17 The place where you live

A Location*

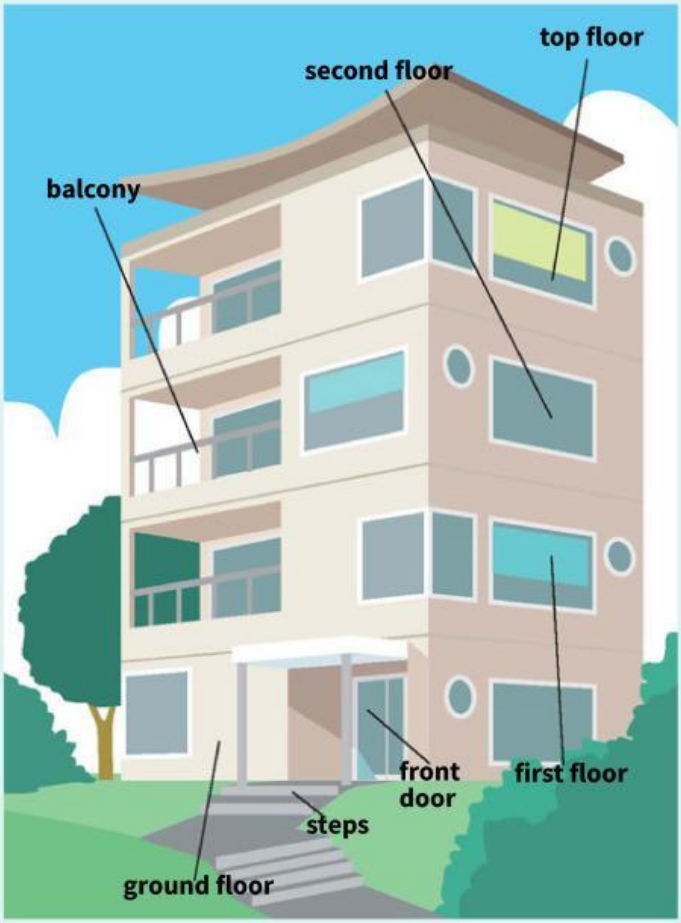
"We live **on the outskirts of town**[1], and it's a very nice **location**. We used to live in the centre, but we **moved**[2] to our present flat when we had children because there's more **space**[3] for them to play and it has nice **views**[4]."

* the place and position of something
[1] on the edge of town
[2] changed the place where we live
[3] an area that is empty or not used
[4] the things you can see from a place

B Our flat

"This is where we live. We **rent**[1] a flat **on the second floor**. There's a family in the flat **downstairs**[2], and a young French couple **upstairs,** on the top floor. It's a modern **block of flats**[3], and it's quite good, although the **lift**[4] is small, and there's no **air conditioning**[5]."

[1] pay money every week/month to use it because it isn't ours
[2] on a lower level of a building
[3] a building with a number of flats in it
[4] the machine that takes people up or down a floor
[5] a system that keeps the air cool



Language help

Flat is more common in British English; **apartment** is used in American English but is becoming more common in British English. Apartments are usually in large buildings; flats can be in a large building or part of a larger house.

C A house in the country

"My parents **own**[1] a **cottage**[2]. It's a **charming**[3] house and **has lots of character**[4], but like many old buildings, it's quite **dark** (*opp* **light**), quite difficult to **heat**[5], and it doesn't have **central heating**[6]."

[1] they bought it
[2] a small house, that is old and attractive, and usually found in the country
[3] pleasant and attractive
[4] it is interesting and unusual
[5] make warm or hot
[6] a system that heats a whole house


cottage

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

17.1 **Are the sentences about the people on the opposite page true or false? If the sentence is false, change it to make it true.**

1 They live in a house. *False. They live in a flat.*
2 They used to live on the outskirts of town. .....
3 They own their flat. .....
4 They've got nice views from their flat. .....
5 They live on the first floor. .....
6 There's a lift in the building. .....
7 A French couple live downstairs. .....
8 They own a cottage. .....
9 The cottage has lots of character. .....
10 The cottage is quite cold. .....

17.2 **Are these generally positive or negative features of a home?**

views *positive* air conditioning ..... character .....
dark ..... charming ..... no central heating .....

17.3 **Label the pictures.**


1 *a block of flats*


2 .....


3 .....


4 .....



5 .....
6 .....

17.4 **Complete the sentences.**

1 Our flat doesn't have air *conditioning* .
2 I live ..... the second floor, and my cousin lives ....., on the first floor.
3 My old flat was very small, but this one has much more ..... .
4 The flat's in a great..... : it's near the centre of town but opposite a park and very quiet.
5 We live on the ..... of town, but it's only a twenty-minute walk to the centre.
6 The flat is on the third floor, but we can sit outside on the ..... .
7 It's a very big house, so it costs a lot of money to ..... in the winter.
8 I'm on the second ..... . I usually use the stairs, but take the ..... if I'm feeling lazy.
9 I live in Paris. I used to live in Marseilles, but I ..... to Paris when I left university.
10 I love my apartment. It has big windows, so it's nice and ..... inside.

17.5 **Over to you**

Answer the questions about your home.

1 Do you live in a house or flat?
2 If you live in a flat, what floor is it on?
3 Do you own your home or rent it?
4 Are you in the centre, or on the outskirts of your town?
5 How long have you lived there?
6 Do you have these things:
air conditioning? central heating? a balcony?

LIVEWORKSHEETS