

Citizenship Language Pack For Migrants in Europe - Extended

English

Multimedia Course in Language and Culture for Migrants

A2 Level

To aid communication in everyday English in Ireland

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Module 6:

Accommodation




Introduction

Gary is a tenant in a house/flat/apartment. He meets and greets a prospective tenant, Marta, at his place of residence. In the exchange many aspects of housing are talked about such as the bathroom, bedroom, furniture and brightness. Vocabulary associated with the kitchen is also mentioned, for example, fridge, cooker, microwave, dishes etc. In the sitting room they discuss Marta's studies and the location of her school. They make an arrangement to meet the following day.

Dialogue 13 – Looking for a Flat

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAHmRvsK0yq3eKIr35DOT7-5M2f7ynI4m>

 <p data-bbox="287 974 359 1019">Gary</p> <p data-bbox="502 974 582 1019">Marta</p>	<p>Situation: Gary's place of residence</p> <p>Characters: Gary and Marta</p>
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Gary- Oh hi, Marta! Come on in. Yes, that's me. How are you?

Marta- Fine! I really like Limerick. I'm glad to be here.

Gary- Me too! I like living here as well. I'm from Sligo originally but I've been living in Limerick for four years and always in this flat.

Marta- So, you feel comfortable here.

Gary- Yes, I like this place very much. I think you can take the single room. I think you'll like it.

Marta- OK.

Gary- There's a nice bed, pretty big wardrobe, a desk, and it's a very bright room because there are two windows.

Marta- Great! Light is very important. How many bathrooms are there?

Gary- Only one. There were no problems with the other students, however.

Marta- Grand, we just have to be a little patient. Is there a shower or a bath?

Gary- There's a shower. The room is yellow.

Marta- Nice, I love yellow.

Gary- And then the kitchen, it's a little small but there's everything we need: plates, glasses, pots, a fridge, a cooker and a microwave. We mostly eat salads and pasta. Do you cook?

Marta- Ah...from time to time. My Mum taught me some recipes.

Gary- Okay, well if you come to live with us, we'll have to try your Mum's recipes! In the sitting room, there is a table with four chairs, a bookshelf, a TV with DVD player, there is the sofa and an armchair. We usually all come together here to, you know, watch a video or listen to some music.

Marta- Nice! This room is really bright and colourful too. And I really like the poster on the wall.

Gary- It was a present from my brother. It's the poster of the movie *Braveheart* with Mel Gibson. Do you know that it was shot in Ireland?

Marta- Oh yes, that's true! And the other girl's bedroom?

Gary- Lisa has a single room too. It's the room at the end of the hallway, next to the bathroom.

Marta- The apartment is very nice, I really like it. And it's in the perfect place, only 5 minutes away from the School of Economics.

Gary- Yes, it's true. And the atmosphere here at home is fun.

Marta- Well, so I've decided. I'm going to take the room! When can I move in?

Gary- I'm delighted about that, come when you like, even tomorrow. In the meantime, I'll tell Lisa that we have found a girl for the single bedroom.

Marta- Okay, so I'll move in tomorrow morning at 11:00. Will you be here or should I ring you first?

Gary- I'll be at home, studying. Don't worry, I'll wait for you.

Marta- Thanks Gary, you're very kind. See you tomorrow!

Gary- See you then.

Oral Comprehension

Answer the following questions. The correct answers can be found in the key on the last page.

Exercises 1 – 4:

State whether the following sentences are true or false:

- a. Gary is from Limerick.
- b. There are two windows in the room Marta is considering renting.
- c. There are two bathrooms. Both are yellow.
- d. Marta will move in at 11 tomorrow morning.

Exercise 5:

Fill in the gaps:

Gary- And then the kitchen, it is a little _____ but there's everything we need: plates, _____, pots, a _____, a cooker, and a _____. We mostly eat _____ and _____. Do you _____?

Marta- Ah...from time to time. My Mum taught me some _____.

Gary- Okay, well if you come to live with us, we'll have to try your Mum's _____! In the sitting room, there is a _____ with four chairs, a _____, a TV with _____, there is the _____ and an _____. We usually all come together here to, you know, watch a video or listen to some _____.

Grammar

Adjectives:

Adjectives are words that describe and modify another person or thing. Most adjectives are used before nouns.

- Verb to be (am, is, are) is used with adjectives.

Structure of the sentence:

- Subject + verb to be + adjective

Examples:

A little patient

It is a little small

Links:

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/english-grammar/adjectives>

<http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/adjectives.htm>

<http://www.momswhothink.com/reading/list-of-adjectives.html>

<http://www.chompchomp.com/terms/adjective.htm>

In Ireland

You may notice again in this dialogue that some words have different meanings in Ireland. For example, an apartment is often called 'a flat'. The word 'grand' is used generally as a word for 'fine' or 'OK'. There is also a tendency to call a stove a 'cooker'.

It can sometimes be difficult to find accommodation in Ireland's major cities, especially Dublin. Rents in the city centre can be very high. If you are living in Ireland as a student, most colleges and universities will have an accommodation office where you can get help finding a place to live. It is always good to know your rights and obligations as a tenant. Follow this link to find out more about them:

http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/housing/renting_a_home/tenants_rights_and_obligations.html

When looking for accommodation, it is good to check the local newspaper of the area. There are also some property websites where landlords often advertise their properties to rent or buy:

<http://www.daft.ie/>

<http://www.rent.ie/>

Vocabulary

Flat	Comfortable	Single room
Bed	Wardrobe	Desk
Windows	Bathroom	Patient
Shower	Bath	Kitchen
Plates	Glasses	Pots
Fridge	Cooker	Microwave
Recipe	Salad	Pasta
Chair	Bookshelf	TV
DVD player	Sofa	Armchair
Music	Bright	Colourful
Poster	Hallway	Atmosphere

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>

Key

After you have completed the exercises, check your answers here.

Exercises 4 – 5:

- a. False
- b. True
- c. False
- d. True

Exercise 5:

Gary- And then the kitchen, it's a little **small** but there's everything we need: plates, **glasses**, pots, a **fridge**, a cooker and a **microwave**. We mostly eat **salads** and **pasta**. Do you **cook**?

Marta- Ah...from time to time. My Mum taught me some **recipes**.

Gary- Okay, well if you come to live with us, we'll have to try your Mum's **recipes**! In the sitting room, there is a table with **four chairs**, a **bookshelf**, a TV with **DVD player**, there is the **sofa** and an **armchair**. We usually all come together here to, you know, watch a video or listen to some **music**.