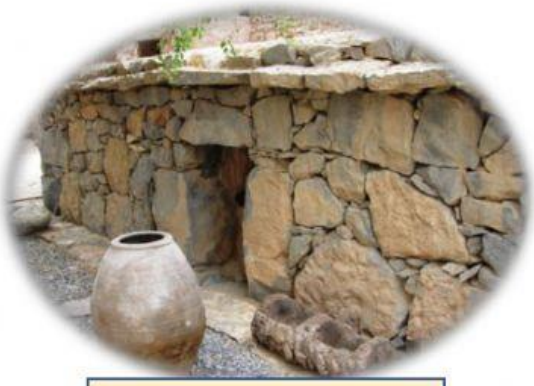
Unit 1B Lesson 2

What are the names of these houses?



bait al qufl

barasti house

round house

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Read and talk.

While he was doing some research for his conference talk, Ahmed visited a barasti house with his parents. Read this page from his Learning Journal and answer the questions.

Wednesday

Today was great! I went with my parents to visit some family friends who live in a barasti house. It was so interesting! The people who live there told us that their uncle built the house many years ago and he lived in it until he died last year. The walls and roof are made of palm branches and the house is right next to the sea.

It was quite cool inside because the sea air came through the palm branches. I really liked it because it was very relaxing to sit and listen to the sounds of the sea. You don't see many barasti houses nowadays, so I'm really pleased that I had the opportunity to visit one. Especially as they were once an important part of Omani life for many of our grandparents and great-grandparents.

1. What did Ahmed like about the barasti house?

2. Who built the house?

3. Would you like to live in a house like this? Why? Why not?

Make a list of all the rooms in a house and what you find in each room.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Listen and choose.

Maha is interviewing her grandma for her IKC conference talk 'Changes in Oman – 50 years ago and now'.

Listen to her interview and choose the correct answers to her questions.

Interview with grandma

1. What was your school like?
   a. a tent b. a barasti house c. didn't go to school
2. What was granddad's school like?
   a. a tent b. a barasti house c. didn't go to school
3. What time did you go to bed?
   a. 6.00 pm b. 11.00 pm c. 12.00 pm
4. How did you visit your aunt and uncle?
   a. on foot b. by donkey c. by bus
5. How long did the journey take?
   a. 1 hour b. 4 hours c. 4 days
6. What did you do when you were ill?
   a. went to hospital b. went to the doctor c. used traditional medicine
7. What did you do to get money?
   a. worked on a farm b. made caps c. made cakes

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Listen and find.

Listen to part of Ahmed's talk about 'Homes in Oman – past and present' and complete the table using the information below.

a. Musandam b. large stone walls with a flat roof made of wood and soil
c. stone walls with a roof made of wood and grass
d. Batinah coast e. palm branches f. no windows and small doors
g. Jebel Qara in Dhofar h. no windows i. quite large – some had two floors

TYPE OF HOUSE	Where can you see it?	What's it made of?	What's special about it?
barasti			i
round house		c	
bait al qufl	a		

2 Read and write.

Read the description which Ahmed wrote about one of the houses.
Write the name of the house it describes.

This type of house was made of large stones and had thick walls. It had a flat roof made of wood and soil. The house didn't have any windows and only had small doors. This made the house cool in summer and warm in winter. Many years ago, this type of house was traditional in Musandam.

Now write a description about one of the other houses using the information in the table.

LIVEWORKSHEETS