

Flats and Houses

Renting a flat

1 Put each of the following words or phrases in its correct position in the passage below.

deposit **fee** **flat** **advertisements** **accommodation agency**
landlord **rent** **block** **self-contained** **references**

The first thing I had to do in Belfast was find somewhere to live, if possible a small, one-bedroomed (a) _____. I didn't want to share a kitchen or toilet; I wanted to be independent in my own (b) _____ place. I decided I could pay a (c) _____ of £50 a week. I couldn't find what I wanted in the newspaper (d) _____ so I went to an (e) _____. They offered me a nice place. It was in a modern (f) _____ on the third floor. I had to pay the agency a (g) _____, and the (h) _____ wanted a big (i) _____ and (j) _____ from my employer and bank manager.

Buying a house

2 Instructions as above.

condition **detached** **removals** **cramped** **semi-detached** **builder**
spacious **surveyor** **architect** **terraced** **estate-agent**

Tony and Sheila's first home was a (a) _____ house, one of a line of houses all connected. But several years later when they had a small child, they found it rather (b) _____ for three people. They wanted something more (c) _____ and so decided to move. They went to an (d) _____ and looked at details of the houses he had to offer. They looked at a (e) _____ house (one of a pair attached to each other), liked it, and asked a (f) _____ to inspect it for them. He said that it was in good (g) _____, and they therefore decided to buy it. Luckily they sold their house quickly and soon a (h) _____ firm was taking all their furniture and other possessions to their new home. But already, after a couple of years, they are hoping to move again. Tony's business is doing well and they want to get an (i) _____ to design a modern, (j) _____ house for them, and a (k) _____ to build it.

3 Explain the difference between ...

- (a) a landlord and a tenant
- (b) a house and a bungalow
- (c) ground floor and first floor

4 Put one of the following words in each space in the sentences below.

for **at** **in** **on** **of** **into** **with**

- (a) She wanted a place _____ her own.
- (b) He'll move _____ tomorrow.
- (c) He'll move _____ his new flat tomorrow.
- (d) I share the kitchen _____ three other people.
- (e) The landlord asked the tenant _____ more rent.
- (f) My flat is _____ the top floor.
- (g) My flat is _____ a modern block.
- (h) The house is _____ good condition.
- (i) I looked _____ advertisements _____ the newspaper.
- (j) She pays a rent _____ £90 a week.