



Making Inquiries

Tip: Be tactful when asking for information. You don't want to be too demanding.

Key Vocabulary:

- Furnished
- Tactful
- Inquiry
- Budget
- Utilities
- Neighborhood
- Appliances
- Lease

Phrases for making inquiries:

- I am wondering...
- Do you think you could tell me...
- I'm trying to find out...
- I'd like to know...
- I'm inquiring about...

Landlord dialogue:

Hello, I am calling about the renovated 1-BR apartment in Greenpoint that's posted on Zillow. Is this the owner?

Yes, this is the owner.

Great. Well, I'm just wondering first if the apartment is still available because I'm very interested in taking a look at it if so.

Yep, a few people have come by for showings, but it's still available.

That's great. Do you think I could ask a few questions?

Yeah, absolutely.

Well, I'd like to know more about the neighborhood, and also whether or not pets are allowed. I have a cat.

So, the apartment is furnished. There is a bed, a sofa, a kitchen table, a TV stand, and all of the kitchen appliances, including a dishwasher. Unfortunately, there is no TV. As for the neighborhood, it's relatively quiet, but there are a lot of great places to eat nearby. The school is within walking distance, and the subway is just a 5-minute walk away. Albert Park is right across the street, so it's a great location, and totally safe. Oh, and cats are allowed, but no big dogs.

That's great. And about the rent. Are the utilities included?

Heating and water are included, but electricity and wifi are not. You would have to pay those yourself.

Ok, no problem. \$1,500 is a little over my budget, and it looks a little high for the area as well. Would you consider \$1,300 if I sign a 2-year lease?

We could talk about that once you've come by for a look. I might be willing to be flexible on that.

Ok, great. When do you think I could stop by? Would tomorrow afternoon work?

Yes, that would be perfect. 3 pm?

Great! Could you text me the address?

Yes. See you tomorrow.

Ways to say you're welcome:

- Sure

- Yep
- Of course
- No worries
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- You're welcome
- Happy to help
- My pleasure (very formal)
- Absolutely
- No big deal
- Don't worry about it
- I'll be there in an hour.

Assignment:

Find a real apartment post online, then record a dialogue (play both parts), or ask your friend to help you. Use the words and phrases we learned in this lesson.