Archimedes School
ĐỘI TUYỂN 7

IELTS Reading No 1

English | Đội tuyển 7 | 25 minutes

Date: _____

Student's details

Full name _____

Class _____

Reading 1

AMAZING HOMES

Most people live in a house or a flat. When theygo on holiday they stay in a hotel or a guest house. But some places where you can live or stay are a bit different.

A. One unusual place to live is a houseboat. Amsterdam in Holland is famous for its houseboats - there are about 2,500 of them. They have everything that a normal house has: a living room, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom and even sometimes a terrace on the roof. They are cheaper than houses and people who live on houseboats enjoy being close to nature. Some houseboats can be moved to other parts of the river, while others are permanently in one place.

B. In Tokyo, Japan, there is a see-through house. It is like a normal Japanese house but allthe walls are made of glass. There is plenty of daylight but no privacy. Architect Sou Fujimoto designed it for a couple to make their home. He based his ideas on early man living in trees. It wouldn't suit everyone but the couple who live there love the feeling of being surrounded by the natural world.

C. All around the world, people live in homes made from shipping containers. Some use only one container, while others are made from several containers joined together. One house in Chile was built from 12 containers. They are cheap to buy and eco-friendly. They can also be placed in the garden or drive as guest rooms, studies or utility rooms.

D. In Germany, you can stay in a one-metre-square house, the smallest house in the world, called the House NA. Van Bo Le-Mentzel, a refugee from Laos, built it to draw attention to the world housing shortage. It is a wooden structure on wheels and weighs 40 kg. It has a locking door and a window. You can turn it onto its side when you want to lie down. Franz from Munich spent the night in one recently 'just to see what it was like'. He found it a bit uncomfortable!

E. For an unusual holiday you can stay in an igloo, a house made of ice. These can be found in several countries including Sweden, Norway and Finland. They are built new every winter. Jenny and Callum, visitors from Australia, told us, 'We slept in an igloo last night. It's so cold here - minus 5 degrees centigrade. We used reindeer skins to keep warm!'

F. Another couple, Shaun and Rachel from Manchester, enjoyed a recent holiday in a *treehouse* in Sussex, England. They said, 'It was right up in the trees and had everything we needed, even wifi! It had a small kitchen and we did our own cooking. It was the perfect place to get away from our busy lives.'

Exercise 1: Match these words and phrases from the text (1-6) with their paraphrases (a-f).

1.houseboats	a. not being watched byothers
2. permanently	b. not feeling pleasant
3. privacy	c. homes on the water
4. surroundedby the natural world	d. Nordic countries
5. uncomfortable	e. forever, always

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6. Sweden, Norway and Finland	f. having nature all around

Exercise 2: Choose NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS from the passage for each answer.

1. The two people who live in the transparent house love it, but it wouldn't _____.
2. The designer of the smallest house hopes to _____ to the lack of houses all over the world.
3. People who stay in igloos sometimes protect themselves from the cold by making use of _____.
4. People who have _____ would find a holiday in a treehouse ideal.

Reading 2

A. I remember feeling the first time I left home that I would never be able to feel at home anywhere but in my home. No other place would have my mum and dad, my annoying little brother and my cat, Tilly. Nowhere would smell like my home - mymum's roast chicken in the oven and the salty, seaweed smellthat drifted in from the nearby beach. The sound of seagulls squawking was the sound of home. Nowhere else would I feel comfortable enough to put my feet up under me and gaze into the log fire dreaming of the future.

B. I was 15 when I first went away from home on a school trip to Germany. My friends were going too, but we would all stay with different families. I was nervous about this. I knew the home I was going to would not be as comfortable as mine, the family would not be as kind, and who knew what the German food would be like? I knew I would spend three weeks, homesick and sad, missing my family back home.

C. We arrived in Germany late at night after a long journey by coach and boat. I was tired and hungry. We went into the school hall, where the host families were waiting to meet us. I wondered which one would be mine. Would they give me dinner at this time and would I be able to eat the unfamiliar food? Suddenly I heard my name called and the name of my exchange partner, Brigitte Schmitt. A pretty, blonde girl stepped forward, smiling widely. Behind her stood her parents, a pleasant looking couple who were also smiling. They held out their hands and said, 'Wilkommen in Deutschland. Welcome to Germany.'

D. I spent three happy weeks with the Schmitt family. Brigitte had an elder brother, Hendrik, and a younger sister, Lisa. They had two cats, Ping and Pong, who sat on my lap as I looked into the fire in the evenings. The whole family were kind and welcoming. My room was cosy and warm and looked out onto a forest. The fresh clean smell of the trees and of apples baking in the oven became familiar and comforting, like the smells of home. I learnt in those three weeks that you can feel at home anywhere that people are kind to you.

E. Later that year, Brigitte came to stay with me in the UK. I gave her my room and moved in with my brother. I cleared space for her clothes and put fresh flowers in a vase by the bed. I asked my mum to make her famous roast chicken and an apple pie to make our guest feel at home. We made a welcome banner and put it up on the front door. I did everything I could to help Brigitte feel at home with us. I now understood the importance of a warm welcome.

Read the passage and complete the sentencesbelow. Choose NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS from the passage for each answer.

1. The writer's mother often cooks _____.
2. She thought the visit to Germany would make her feel _____.
3. Brigitte came to pick up the girl with_____.
4. The Schmitt family's pets' names are _____.
5. From her bedroom the girl could see a _____.
6. The girl and her family tried hard to make Brigitte _____.

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---THE END---

LIVEWORKSHEETS