

Jmfft2

I'm phoning about the house

Get ready to listen and speak

Read the accommodation advertisements and match them to the pictures.





GLEN EDEN 2 brm house near shopping centre and train. \$270 tel 483-86152

GLEN EDEN 3 brm f/f house with garage, garden; \$330pw inc bills. Phone 915-33291, 0273 463-1106 GREY LYNN 1 brm apt. close to shopping centre; \$190pw, n/s only. Ph 485 63142

• The places above are all in Auckland, New Zealand. Which place would you like to live in? Why?

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A Listening - Phoning a landlord

1 (1) Listen to Susan telephoning a landlord. Which advertisement in Get ready is she phoning about?

Learning tip

Read the exercise before you listen and make sure you know what you are listening for. For example, is it a number or a word?

2 (12) Read Susan's notes on the right. Then listen again and complete the gaps. (mins = minutes)

Did you know ...?

These are some common abbreviations in newspaper advertisements.

brm/bed = bedroom f/f = fully furnished pw = per week inc = including apt = apartment n/s = non smoker min = minimum tel/ph= telephone People say 'flat' in the UK and 'apartment' in the US.

'Unit' is used in New Zealand and Australia. This is a small house attached to one or more similar houses.

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|--|
| ****** |
| Address: House number: 3 36 Street |
| Close to - shops: " mins walk - train station: d mins walk |
| Two bedrooms: both double bedrooms? *YES / NO Large garden: 'YES / NO Visit flat at #pm. |
| |

Landlord = New Zealander)

Landlord: Hello.

Susan: Ah hello. I'm phoning about the

house in Glen Eden that's advertised in

the paper today.

Landlord: Yes.

Susan: I was just wondering where it is

exactly.

Landlord: 36 Arawa Street.

Susan: Sorry, 36...

Landlord: Arawa Street, A-R-A-W-A. It's

number 36.

Susan: Oh OK. The ad says it's close to the

shopping centre and train station. How far

away are they?

Landlord: Yeah, it's really close. Um, it's

probably about a ten-minute walk to

the shops and five minutes to the train

station, so it's not far from anything.

Susan: Oh good. Um, the bedrooms. There

are two, aren't there? What size are they?

Landlord: Yeah, one's a bit bigger than

the other... um but they're ... about...

medium size I guess.

Susan: Would they both fit double beds

in them?

Landlord: Ah the bigger one would, but the

other one probably only fits a single bed.

Ah they're both very sunny rooms.

Susan: Oh OK. Is there a garden?

Landlord: Ah not really. There's a small

area where you can hang your washing,

but no garden ... You can go and have a

look at it if you want.

Susan: OK, yeah.

Landlord: And your name is?

Susan: Susan.

Landlord: OK Susan, if you're interested,

I'll be down there at 5.30 if you want to

come and have a look.

Susan: Oh OK, thanks ... Bye.

Landlord: Bye.



B Speaking - Phoning a landlord

Speaking strategy Checking information

1 Look at part of the conversation Susan had. What does Susan say when she checks the address?

Does she ask a question?

YES / NO

Ah hello ... I'm phoning about the house in Susan:

Glen Eden that's advertised in the paper today.

Landlord: Yes.

Susan: I was just wondering where it is.

Landlord: 36 Arawa Street ...

Susan: Sorry, 36 ..

Landlord: Arawa Street, A-R-A-W-A. It's number 36.

Susan: Oh OK ...

2 (13) Now listen to Susan. What happens to Susan's voice when she checks the address? Choose the correct answer.

a It goes down.

b It stays the same.

You need to listen carefully to the way people's voices go up and down to express meaning. This is intonation.

3 Listen to other ways of checking information. Does the intonation rise or fall? Put an arrow # or ¥.





Speak up!

4 Listen to the landlord and use the Speaking strategy to check some of the information.

Example: a

Landlord: The other bedroom probably only fits a single bed. You say: Sorry, the other bedroom fits a ...

a Check the size of one of the bedrooms.

Landlord: The other bedroom probably only fits a single bed.

b Check what is ten minutes' walk away.

Landlord: Um, it's probably about a ten-minute walk to the shops.

c Check what time the landlord will be at the house.

Landlord: OK, if you're interested I'll be down there at

You:

5 Millsten and practise the intonation used to check the information.

| | ocus on ab le | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | Look at the questions Susan asked. Which is more polite? Tick ✓ a or b. a I was just wondering where it is. b What size are they? □ | | | | | | |
| 2 | Look at the questions again. What is different about the word order? I was just wondering where it is question word + subject + verb What size are they? question word + verb + subject | | | | | | |
| 3 | Change the questions below so they are more polite. a How far is it? I was just wondering how far it is. b How much is it? c How many bedrooms are there? d When can I move in? When you talk to someone you don't know very well, e.g. a landlord, you should ask polite questions. | | | | | | |

Sound smart Sentence stress

1 Listen to this question and underline the main

I was just wondering where it is.

Notice how was and just are not stressed so they become /waz/ and /daas/.

- 2 (17) Listen and repeat the question. I was just wondering where it is.
- 3 Practise saying these questions. Then repeat them after the speaker.
 - a I was just wondering how far it is.
 - b I was just wondering how much it is.
 - c I was just wondering how many bedrooms there are.
 - d I was just wondering when I can move in.

Try and use these unstressed forms when you speak. It will make you sound more natural.

Get ready to listen and speak

- O 18 2C 3A
- Your own answers.

- 2 b Arawa c 10 d 5 e No. One of the bedrooms is a double bedroom but the other bedroom only fits a single bed in it. f No. There is a small area where you can hang your washing but no garden. g $\,$ 5.30.

- Susan says 'Sorry, thirty six ...' She repeats part of the answer and
- waits for the other speaker to finish it. She doesn't ask a question.

 2 b It stays the same. This shows she hasn't finished what she wants to say. When you finish what you want to say, your intonation should go down, so the other speaker knows they can speak.
- 3 It rises () to show Susan is asking a question.
- 4 b Sorry, it's a ten-minute walk to ...
 c Sorry, you'll be down there at ...

Focus on asking questions

- 1 a 'I was just wondering ...' is more polite.
- 2 In a the word order is the same as in statements: subject + verb. In b the word order is the same as in questions: verb + subject.
- 3 b I was just wondering how much it is.
 - c I was just wondering how many bedrooms there are.
 - d I was just wondering when I can move in.

Sound smart

1 I was just wondering where it is.

- 1 The oven is broken. Susan says 'the oven's not working'.
- 2 a last night b Yes, she checked the plug. c He will try and fix the oven. If he can't, he will call an electrician. d 7 pm tomorrow

D

- 1 2 a 3 d 4 c
- 2 there's a broken window. We can't close it (send someone around to fix it?)
- 3 Your own answers.
- 4 Your own answers.