

Discover English

English
as a Second
Language





Hello, friends!
Think about your favourite film
or popstars and imagine what
sort of homes they own.



My favourite actor is Robert Downey Junior. I imagine he has a beautiful apartment in New York with expensive antique furniture.



I also think he has a house in the country. It's quite old-fashioned inside and it's big so he can have his friends round for dinner and parties.



Look at the photos.
Which of the houses
would you like to live in?
Why?



Match the types of the houses with their descriptions.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------|
| semi-detached house | flat | mansion |
| detached house | bungalow | cottage |
| terraced house | mobile home | houseboat |

- a) cottage.....
- b) semi-detached house.....
- c) terraced house.....
- d) bungalow.....
- e) detached house.....
- f) mansion.....
- g) flat.....
- h) houseboat.....
- i) mobile home
- j) villa



a small house in the country usually with a garden;



two houses joined together;



several houses joined together;



a house which only has one floor;



a house which stands alone and is not joined to any other;



a very large expensive house;



a set of rooms for living in, usually on one floor of a building;



a boat that people can live on;



a type of building that people live in, usually staying in one place, but able to be moved using a vehicle or sometimes its own engine;



a house, usually in the countryside or near the sea, especially in southern Europe, and often one that people can rent for a holiday;

Name the types of houses in the photos.

.....
a cottage

a bungalow

a detached house

a semi-detached house

a terraced house

a mansion

a block of flats

a houseboat

a mobile home

a villa



mobile home



detached house



cottage



houseboat



bungalow



block of flats



semi-detached house



villa

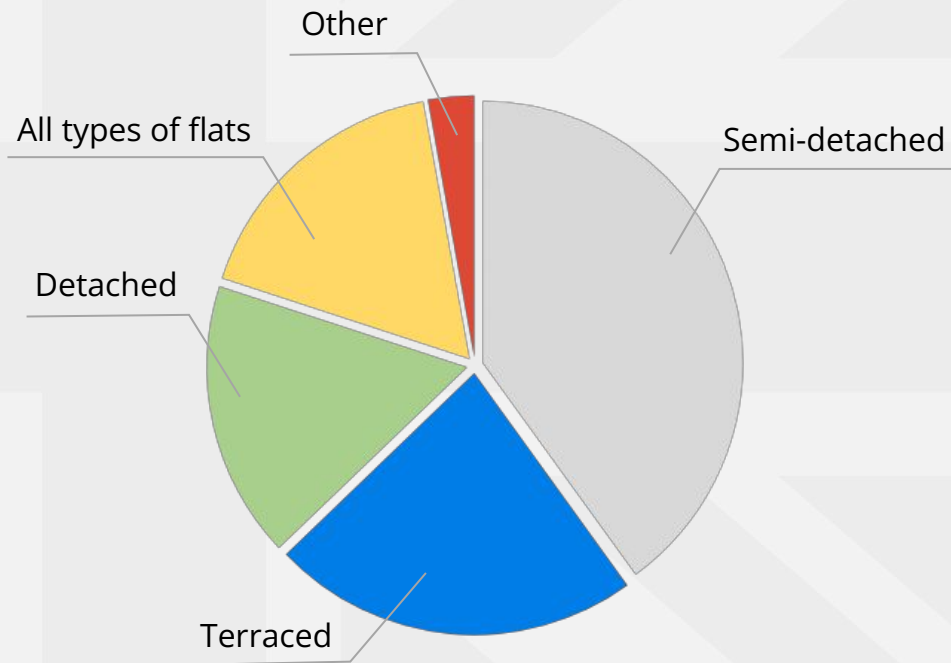


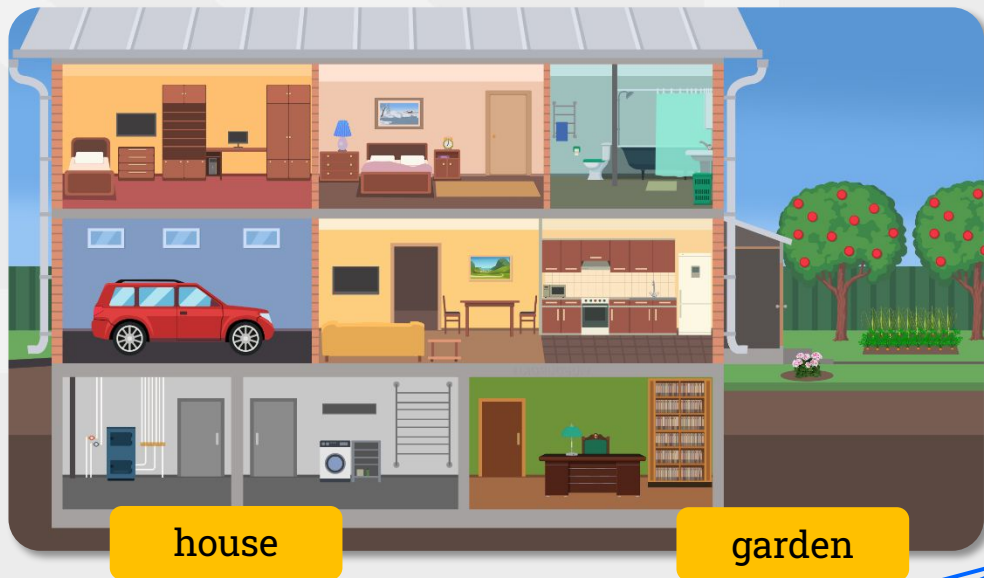
mansion



terraced house

- Which type of housing is the most popular in the UK?
- Which is the least popular?
- Compare with Russia.





house

garden

How many more rooms and other parts of a house or garden can you think of?

Read the words in the box.

Put them into two groups.



flowerbed

pond

patio

swimming pool

garage

gate

hedge

drive

fence

attic

shutters

sliding doors

balcony

basement

Which is the odd one out? Explain why.
Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- | | | | |
|----|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. | cellar | basement | attic |
| 2. | detached house | bungalow | mansion |
| 3. | lawn | path | porch |
| 4. | detached house | semi-detached house | terraced house |
| 5. | fence | gate | hedge |
| 6. | houseboat | mobile home | villa |
| 7. | pond | swimming pool | patio |
| 8. | cottage | houseboat | farmhouse |

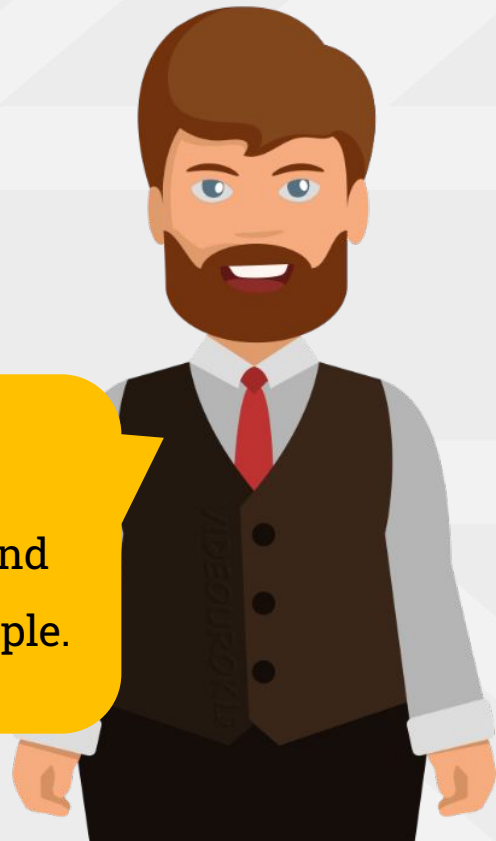
Listen to an estate agent showing someone round a house.

Which seven parts of the house are mentioned in the dialogue?

.....

Hello! I'm an estate agent!

I'm a person whose job is to buy and sell houses and land for other people.




So, this is the house As I say, it's conveniently located near to the shops. And there are lots of good restaurants and bars nearby.

So it's quite noisy, then?

Lively, I'd say.
We're in a very popular area of the town.






The road's quite busy.

Well, yes, it can get busy. There are lots of buses that will take you right to the town centre. Here's one now, in fact!

Oh, it's stopping right outside the front gate. There's a bus stop here!

A living room with a dark leather sofa, a coffee table, and a patterned rug. The room is dimly lit, with a lamp on the left and framed pictures on the wall.

Yes! What can be more convenient? Shall we go in?
So this is the hall. And on the right is the living room. Cosy, isn't it?


Hmm. It's certainly small, a bit dark.

And through here is the kitchen.

It's tiny.

It certainly isn't spacious, but I wouldn't say it's cramped. The cooker and the fridge are new. And it looks out onto the back garden.



A cartoon illustration of a man with a brown beard and hair, wearing a white shirt, a red tie, and a brown vest. He is standing in a garden with various plants and flowers.

Oh, yes. The owner isn't keen on gardening, then.

A cartoon illustration of a man with a black beard and hair, wearing a red sweater. He is standing in a garden with various plants and flowers.

No, I suppose not!

And the back fence looks like it could fall down at any moment!

Yes, it might possibly need a bit of work ... Moving on upstairs ... This is the main bedroom. There's a charming view from the window.

I can see right into the bus station.

Yes, er, I mean above that. You can see right across the town ... So, what do you think of the house?









Hmm. I'm not sure.

It could be beautifully restored.

Which seven parts of the house were mentioned in the dialogue?



Match the words below with meanings 1-8.

-  uncomfortably small
-  very small
-  quiet
-  far from other spaces
-  modern
-  in a good location
-  in very bad condition
-  large

tiny

remote

cramped

peaceful

spacious

conveniently located

contemporary

dilapidated

Listen to 4 people describing their homes. Match sentences a-d with speakers 1-4.

This home:

- a. is not as modern as the owners would like _____
- b. did not cost very much _____
- c. has got wonderful views _____
- d. is in a remote location _____



All used to be a cheap home. It's not as modern as they would like. They managed to get it for 20,000 pounds, which is amazingly cheap. A few years ago, the people that live in Cambridge usually used boats far away in the countryside. But in fact, the boat is parked in the canal in Cambridge.

Listen to 4 people describing their homes. Match sentences a-d with speakers 1-4.

This home:

- a. is not as modern as the owners would like _____
- b. did not cost very much _____
- c. has got wonderful views _____
- d. is in a remote location _____



We're in a nice flat so we can't see right through the city. It is quite spacious and has got a big garden which is great, living with a lot of other people. I don't like the city, it's not a great balcony, it's a bit of a mess, but the view is really good. I like the room.

Listen to 4 people describing their homes.
Match sentences a-d with speakers 1-4.



This home:

- a. is not as modern as the owners would like _____
- b. did not cost very much _____
- c. has got wonderful views _____
- d. is in a remote location _____

We've recently moved to the country. We've got an old cottage. There aren't many people living nearby. Our nearest neighbour is a five-minute walk away, and it's a couple of kilometers to the nearest town. The countryside is lovely and the house is surrounded by trees. The house is very spacious, beautifully restored by previous owners. It's not a bad place to live, but I miss the excitement of city life.

Listen to 4 people describing their homes. Match sentences a-d with speakers 1-4.



This home:

- a. is not as modern as the owners would like _____
- b. did not cost very much _____
- c. has got wonderful views _____
- d. is in a remote location _____

We live in a terraced house in Chicago. It's a lovely house, quite old. My parents bought it from an old lady who lived here for 40 years. She didn't really modernize it. It's in good condition, but décor is very old-fashioned. My parents are going to create a much more contemporary look.

Use as many words of the lesson as you can and describe your house or flat.

.....



- 1) It's **a flat / detached house / terraced** house.
- 2) It's **in the town centre / on the outskirts / in the suburbs**.
- 3) There's **a park** / There are some **shops** nearby.
- 4) It's got ... (bedrooms).
- 5) There is ... (other rooms).
- 6) There's / There isn't **a garden / drive**, etc.
- 7) It's a bit / very (adjective).