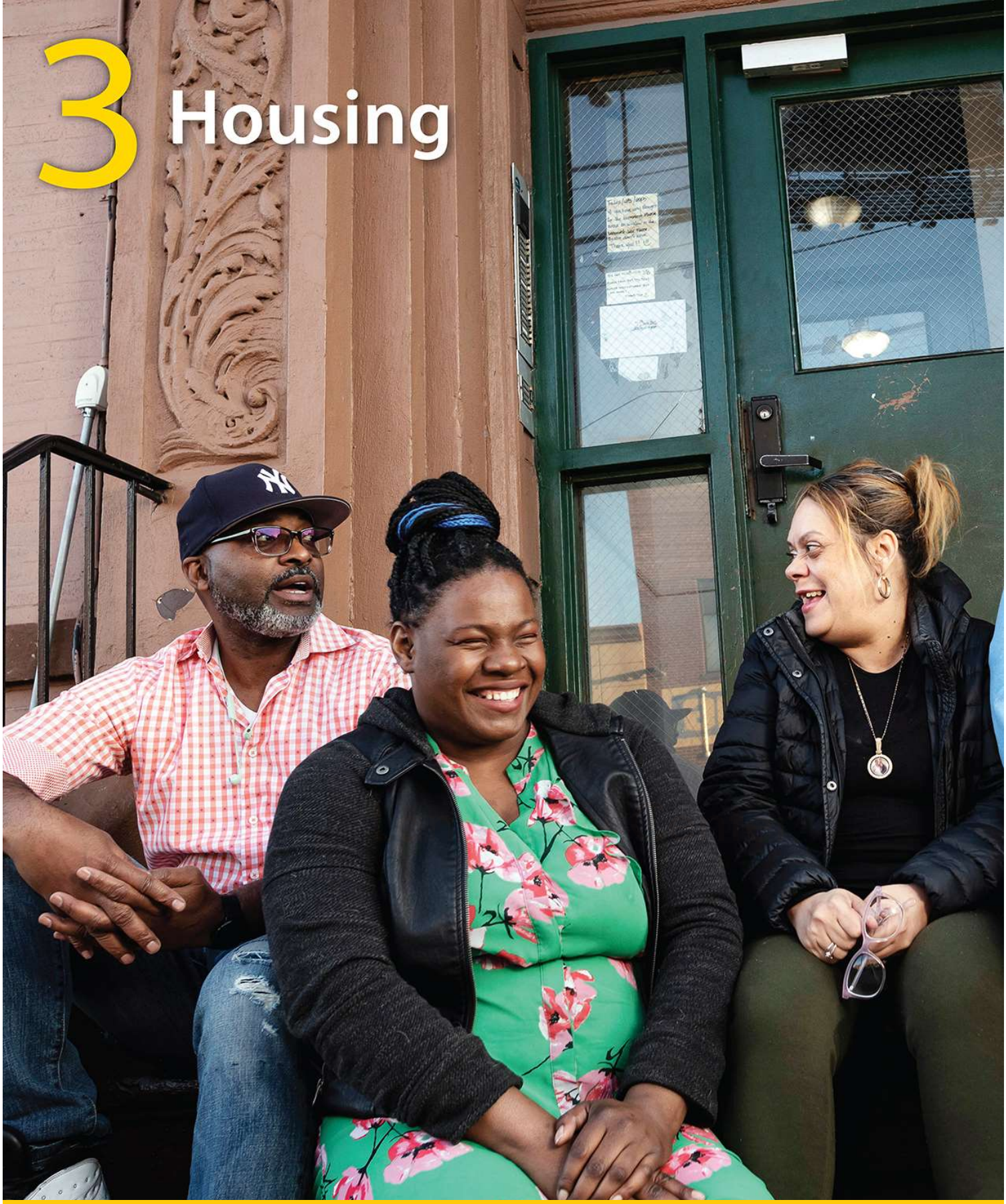
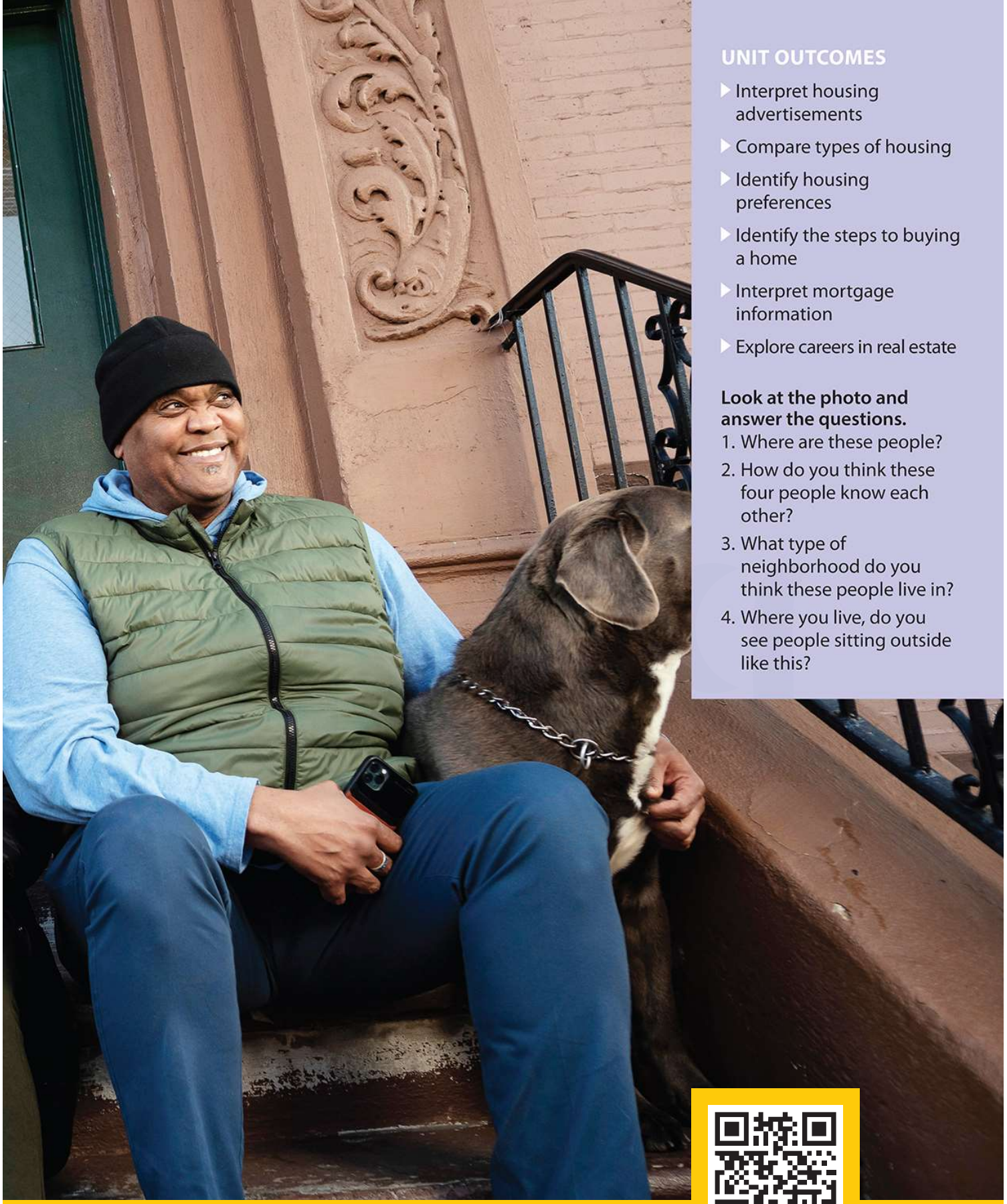
3 Housing





UNIT OUTCOMES

- Interpret housing advertisements
- Compare types of housing
- Identify housing preferences
- Identify the steps to buying a home
- Interpret mortgage information
- Explore careers in real estate

Look at the photo and answer the questions.

1. Where are these people?
2. How do you think these four people know each other?
3. What type of neighborhood do you think these people live in?
4. Where you live, do you see people sitting outside like this?

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LESSON 1

The American Dream

GOAL ▸ Interpret housing advertisements

A IDENTIFY **Read the online housing listings. Identify the property type.**

downtown condominium	rural ranch home	suburban single-family home



1. Property Type: _____
MLS #: 13586
$325,000
4.57 acres in the country!!! Cozy 3 beds, 2 baths home with a 2-car garage in a secluded neighborhood. Everything in the house has been updated: plumbing, electrical, windows, maple kitchen cabinets, walk-in pantry. Utility room has 2 sets of washer and dryer hookups. There is even an enclosed porch for pets to have their own space! Beautiful pine trees! You have to come see this home!



2. Property Type: _____
MLS #: 200298
$400,000
Welcome to your large 4 beds and 3 baths home in the Southwest subdivision. This 2,500 sq. ft. home has a large living room and kitchen with breakfast area, and huge bonus rooms upstairs used as game room or gym. Wood burning fireplace in the family room, a spacious backyard, and within minutes of schools, restaurants, and the highway. Home needs some TLC, so it is priced to sell. Come and see today!



3. Property Type: _____
MLS #: 200268
$799,000
This 1,000-square-foot condo is owned by the original owner and you'd think it was brand-new! Amazing views of the downtown skyline. Bright, open floorplan with sleek modern finishes. The main floor features a spacious open kitchen and living area that is perfect for hosting guests. No shared living wall so it feels like a single-family home. Two large en suite bedrooms. Indoor laundry and a detached two-car garage. Will not last long on the market, so hurry!

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B **Realtors write advertisements to get you excited about a property. Write definitions for the phrases from the ads.**

MLS _____

updated _____

cozy _____

en suite _____

downtown skyline _____

TLC _____

enclosed porch _____

secluded _____

C **Look back at the ads in A and complete the chart.**

	Type of Property	Size	Price	Number of Bedrooms	Number of Bathrooms	Location	Amenities
Rural Ranch Home							updated, enclosed porch, pine trees
Suburban Single Family Home	single-family home						
Downtown Condominium		1,000 sq. ft.					

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D **Listen to the advertisements of homes for sale and fill in the information you hear.**

1. 

Elegant Estate

Price: _____

Size: _____

Location: _____

Amenities: _____

2. 

Rural Residence

Price: _____

Size: _____

Location: _____

Amenities: _____

3. 

City High-Rise

Price: _____

Size: _____

Location: _____

Amenities: _____

4. 

Fixer-Upper

Price: _____

Size: _____

Location: _____

Amenities: _____

E **COMPOSE** **Use the vocabulary you have learned in this lesson to write an advertisement for the place where you live now or a place where you want to live. Draw or paste a picture.**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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LESSON 2

Bigger? Better?

GOAL ▶ Compare types of housing

A **Listen to Jamal and Courtney discuss two properties that Courtney looked at. As you listen, take notes about the advantages and disadvantages of each place.**

House	Advantages	Disadvantages
	closer to job	
Condominium		
		

B **COMPARE** **With a partner, compare the house and the condominium.**

Student A: What's an advantage of living in the house?
Student B: The house is larger than the condo.

C **Which one would you rather live in? Why? Explain your reasons to a partner.**

D **Complete the lists with a partner.**

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful
noisy	noisier	the noisiest
safe		
comfortable		
far		
friendly		
cheap		
big		

Note: Some two-syllable adjectives have two forms; for example, *quieter* or *more quiet*.

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E **INFER** **What are the rules? Write the adjective(s) from D that corresponds to each rule.**

1. Add ***-er*** or ***-est*** to one-syllable adjectives. cheap
2. Use ***more*** or ***the most*** before two-syllable adjectives or longer. _____
3. Add ***-r*** or ***-st*** to one-syllable adjectives that end in ***e***. _____
4. Change ***y*** to ***i*** and add ***-er*** or ***-est***. _____
5. Some adjectives have irregular forms. _____
6. Double the final consonant of adjectives ending in the pattern of consonant-vowel-consonant and add ***-er*** or ***-est***. _____

F **COMPARE** **Compare two homes you know. Use the adjectives from D.**

I live in a two-bedroom apartment. My cousin lives in a three-bedroom house. His house is bigger than mine.

G **Listen to Uma and Lucia talk about properties.**

H **Listen again and write down the questions that Uma asks.**

1. How's the house hunt going?
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

I **Without listening again, try to remember how Lucia answers the questions. Practice asking and answering with a partner.**

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J **Study the charts with your teacher.**

Questions Using Comparative and Superlative Adjectives				
Question Word	**Subject**	**Verb**	**Adjective or Noun**	**Rule**
Which	place house one	is	bigger? closer to work? the safest?	Use *be* when following the verb with an adjective.
		has	more rooms? the biggest floor plan?	Use *have* before a noun.

Long and Short Answers			
Question	**Short Answer**	**Long Answers**	**Rules**
Which one is bigger, the condominium or the house?	The condominium.	The condominium is bigger. The condominium is bigger *than* the house.	• When comparing two things, but only mentioning one of them, do not use *than*. • When comparing two things and mentioning both of them, use *than*.
Which place has more rooms?	The house.	The house has more rooms. The house has more rooms *than* the condominium.	

K **Write four comparative questions about the homes Jamal and Courtney talked about in A.**

1. Which place is closer to Courtney's job?
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

L **With a partner, practice asking and answering the questions you wrote in K.**

M **COMPARE** **Write three sentences on a separate piece of paper comparing a place or neighborhood you used to live in to the place you live in now.**

EXAMPLE: My old neighborhood was safer than the one I live in now.

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LESSON 3

Housing Preferences

GOAL ▶ Identify housing preferences

A **Think about these questions as you listen to the story about the Sharma family.**

1. Why is the Sharma family looking for a new home?
2. What are they looking for in a new home?

The Sharma family has outgrown their home. They have three children and a baby on the way, and they are living in a two-bedroom house. They've been putting away money every month from their paychecks, and they finally have enough money for a down payment on a house. Every Sunday, the whole family piles into the car and goes to look at properties for sale. So far, they have been doing this on their own, but now it's time to find a realtor.

However, before they meet with a realtor, they need to decide exactly what they want. Uma and Suraj have thought long and hard about what they want to purchase. First of all, they want a house in a safe neighborhood that is within walking distance of the school that their children attend. Second of all, they want four bedrooms, one for Uma and Suraj, one for the two boys, and another for their daughter and the baby girl who will be born next month. The fourth room will be used as an office for Uma, who works from home. As for bathrooms, four would be ideal, but they could survive with three if they had to. Some other things they would like are a big backyard for the children to play in and an attached two-car garage. Other amenities, such as air-conditioning or a pool, are not important to them.

Now, they know what they are looking for in a new home. That was the easy part. Finding the home . . . that's a different story!

B **INFER** **Read the story again. Figure out the meanings of these words and expressions using the context.**

down payment	pile into	thought long and hard
ideal	putting away	within walking distance
on the way	realtor	works from home
outgrown	survive	

C **APPLY** **Go over the meanings of the words and expressions with your teacher. Then choose three of the words or expressions and use them in sentences.**

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D **What are the Sharmas looking for in a home? Complete the checklist with as much information as you can based on the story in A.**

Housing Preferences Checklist				
Features	**Yes**	**No**	**Features**	**Preference**
air-conditioning	☐	☐	type of property	
backyard	☐	☐	number of bedrooms	
balcony	☐	☐	number of bathrooms	
garage	☐	☐	location	
heating	☐	☐	price range	
pool	☐	☐	down payment (percentage)	

E **What information on the checklist did the Sharmas not talk about? What do you think their preferences might be regarding these items?**

F **When asking someone about their preferences, you can use *yes / no* questions. Study the chart.**

Yes / No Questions and Answers		
Do you want	air-conditioning? a backyard? a balcony? a garage? heating? a pool?	Yes, I do. No, I don't.
Do they need		Yes, they do. No, they don't.
Does the house have		Yes, it does. No, it doesn't.

G **Practice asking and answering *yes / no* questions with a partner. Use the information in D.**

Student A: Do they want air-conditioning?
Student B: No, they don't.

***Yes / No* Questions**

Rising Intonation

Do you want an en suite?

Do you want any roommates?

Does the building have an elevator?

Does it have parking?

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H **Information questions start with *who, what, where, when, why,* or *how.* Study the chart.**

Information Questions			
Information	**Example Questions**		
type of property	What type	of property	do you want? is it?
number of bedrooms number of bathrooms	How many	bedrooms bathrooms	do you want? does it have?
location	Where		is it?
price range	What		is your price range?
down payment (percentage)	How much		can you put down?

I **Practice asking and answering information questions with a partner. Use the information from the chart in D.**

Student A: What type of property do they want?
Student B: They want a house.

Information Questions:

Rising and Falling Intonation

What type of property do you want?

How much can you put down?

When will you be moving?

J **COMPARE** **What would *you* like in a new home? Look at the checklist in D and make your own list of housing preferences. You might want to add some extra things that are not on the list. Compare your list with a partner.**

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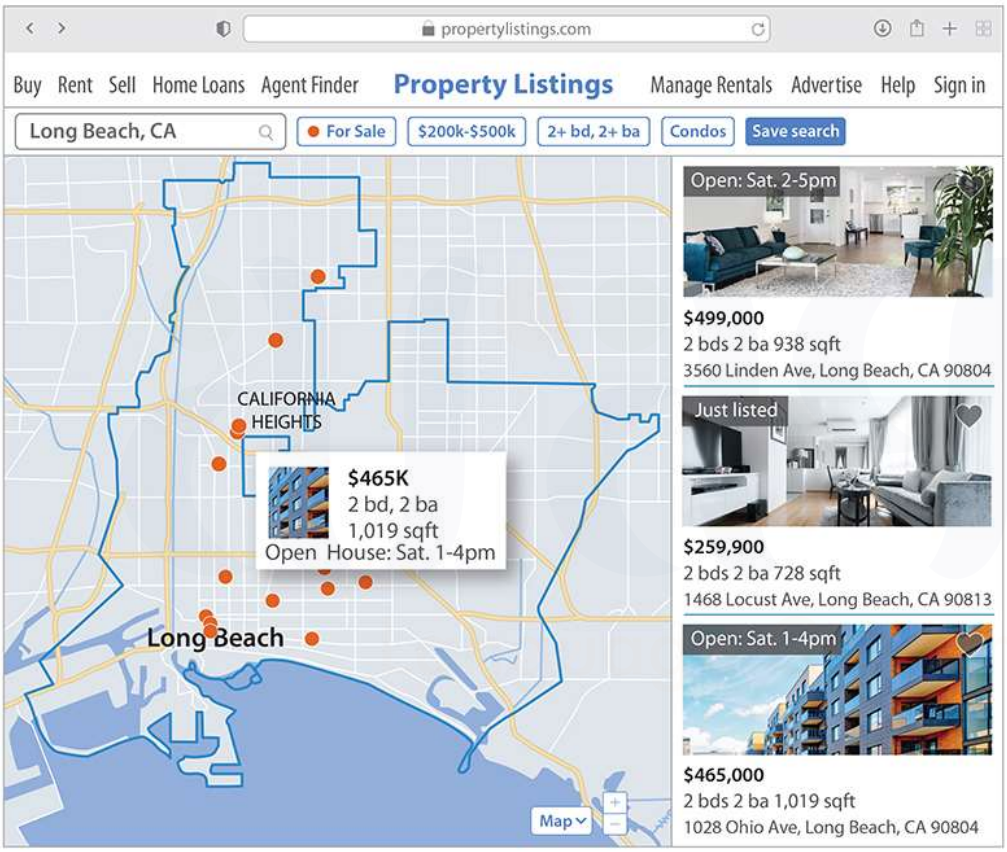
LESSON 4

Step-by-Step

GOAL ▶ Identify the steps to buying a home

A **What are some ways to find a house? In a group, list your ideas.**

B **A common way people look for homes is on a real estate website or app. Look at the website below and answer the questions.**



1. What city is this family searching in? _____
2. What is their price range? _____
3. How many bathrooms do they want? _____ Bedrooms? _____
4. What do you think 2+ means? _____
5. One of the homes is highlighted on the map. How many square feet does this home have? _____
6. If they want to take a look at this house, what should they do?

_____

Life ONLINE If you hover over a spot on this webpage, more information will pop up. Each of the red dots on the map is a home for sale. You can see the home that is being hovered over.

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C **SEQUENCE** **Read the steps for buying a home and number them in the correct order.**

_____ Apply for a loan.

_____ Choose a home you'd like to buy.

_____ Decide how much money you can spend.

_____ Decide what you are looking for.

_____ Have the home inspected.

_____ Make an offer on the home.

_____ Move in.

_____ Negotiate until both parties come to an agreement.

_____ Start looking for homes in a neighborhood you'd like to live in.

D **Read the article about home buying and check your answers.**

Buying a Home

Home buyers can spend up to three months, and possibly more, looking for and purchasing a home. Their search begins by looking at housing ads, driving through neighborhoods they are interested in, and walking through open houses. Many first-time buyers will meet with a real estate agent to get help finding and buying a home.

Home buyers should know how much they can afford before they start looking for a home. It isn't worth your time to look for a new home if you can't really afford to buy one. So, it's a good idea to look at your financial situation first. You might be surprised how much money you can borrow, especially if the interest rates are good. Also, if you have some money for a down payment, your monthly payments may be lower than you think.

You should never make an offer on a home without looking at other houses in the same neighborhood. Just as you would shop around for a car or computer, you should do a cost comparison on different homes for sale. You can do this by researching recent sales of similar properties, which you can find on real estate websites or by talking to a real estate agent. Also, if you can find something out about the seller and his or her motivation for selling, it will put you in a better position to negotiate. For instance, maybe the seller needs to sell quickly and would accept a low offer.

Once you have found the property that you want and can afford, you are ready to make an offer. A low-ball offer is an offer that is much lower than the asking price. Depending on the market, unless the house is really overpriced or the seller needs to sell it quickly, they will probably not accept a low-ball offer. Once you make an offer that is reasonable to the seller, they will either accept it or make a counteroffer. If the seller makes a counteroffer, the

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negotiating process has begun. You may have to go back three or four times before an agreement is reached.

Being a good negotiator can be tricky. Take your time when making your decision. This is a very important decision and you don't want to be rushed. Sometimes, you can negotiate for repairs to be done to the home before you move in, or you can ask the seller to pay for some of your closing costs. As soon as a written agreement is signed by both parties, the document becomes a legally binding contract.

One of the first things that usually happens after the contract is signed is a home inspection. You need to hire a professional inspector to inspect the home, searching for defects or other problems. The inspector usually represents the buyer and is paid for by the buyer. The contract that you sign with the seller protects you as a buyer by allowing you to cancel closing on the deal if an inspector finds problems with the property that the seller is unwilling to have fixed or give the buyer credit for.

Once the contract has been signed, the lender (usually a bank) starts processing the loan. Once all the inspections are done and any repairs are completed, the final papers for the transfer of the title are prepared. Finally, the closing takes place on the date agreed upon in the offer. On that date, the title comes to you and you can begin enjoying your new home!

E **INFER** **Find these words in the article and match them with the correct meaning.**

_____ 1. afford	a. a legal document between two or more parties
_____ 2. contract	b. amount of money that buyer is willing to pay for a house
_____ 3. cost comparison	c. looking at different prices of homes
_____ 4. negotiate	d. person or company that loans money
_____ 5. lender	e. the desire to do something
_____ 6. motivation	f. when all papers are signed and titles are transferred
_____ 7. offer	g. to have enough money to purchase something
_____ 8. closing	h. discuss until you reach an agreement

F **With a partner, discuss the benefits and the disadvantages of owning your own home.**

G **SUMMARIZE** **Write a paragraph summarizing the process of buying a home.**

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LESSON 5

What Can We Afford?

GOAL ▶ Interpret mortgage information

A **PREDICT** **Todd and Emilia Amaral are thinking of buying a house. Todd is worried about money, so he sat down with his friend who is a loan officer to talk about a mortgage. Discuss the questions below with a partner.**

1. What is a loan officer?
2. What do you think the loan officer will tell Todd about getting a mortgage? Make a list with your partner.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

g. _____

B **Listen to Todd talk to the loan officer. What does the loan officer say? Is anything he says on the list you made?**

C **DEFINE** **Do you know what these words and expressions mean? Discuss them with your classmates and teacher.**

afford	down payment	mortgage
credit check	financial commitment	price range
deposit	get approved for a loan	purchase price

D **Listen to the first part of the conversation again. What are the three questions Todd must ask himself? Write them below.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

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E Listen to what the loan officer says and write the next four steps Todd must take below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

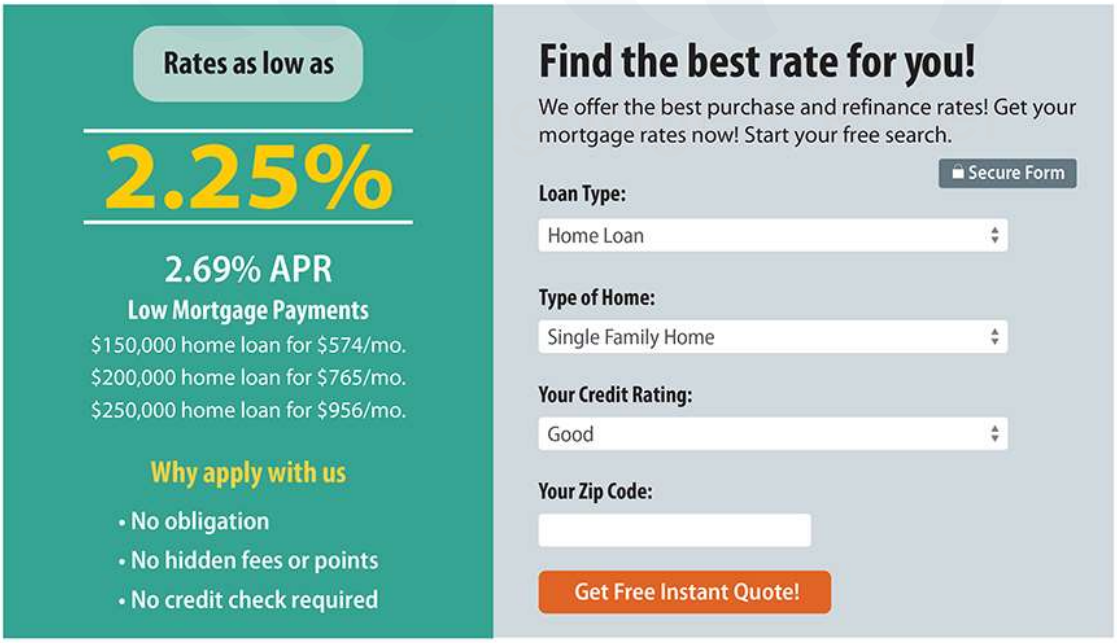
F Todd will need to provide some information to get a loan. Write four pieces of information he has to provide. If you can't remember, listen again.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

G Imagine that you are trying to get a mortgage and you have to gather all of the items listed in **F**. Put a checkmark (✓) next to each one that you have at home right now.

H Today you can get some answers online without meeting with a loan officer. Look at the online ad and discuss the questions.

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1. Why do you think they need to know your zip code?
2. How much will you pay if you have a $200,000 loan?
3. What do you think *rates as low as* means?

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I Go online and find a home loan calculator. Does it ask for similar information from you?

J Now that Todd knows how to get a mortgage, he needs to learn about the different types of mortgages. Read about each type below.

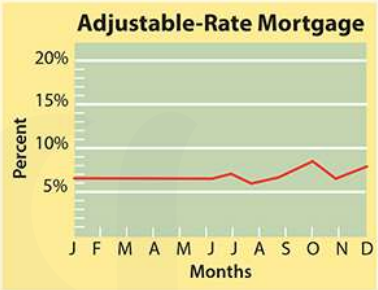
Fixed-Rate Mortgages

A fixed-rate mortgage has a fixed interest rate for the life of the loan, which could be 10, 15, 20, or 30 years. You will make the same payment every month for the life of the loan and, at the end of the term, your loan will be paid off. The advantage of this type of loan is the interest rate never changes, and the monthly payment is always the same.



Adjustable-Rate Mortgages

An adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) begins like a fixed-rate mortgage with a fixed interest rate and a constant monthly payment, but this mortgage will adjust after a certain amount of time, anywhere from six months to five years. At this point, the interest rate and your monthly payment will change based on the market at the time. Furthermore, the rate and payment could change every month based on how the market changes.



Balloon Mortgages

A balloon mortgage has a fixed interest rate and a fixed monthly payment, but after a certain amount of time, for example five years, the entire balance of the loan is due. Often times, there is no collateral needed. This is a short-term loan, usually for businesses in the construction industry as a way for them to get short-term financing.



K **CLASSIFY** Using the information from J, mark (✓) the correct column(s).

	Fixed-Rate	ARM	Balloon
1. The monthly payment is always the same.			
2. The interest rate changes after a certain period of time.			
3. The interest rate is fixed.			
4. The monthly payment will change based on the market.			
5. This type of loan is short-term.			

L If you were going to buy a house, which type of loan would you get? Why? On a separate piece of paper, write a short paragraph about your preference.

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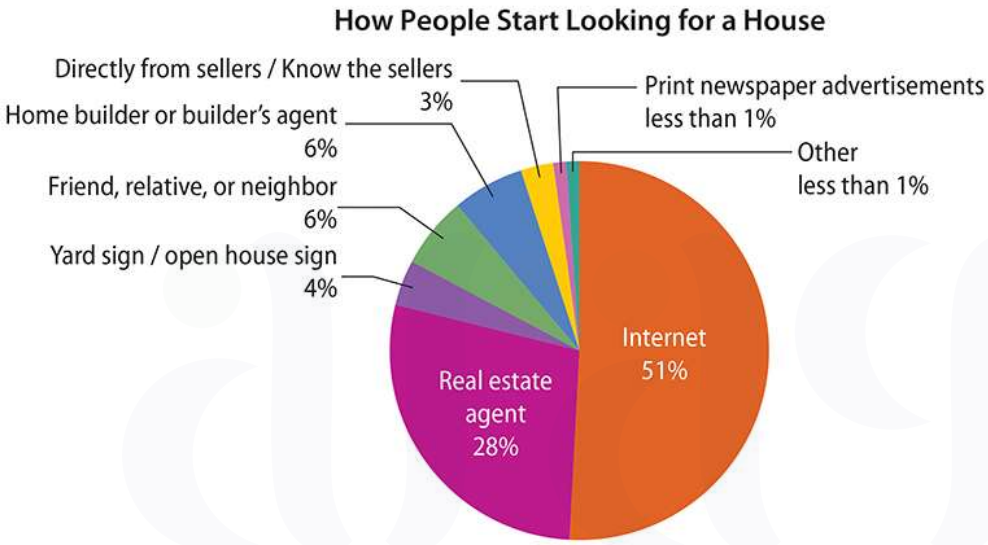
LESSON 6

Explore the Workforce

GOAL ▶ Explore careers in real estate

A **Have you bought a home before? Do you know someone who has? How did you or they pay for the house?**

B **Look at the pie chart and decide if each statement is true or false.**



1. Using a real estate agent is the most common way to start looking for a house. _____
2. Some people buy their house directly from the seller. _____
3. The internet is the most common place to start looking for a house for sale. _____
4. More people use a newspaper than a real estate agent to look for a home. _____

C **With a partner, read the statements in B and make the false statements true.**

D **Listen to the following statements and fill in the missing numbers.**

1. _____% of buyers purchased their home through a real estate agent or broker.
2. _____% of buyers would use their agent again or recommend their agent to others.
3. The median age of all realtors is _____.
4. _____% of all realtors are female.
5. Most realtors worked _____ hours per week in _____.
6. The median gross income of realtors was $_____ in 2021.

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E **A *real estate broker* is mentioned in D. What is the difference between a real estate agent and a broker? Read the article about agents and brokers in California.**

Differences between a Real Estate Agent and a Real Estate Broker in California

The main difference between a real estate agent and a real estate broker is that a real estate agent works for a broker. According to Aceable, an online real estate school based in Texas, "a broker can legally own a real estate firm and hire real estate agents to work under him or her." A real estate agent cannot.

Real estate brokers in California are required to take more real estate education courses than real estate agents. Agents need three college-level courses in order to take the state exam, while brokers need eight. Neither career requires a college degree, but brokers in California can meet their education requirement by majoring or minoring in real estate as part of their four-year degree.

Real estate agents in California do not need any experience in the real estate field to get their license. They learn the principles and practices through their education requirements and can count on their brokers to help them learn on the job. On the other hand, brokers must prove that they have experience in the industry in one of two ways: 1) Earn a Bachelor's Degree with a major or minor in real estate, or 2) Gain two years' experience in fields such as property management, real estate development, escrow processing, and mortgage lending. Having real estate experience is an important qualification for brokers since they are able to work on their own.

To be a real estate agent or a broker, you need to take and pass an exam. In California, real estate agents need to finish a 150-question exam over three hours and receive at least a 70%. Brokers are required to take a 200-question exam over five hours and score at least a 75%.

Both agents and brokers in California pay exam fees, licensing fees and renewal fees every year, but brokers pay more. Currently, exam and licensing for agents are $305 and renewal fees are $245. For brokers, the amounts are $395 and $300 respectively.

F **Write the missing titles to the paragraphs in E.**

a. Fees
b. Experience Requirements
c. Education Requirements
d. Exam Requirements

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G **Complete the table.**

	Real Estate Agent	Real Estate Broker
Education Needed		
Experience Needed		
Exam Score Needed		
Exam and Licensing Fees		
Renewal Fees		

H **REFLECT** **Which career would you rather have? Why?**

I **Look at the online job post for real estate agent. What character traits does the person need to get this job? Make a list with a partner.**

Real Estate Agent — No Experience Needed

Bentley Properties
Fort Worth, TX

As an entry-level real estate agent, you will:

- Communicate and interact with clients over phone, email, and social media.
- Network and seek referrals to increase your client list.
- Create marketing strategies to make your homes stand out.
- Get to know your clients and their home preferences.
- Be available to show homes to clients and attend open houses.
- Give clients advice on how to stage, market, and sell their home quickly for a good profit.

As a broker, we will:

- Advise you during your training and licensing process and provide follow-up resources so you can be at the top of your field and stand out as a reliable, knowledgeable real estate agent.
- Share our real estate technology with you to help you grow and organize your client base.

J **Role play a job interview in pairs. One partner is the broker; the other partner is the job applicant. Then switch roles.**

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Review

A **Read the housing advertisements and complete the chart below.**



1. Always wanted to take a house and make it your own? Settle into this 3-bedroom, 2.5 ba, 1,500-square-foot fixer-upper. $250,000. Located in a quiet neighborhood. This is the perfect property for a first-time homeowner!

2. Check out this cozy 1,100-square-foot apartment. 2 beds, 1.5 baths. The building has 24-hour security. Laundry room and gym in the basement. Lease it for $2,000 a month or buy it for $650,000. This one will go fast!



	Type of Property	Size	Asking Price	Number of Bedrooms	Number of Bathrooms	Location	Amenities
Home #1							
Home #2							

B **Using the ads above, complete the following sentences by choosing the correct verb and using comparatives and superlatives.**

1. Home #1 (is / has) _____ than Home #2. (space)
2. Home #1 (is / has) _____. (expensive)
3. Home #2 (is / has) _____ than Home #1. (small)
4. Home #2 (is / has) _____. (security)
5. Home #1 (is / has) _____ than Home #2. (spacious)
6. Home #1 (is / has) _____ than Home #2. (big)

Learner Log

I can interpret housing advertisements.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

I can compare types of housing.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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C **Complete the housing preferences checklist based on what you would want in a home.**

Housing Preferences Checklist				
Features	**Yes**	**No**	**Features**	**Preference**
air-conditioning	☐	☐	type of property	
backyard	☐	☐	number of bathrooms	
garage	☐	☐	number of bedrooms	
laundry	☐	☐	location	
elevator	☐	☐	price range	

D **Write four *yes / no* questions you could ask someone about their housing preferences.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

E **Write four information questions you could ask someone about their housing preferences.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Learner Log

I can complete a housing preferences checklist.

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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Review

F **Ask a partner the questions you wrote in D and E and complete the checklist based on his or her answers.**

Housing Preferences Checklist				
Features	**Yes**	**No**	**Features**	**Preference**
air-conditioning	☐	☐	type of property	
backyard	☐	☐	number of bathrooms	
garage	☐	☐	number of bedrooms	
laundry	☐	☐	location	
elevator	☐	☐	price range	

G **Put the steps to buy a home in the correct order (1–10).**

_____ Start looking at homes for sale online and looking in neighborhoods you'd like to live in.

_____ Negotiate with the seller until you come to an agreement.

_____ Move in.

_____ Make an offer on a home.

_____ Get the title to the house transferred into your name.

_____ Get a home inspection.

_____ Find the home you want to buy.

_____ Figure out how much money you can spend.

_____ Decide on your housing preferences.

_____ Apply for a loan.

H **With a partner, take turns describing the process of getting a mortgage.**

I **Making lists of words that are related helps you to recall them. In this unit, you learned new words about buying a home. Complete the lists with related words from this unit in your notebook.**

Housing ads	Buying a home	Mortgages
cozy	*home inspection*	*fixed-rate*

Learner Log

I can interpret mortgage information. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

I can explain the steps to buying a home. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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Create a Real Estate Brochure and Decide on a Property to Buy

SOFT SKILL ▶ Collaboration

In a team, create an online housing ad. Then as a family, choose a home to buy.

Form a team of four or five students. Choose roles for each member of your team.

Position	Job Description	Student Name
Student 1: **Team Leader**	Check that everyone speaks English and participates.	
Student 2: **Writer**	Write text for advertisements. Write list of preferences and questions.	
Student 3: **Graphic Designer**	Design online housing advertisement.	
Students 4/5: **Realtors**	Represent the real estate agency.	

Part 1: With an advertising team, create a real estate brochure.

1. Create a real estate agency. What is the name of your agency?
2. Come up with three homes that you want to sell. Create a web page for these properties, including pictures and brief ads. Display your web page design on a computer or on paper.

Part 2: As a family, choose which properties you like, meet with a realtor, and decide which property to purchase.

1. Now the entire group acts as a family. Together, write down your housing preferences.
2. From the web pages other teams created, choose two properties that you are interested in, each one from a different agency. Then prepare a list of questions that you'd like to ask about each property.
3. Split into teams of two or three, set up appointments with the realtors and meet with them to discuss the properties you like. Report back to your group and decide which property to make an offer on. Then make an offer on the property.

COLLABORATION:
Organizational Skills

When you have a lot of tasks to complete, it is necessary to be organized. This project has two parts, so to stay organized, make a list of what you need to do for each part. Check off each task once you have completed it.

For example if you are the writer:

- ☐ Help the team come up with a name for an ad agency.
- ☐ Help the team come up with houses.
- ☐ Ask the team for input and write ads.

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Reading Challenge

A **ANALYZE** **Look at the photo and discuss the questions.**

1. What do you see in the photo?
2. What do you think this home is made of?
3. Do you think this home is affordable? Why or why not?
4. What would be the pros and cons of living in a home like this?



B **Read *Could You Live in a Tube*? While you read, underline phrases that would make the tiny homes described affordable.**

C **Choose the best answer.**

1. Which word could replace the word *grapples* in line 3?

   a. wants b. struggles c. hopes d. tries

2. Which word or phrase could replace the word *crisis* in line 12?

   a. critical problem b. situation c. solution d. committee

D **Look back at what you underlined in the text. Fill in the chart. Which home do you think would be more affordable? Why?**

Micro Flat in Beirut	OPod Tube House in Hong Kong

E **CREATE** **In a small group, design an affordable tiny house. What would it be made of? How would you design the layout? Present your tiny home to the class.**

F **Search for a video of the OPod Tube House. Has it been built yet or is it still just an idea?**

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Could You Live in a Tube?

Cities are becoming more and more crowded. But just because there are more people doesn't mean there is more space for their needs. Lebanon's capital, Beirut, is also its largest city, with an estimated population of 2.4 million. Like other large cities, Beirut grapples to offer enough affordable housing for its residents. Fortunately, a micro flat, designed by Elie Metni, offers a solution. Located in the city's Achrafieh neighborhood, the tiny 161-square-foot apartment is located on the roof of an old building. The architect wanted to create a space that was both practical and beautiful. The space hosts up to five people with its extendable kitchen table that frees up floor space. Storage units have been fitted into almost every open space, including gaps in the bed frame! The bedside table can also be used as a desk, while the sofa can be used as a guest bed. The tiny apartment also has an outdoor roof terrace, which offers a beautiful view of the Beirut skyline.

Although Beirut has an affordable housing crisis, there is one city in the world that has ranked first in least affordable housing for the past 12 years. Hong Kong has over seven million residents but only 7% of the land is zoned for housing. Compare that to 75% of land in New York City. One architecture firm has come up with a groundbreaking solution: a house made out of a concrete water tube. The OPod Tube House, like this one in an Exhibition Center in Hong Kong, is made of concrete, a cheap and readily available material. These pods will be highly affordable to construct, and also very durable. They will also be affordable because they can be quickly assembled in a factory and then shipped to their final location. Each pod will have a living space of 100 square feet and will be designed for two. The pod will have a living room, cooking area and bathroom, and the main living space will turn into a bedroom at night with a retractable sofa bed. These homes will also be very modern, equipped with the latest smart technologies.



OPod Tube House, designed by James Law Cybertecture

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