

Looking For A New Apartment

Vocabulary

Repeat each vocabulary word and definition after the teacher

- **Landlord** The person who owns an apartment or a building
- **Raising my rent** Making the rent more expensive
- **Sq. Ft.** Square feet
- **Fully furnished** An apartment that has all the furniture, dishwasher, washing machine included before you move in
- **Craigslist** A popular website in USA and Canada for selling used things, looking for new apartments or for finding someone to date
- **Real estate agents** A person who helps apartment or house buyers find apartments or houses for sale or rent
- **Break in** Enter by force, especially to steal something
- **Maintenance staff** People who are responsible for repairing things that need fixing in apartments, such as plumbing or electrical problems
- **Let's keep looking** Let's continue looking
- **Sigh** A loud breath expressing disappointment or relief
- **Bathtub** A place to take a bath, so you don't have to stand like taking a shower
- **What'cha** What are you (pronounced quickly)
- **'Cuz** Because (pronounced quickly)
- **Lemme** Let me (pronounced quickly)
- **Ummmmm** A sound you make when you're thinking and not sure what to say
- **Ugh** A sound you make when you're disgusted

Dialogue

Read the dialogue with the teacher, and then switch roles

- A:** Hey **what you** up to today?
- B:** I'm looking for a new **apartment**, I **have to** move out of my old one 'cuz my **landlord** is **raising my rent** and I can't afford it.
- A:** Oh that's too bad, maybe I can help you? What are you looking for exactly?
- B:** I'm looking for a large **apartment**, about 1000 **sq. ft.** with 2 bedrooms, a **bathtub** and **fully furnished** for \$500 or less per month.
- A:** Oh that shouldn't be hard to find. Have you looked on **Craigslist**?
- B:** I saw some nice flats advertised on **Craigslist** but they were too expensive, and too far from my work.
- A:** Let's google for some **real estate agents**...Oh look here's one, and they have some nice pictures of their apartments, how about this one?
- B:** No no, that one's on the first floor, I don't want to feel like someone could **break in** through my windows!
- A:** **Let me** see...what about this this one? Nice flat, big kitchen, **maintenance staff** living in the same building, everything included, 950 square feet, \$450 a month.
- B:** Yeah, that one looks nice, does it have a phone number to call?
- A:** **Ummmm**...ah! Here! 508-377-6653.
- B:** 508-377-6653...OK, I'm gonna call them tomorrow first thing in the morning. It's so late to call them now, don't you think?
- A:** Yeah, **let's keep looking**. How about this one? It has a huge **bathtub**, a nice kitchen, and it's right around the corner from your work...Oh wait...no...that one is \$650 a month. * **Sigh** * Nevermind.
- B:** **Ugh**, too expensive. I'll just call that first one that we found, I hope that they're still available!

Checking Understanding

1. Why are they looking for a new apartment?
2. What kind of apartment are they looking for?
3. Did they find any apartments on Craigslist?
4. What was the phone number that they found on the advertisement?
5. When will they call?
6. How to pronounce “What are you ” quickly?
7. How to pronounce “Because” quickly?
8. How to pronounce “Let me” quickly?
9. What's a sound that you make when you're thinking and not sure what to say?
10. What's a sound that you make when you're disgusted?

Conversation Questions

Take turns asking the questions with your teacher, and if there's any time left over you can free chat

- Have you ever moved into a new house or apartment before?
- What would be your perfect apartment?
- Do you like to live in the city or in the countryside?
- What's more important to you, location or price?
- Where do you live now?
- Do you live with anyone or by yourself?
- If you could make the perfect house what would it look like? Where would it be?
- Do you like having guests in your home?
- If you could change one thing about where you live now what would it be?
- Are apartments very expensive in your country?
- Do you have a balcony?
- Do you have or would you like to have a garden? Do you like gardening?
- Do you always have to keep your house/apartment clean or are you lazy about cleaning?
- When is a good time for children to move out of their parents' home?