

Life Skills

1 READ APARTMENT ADS

A Look at the ad for a rental apartment. Read the sentences. Circle *True* or *False*.

Furnished 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom apartment on the third floor of an elevator building. Large living room. Sunny eat-in kitchen with separate dining room. Washer/dryer in basement. Convenient location. Near shopping and public transportation. No pets allowed.

Rent: \$1,200/month

Security Deposit: One month's rent

Contact: Joshua 510-555-5432

Fee: One month's rent


Utilities Included: heat, hot water, air-conditioning, and electricity

- | | | |
|---|------|--------------|
| 1. The apartment has two bathrooms. | True | False |
| 2. The building has an elevator. | True | False |
| 3. The apartment is close to stores and transportation. | True | False |
| 4. The rent includes electricity. | True | False |
| 5. It's OK to have a pet. | True | False |
| 6. The security deposit for this apartment is \$1,200. | True | False |

B PAIRS. Check your answers.

C Look at the abbreviations below. Then look at the ad in Exercise A. Circle the words for each abbreviation. Then write the words on the lines.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A/C <u>air-conditioning</u> | 7. EIK _____ | 13. mo. _____ |
| 2. apt. _____ | 8. fl. _____ | 14. nr. _____ |
| 3. BA _____ | 9. furn. _____ | 15. sec. dep. _____ |
| 4. BR _____ | 10. ht. _____ | 16. trans. _____ |
| 5. bsmt. _____ | 11. hw. _____ | 17. util. incl. _____ |
| 6. DR _____ | 12. LR _____ | 18. W/D _____ |

D  Listen and check your answers. Then listen and repeat.

2 PRACTICE

A Look at the newspaper apartment ads. Read the sentences. Write the correct letter of the apartment ad next to each sentence.

a.

South End. Large 2 BR, LR, EIK, 2 BA. W/D. Ht. + hw. not incl. Pets allowed. No fee. \$1,200/mo. 1 mo. sec. dep. Available immediately. Call Rick 207-555-1212.

b.

Downtown. Sunny furn. 1 BR apt. A/C. Pkg. garage. Nr. trans. Pets OK. \$950/mo. Util. incl. No fee. City Properties 207-555-8765.

c.

North Square. Nice 2 BR, LR, DR. No pets. \$1,200/mo. Ht. hw. incl. Nr. schools. Fee + 2 mo. sec. dep. Maven Realty 207-555-9989.

1. b It has one bedroom.
2. It has air-conditioning.
3. It has a washer and dryer.
4. No pets are allowed.
5. It has an eat-in kitchen.
6. It has two bathrooms.
7. It is close to transportation.
8. Utilities are not included in the rent.
9. It is furnished.
10. There is a fee.

B **GROUPS OF 3.** Read about the two families. Which apartment in Exercise A is best for each family? Explain your answer.

The Marshalls

The Marshalls are a family of four (a mother and three children). Mrs. Marshall works in the South End. She can spend \$1,250 a month on rent and utilities. She can pay \$3,000 for a security deposit. She doesn't have a car.

The Wilsons

The Wilsons are a family of three (a mother, a father, and a six-month-old baby). The parents both work downtown. They have a dog. They have a car. They can spend up to \$1,000 a month on rent and utilities.

C **GROUPS OF 3.** Look at the list of ways to find an apartment. Which do you think is the best way? Explain your answer.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> reading newspaper ads | <input type="checkbox"/> looking for rental signs in the neighborhood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reading Internet postings | <input type="checkbox"/> bulletin boards in supermarkets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> going to a real estate agent | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> talking with friends and neighbors | |

3 LIFE SKILLS WRITING

Complete an application for an apartment. See page 260.

Can you...read apartment ads?