  
budget?

had utilities included  
in your rent?



## Offering an alternative

- Sometimes you do not agree with an option. You can use the adverbs ***maybe*** or ***perhaps*** to offer an alternative.
- Make it a question to be more polite.

### Maybe

A: I will show you an unfurnished apartment near your office.

B: **Maybe** we could look at that furnished apartment near the station.

### Perhaps

A: Let's look at this three-bedroom apartment for £2,000 per month!

B: Could we **perhaps** look at something within my budget?



## Offering an alternative

**Your agent is providing options that you do not agree with. Politely offer an alternative using *maybe* or *perhaps*.**



We should look at this house. It has a pool!



I'm going to take you to a place in a historical building.



Let's look at a property outside the city.



You should sign today. This place won't be on the market for long!





## Asking for more information

- You will also likely need to ask your estate agent for more information.
- You can do this with the following phrases:

### Phrases: asking for more information

**Do you know** if the house has appliances in the kitchen?

**Do you happen to know** if the apartment includes utilities?

**I'd like to know more about** the neighbourhood!





Imagine you are...

...looking to buy a house. Your agent tells you about a new property for sale. She only tells you the price. Ask her for more information using the phrases from the previous slide.

- Be sure to get as much information as you can.
- Be sure to use the vocabulary you have learnt in the lesson.





## Your wish list

**You have just moved to London and are looking for an apartment to rent. Make a list of all of your requirements using all the vocabulary and expressions you have learnt.**

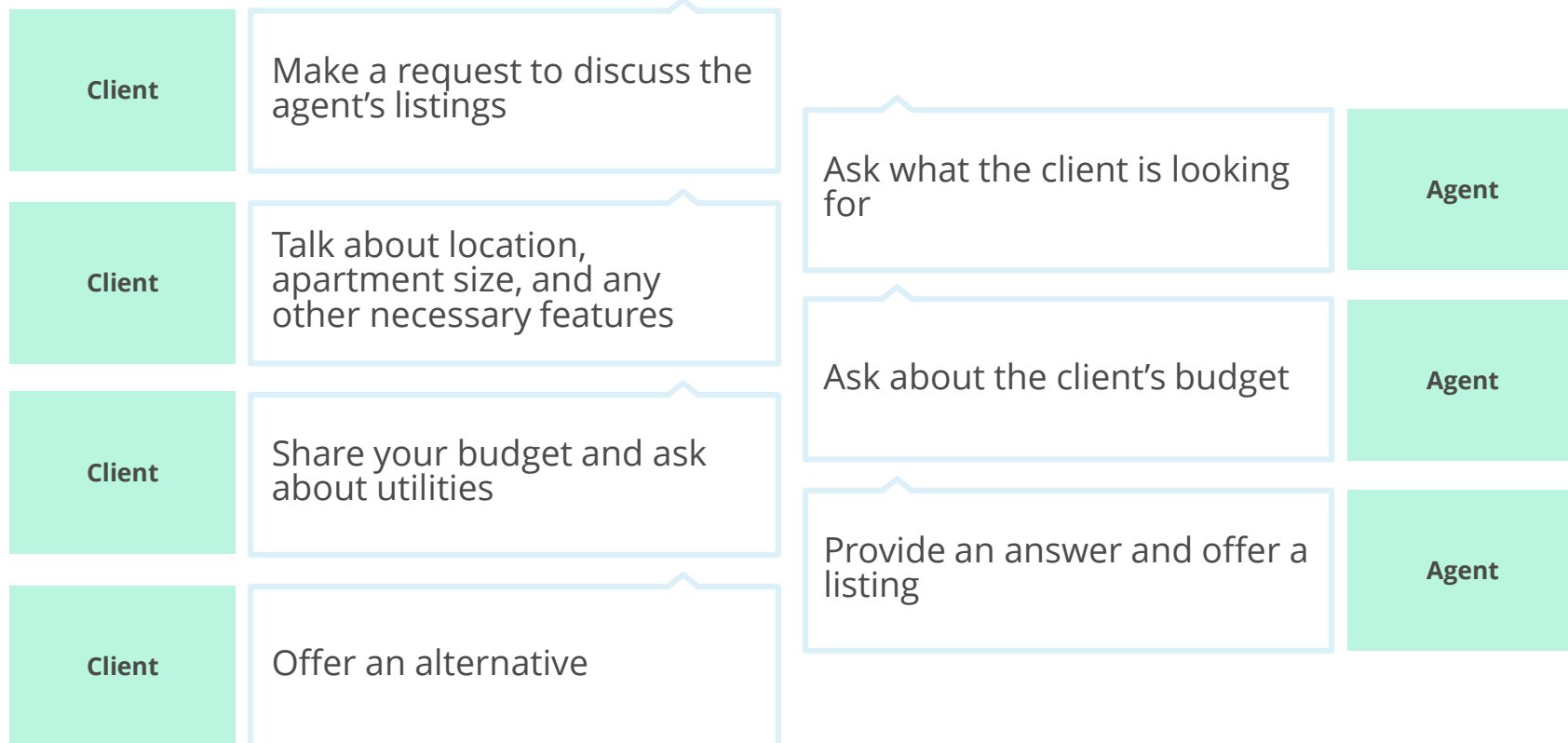
Furnished or  
unfurnished?

Rent per month?





## Now call your estate agent to start your search





**Back to your search**

**You got a new job and have a larger budget!  
Talk to your agent about what you want.  
The agent should listen and ask information questions.**





## Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





## Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.  
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over  
the most difficult slides again



## Answer key

1. garage
2. furnished
3. balcony
4. unfurnished
5. garden
6. appliances

### Exercise 3, p.13

1. I am looking for an apartment
2. He is looking for a new house
3. We are looking for a studio
4. What are you looking for?
5. She is looking for a new, big property

### Exercise 2, p.8

1. He's looking for a studio
2. We're looking for a family house
3. I'm looking for a large apartment

### Exercise 1, p.7

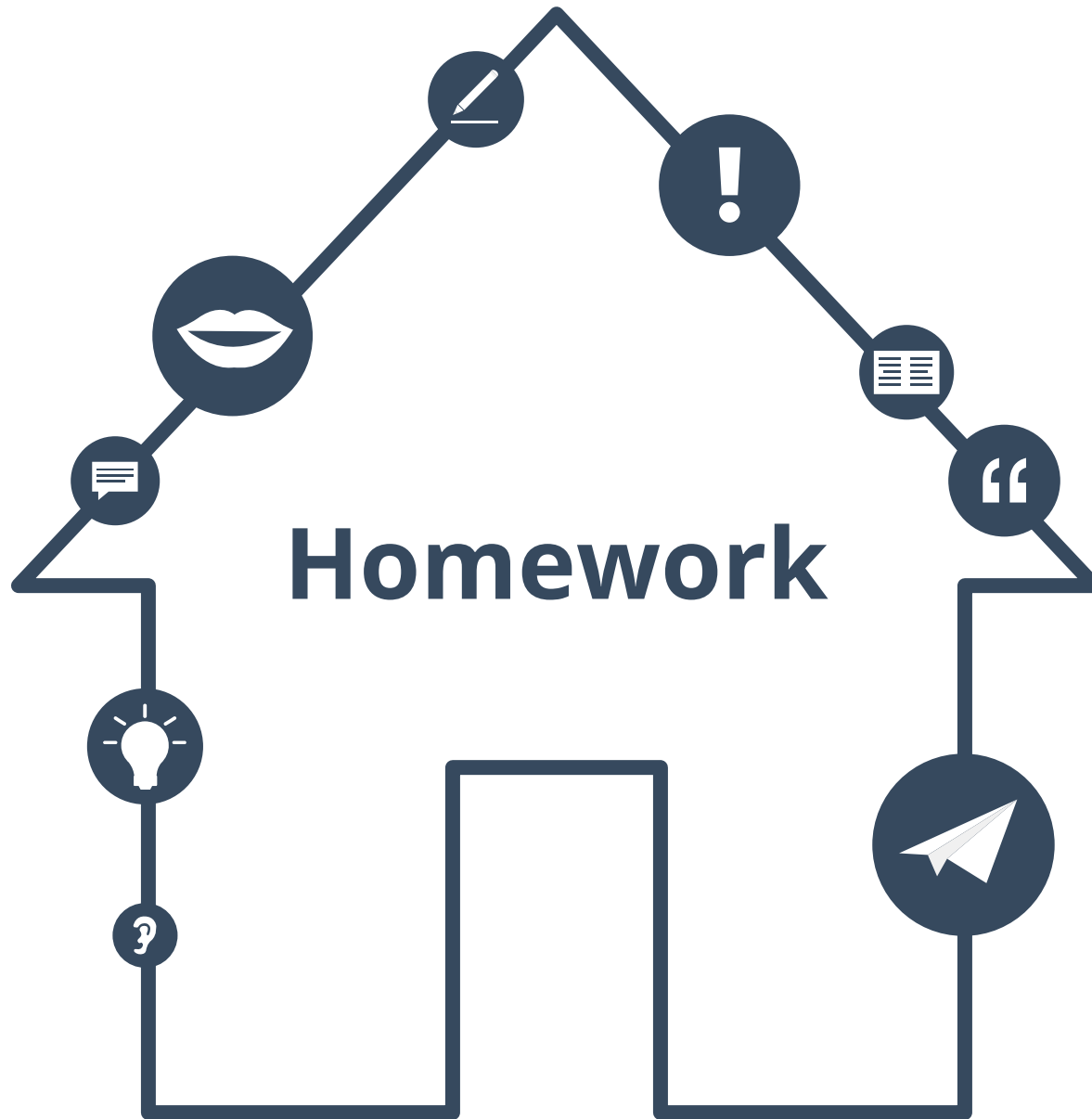




## Answer key

### **Exercise 4, p.21**

1. Budget - £2,000 – £2,500
2. Utilities – electricity
3. Lease – 24 months
4. Rent - £590 per calendar month





## Observe

Visit a few friends or family members. Look around their homes and neighbourhoods. Think about how an estate agent might sell this home.





## Vocabulary practice

**Write sentences using the following vocabulary.**

1. deposit

2. location

3. lease

4. rent

5. budget

6. appliances

7. furnished

8. utilities



## Writing homework

**Write a brief email conversation between a client and an estate agent making an enquiry into a property.**

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To:

Subject:

**Be sure to include:**

- What the client is looking for
- Information questions
- Polite requests
- Alternative options
- New vocabulary



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