

FUMC ESL 5-15-2023 High Intermediate and Advanced Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. What is different about apartments here in the U.S. and apartments in your country?

Read this conversation and explain the words in bold. Tell in your own words what the conversation is about.

Sally: I'm looking for a studio apartment. Do you have any available?

Manager: When do you want to move in?

Sally: I have to be out of my apartment at the end of May. So I would like to move in on June 1st.

Manager: We have an apartment on the **ground floor** that will be available June 1st. It requires a one year **lease**.

Sally: OK. That sounds good. How much is the rent?

Manager: \$1200 per month.

Sally: That seems high. Are you willing to **negotiate** that price?

Manager: No. The owner does not allow us to negotiate a lower price. But once you see the apartment, you will realize how nice it is. And, all **utilities** are included in the rent. It also comes with one covered parking space and a storage closet for your bike and other equipment.

Sally: Oh, that price is not so bad then. Is there a security system in these apartments?

Manager: We're a gated complex so no one can get inside without a passkey.

Sally: Does the unit have smoke detectors.

Manager: Yes we have smoke alarms and sprinklers in every unit.

Sally: Is there a laundry room close by?

Manager: We have a laundry room in every building.

Sally: How old is this apartment complex.

Manager: This complex was built in the 80's, but the units have all been recently updated with new appliances, carpet and window coverings. Every unit was painted outside and in.

Sally: Could I look at the apartment you will have vacant?

Manager: Our **tenant** is still living there, so I can't show it to you. I can show you a drawing of the **floor plan**. And I am happy to show you all the **common areas**. We have a pool, an exercise room and a **playscape** for the kids.

Manager: We require the first and last months' rent and a security deposit **up front**. Rent is due by the fifth of each month. There is a \$15 late fee for payments made after the fifth.

Sally: Will I get my security deposit back when I move?

Manager: Yes. We'll mail it within 60 days of your leaving as long as there is no damage to the apartment.

Sally: OK. Let me think about it. I hate to rent it **sight unseen**.

QUESTIONS:

1. Was it difficult finding a place to live when you moved to the U.S.?
2. Were the rents more expensive than you were used to?
3. Was your first apartment here furnished or unfurnished?
4. Are you happy with your apartment/house?
5. What would you like to have in your current apartment or house that you don't have now?
6. Did you live with your family after you were an adult?

Read this conversation about someone who broke into their neighbor's apartment. Several things were stolen. The neighbor had a lot of expensive jewelry. She called the police. The police interviewed the residents.

Police Officer: Hello, ma'am. I'm with the Austin Police Department. Your neighbor reported a burglary in her apartment while she was away earlier today. I am interviewing the neighbors to see if anyone noticed anything unusual this morning.

Resident: **As a matter of fact**, I got a **glimpse** of a young man getting into the elevator down the hall. He was dressed in a dark colored, hooded sweatshirt.

Police Officer: What time of day was that?

Resident: A little after ten.

Police Officer: Could you describe him?

Resident: Not really. As I say, he was wearing a **hoody** and he kept his head down. Before I could get a good look at him, he slipped into the elevator. But he looked suspicious to me.

Police Officer: Why is that?

Resident: Well, I think he was a teenager. This building is for **senior citizens**, so we don't usually have teenagers here unless they are visiting someone.

Police Officer: Perhaps he was visiting his grandmother?

Resident: I suppose he could have been. But I don't think any of my neighbors have a teenaged grandson.

Police Officer: OK. Thanks for the info. If you think of anything else, let me know. Here is my card.

Resident: OK, officer. I'm sorry I couldn't be more help.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you think the police will catch the robber?
2. Can you use the word, "glimpse" in a sentence?
3. What would you do if you saw someone who looked suspicious around your apartment?
4. Do you worry about crime where you live?
5. Do you know your neighbors?
6. Have you ever experienced a break-in?

PRONUNCIATION: Compare the S sound with the SH sound

shoot - suit	she'll - seal	shed - said	shower - sour	shock - sock	shoe - Sue
ship - slip	shine - sign	show - sew	shame - same	sheet - seat	she'd - seed
shelf - self	shave - save	leash - lease	mesh - mess	mass - mash	sort - short

Try these sentences:

1. "Let's sew some snowsuits," said Sally.
2. Send Sue to the store Saturday.
3. Spanish people speak Spanish in Spain.
4. I saw Susie sitting in a shoeshine shop.
5. Sam's shop stocks short spotted socks.
6. She sells seashells on the seashore.
7. Santa's Short Suit Shrunk.
8. Slippery seals slipped silently ashore.
9. Should Sheila sell seashells or should she sell shoes?
10. Miss Smith's fish-sauce shop seldom sells shellfish.

DISCUSS:

1. We interviewed an elderly author. We asked him what he had learned about life. He said three things:
 - I've learned that when I have pains, I don't have to be one.
 - I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.
 - I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Explain these three things. Is there another one you would add?

We talk about someone that bothers us as a "pain in the neck" or sometimes just "a pain". EX: My Aunt Celia is coming for a visit. She complains all the times and expects me to wait on her. She is a pain in the neck.

2. What's the difference between hazardous cargo and fragile cargo?

3. Is there a difference between being "aware" and being "alert"? You could say, "Are you aware there is a fire in the neighborhood? But you wouldn't say, "Are you alert there is a fire in the neighborhood? You can use "alert" as a verb. EX: The police alerted the neighborhood about the fire. "Aware" is an adjective. You can be aware or make someone aware, but you can't aware. Make a sentence with aware and a sentence with alert.