



Four-bedroom house, Alberta, Canada

Would you like to stay in this beautiful house in the heart of the Canadian Rocky Mountains?

It's a spacious house with four bedrooms, a living room, a large kitchen, two bathrooms, and a store room. There are breathtaking views of the mountains from all the windows. It has a large balcony, which is ideal for eating outside in the summer. The house has wooden floors, a jacuzzi, cable television, and Internet.

It's a quiet, safe neighbourhood and the neighbours are very warm and friendly. The house is walking distance from stores and restaurants in the local town and a short drive from areas with excellent skiing and hiking. In the area around the house you can see amazing wildlife such as bears, wolves, deer, and mountain goats.

This house is perfect for families or two couples. It's a no-smoking house and, sorry, no pets.



Two-bedroom apartment, Manhattan, New York City

Rent this ^{superb} nice two-bedroom apartment. It's perfectly situated between 43rd Street and 8th Avenue, five minutes from Time Square and most of the theatres, and a fifteen-minute walk from Central Park.

It's a nice 150-square-metre apartment on the 19th floor of a new building. It has two bedrooms, a nice living room with a huge balcony, a kitchen/dining room and two bathrooms. The flat has very big windows, so during the day it's very light and at night you have a nice view of downtown Manhattan, especially on the 4th of July when you can see all the fireworks!

The neighbourhood is colourful, and it's nice for people who like eating out or going to the theatre and clubs. There's a subway station on the street and it's a ten-minute walk to Grand Central train station. JFK airport is less than half an hour away by taxi.

This apartment is nice for couples. Sorry, no children or pets and definitely no smoking.

Useful language: describing location

It's perfectly situated...
walking distance from...
a (fifteen-minute) walk from...
a short drive from...

The neighbourhood is (safe, friendly, etc.)
It's a (beautiful) area...

- Read the two adverts from a website. Which one would you prefer to rent for a two-week holiday? Why?
- Read about the house in Canada again. Highlight any adjectives which help to 'sell' the house.
- Now read about the New York apartment again. Improve the description by replacing the word *nice* with one of the adjectives below. Often there is more than one possibility.

brehtaking ideal magnificent perfect spacious superb

WRITE a description of your house / flat (real or imaginary) for a website.

PLAN what you're going to write. Use the **Useful language** box and **Vocabulary Bank Houses p.151** to help you.

- Paragraph 1 A brief introduction. What kind of house / flat is it? Where is it exactly?
- Paragraph 2 Describe the house / flat. What rooms does it have? Does it have any special characteristics?
- Paragraph 3 Describe the neighbourhood. How far is it from places of interest, public transport, etc.?
- Paragraph 4 Say who the house / flat is suitable for. Are there any restrictions?

CHECK the description for mistakes (grammar , punctuation , and spelling).

1 Types of houses

Match the words and pictures.

- ☐ block of flats
(US apartment building)
- ☐ cottage /'kɒtɪdʒ/
- ☐ detached house
- ☐ terraced house



2 Where people live

Match the sentences.

- 1 I live in the country.
- 2 I live in the city centre.
- 3 I live in the suburbs.
- 4 I live in a village /'vɪlɪdʒ/.
- 5 I live in a small town.
- 6 I live in a residential area.
- 7 I live on the second floor.

- a It has 20,000 inhabitants.
- b It's very small, with only 800 inhabitants.
- c There are a lot of houses but no offices or big shops.
- d It's right in the middle of the city.
- e It's the area outside the central part of town.
- f There are two floors below me.
- g There are fields and trees all around me.

3 Parts of a house

Match the words and pictures.

- ☐ balcony
- ☐ chimney
- ☐ garage /'gærɑːʒ/
- ☐ garden
- ☐ gate
- ☐ path
- ☐ roof
- ☐ steps
- ☐ terrace /'terəs/
- ☐ wall



4 Furniture

- a Put two words in each column.
Use your dictionary to help you.

washbasin sink shower
bedside table dishwasher
coffee table armchair
chest of drawers

bathroom	kitchen	living room	bedroom

- b Add two more words to each column.

Can you remember the words on this page? Test yourself or a partner.