

HOUSING

Level: C1

Skills: listening and speaking



1. OPTIONAL LEAD-IN:

It is said an average person lives in 11 homes in their lifetime. What is your number?

If money was not a problem, where would you live and what kind of house would you have?

2. SOME USEFUL VOCABULARY TO TALK ABOUT HOUSING

- affordable home
- low-income housing
- budget
- low -income households= people or families living in the same house
- mortgage
- tenants
- landlords
- overburdened with housing costs
- homeowners
- social housing
- to make a down payment
- disposable income
- average price
- to evict /eviction
- homelessness
- rising home prices
- overcrowding and under occupations
- real state bubble
- subsidized
- housing issues
- downsizing
- cohousing
- utility bills

- squatting/squatters
- to rehabilitate /rehab , rehabilitation

3. LISTENING:

Predictions. Before watching the video, try to predict the answers to these questions. Then, watch the video and check your predictions

- Making housing more accessible would help reduce...
- What share of a household budget do you think is spent on average on housing?
- Why has the price of housing risen so dramatically in the last decade?
- What share of a household budget is spent on housing in low-income households?
- In many countries , a large share of young people is still living with their parents.
Predict: is your country one of these countries? Justify your answer

<https://youtu.be/tnjN2JYW6vQ>



READING AND SPEAKING

STUDENT A

Cohousing, which is a form of intentional community, originated in Denmark in the 1960s. Intended to recreate an "old-fashioned sense of neighborhood" through resident participation in the design and operation of their communities, this type of community model allows families and individuals to occupy private homes while at the same time contributing both time and money to common facilities that are owned and managed by the larger community.³ Community members pay monthly or yearly

membership dues and often help with tasks such as cleaning and repairing shared resources. While residents contribute to the financial responsibilities of acquiring and maintaining common facilities and resources, each member maintains an independent economy and personal income.

Summarize what you have just read and give your opinion

STUDENT B

Squatting has a long history in Spain, often fuelled by high rates of homelessness. But there is now a darker phenomenon too - squatters who demand a "ransom" before they will leave a property. And this has led to the rise of private eviction companies, some of which use threats to achieve their goal.

Summarize what you have just read and give your opinion

SPEAKING: EXAM-ORIENTED TASK

HOUSING

talk about the following prompts



- Housing affordability in your country
- Homesharing
- Housing issues: Overcrowding and under occupation

QUESTIONS FOR DEBATE

Create your own board game here

<https://www.toolsforeducators.com/boardgames/loop.php>

Is giving homeless people homes more effective and sensible than making them stay in shelters or on the street?

How much is Airbnb affecting the housing market in cities where rent is on the rise?

What can be done about rising homelessness in big cities?

Does it make sense to encourage homeownership through tax policies?

Should housing policy be more balanced, supporting rental housing and homeownership on a more equal footing?

Source <https://www.nytimes.com/>