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English Department

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Listening & Speaking
(Unit 7)

Unit 7

How about a hostel?

Get ready to listen and speak

- Match the accommodation in 1 to 4 to the correct description. The first one has been done for you.
- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1 guesthouse | a You usually sleep in a large room with other guests, sometimes called a dorm. There is often a kitchen so you can make your own meals and sometimes there's a bar. |
| 2 campsite | b You have your own room and usually your own bathroom too. Breakfast is often included in the price and you can sometimes have other meals too. |
| 3 hostel | c These are sometimes called 'bed and breakfasts'. This is usually a private house where you get your own room. Breakfast is usually included and sometimes all meals are included too. Sometimes you have to share a bathroom. |
| 4 hotel | d You sleep in a tent here. There are usually toilets and showers. Sometimes there are shops. |
- Which of the places above do you think is the cheapest? Which is the most expensive? Put them in order.
- cheapest most expensive
- ←-----→

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A Listening - At the Tourist Information Centre

Anke is a German tourist. She has just arrived in Vancouver and is looking for accommodation. She goes to the Tourist Information Office.

- 1 Listen to the conversation between Anke and Dan, the Tourist Information Officer. Tick ✓ the types of accommodation in Get ready that they talk about.
- 2 Listen again and complete the table below. Write the price and yes (✓), no (X) or don't know (?). The first one has been done for you.



Place	Price (\$)	Share room	Share bathroom	Breakfast
The Pioneer	200	X	X	✓
The Vancouver Inn				
BC Lodge				
The Maple Leaf Villa				

Did you know ...?

Dollars (\$) are used in Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand. A slang term for dollars is *bucks* (20 dollars = 20 bucks). Pounds (£) are used in the UK. A slang term for pounds is *quid* (20 pounds = 20 quid).

B Speaking – At the Tourist Information Centre

Speaking strategy

Asking about accommodation

1 Anke uses different expressions to get more information about accommodation. Put them in the table below. The first one has been done for you. There are two expressions for each.

- I'm looking for somewhere to stay.
- Can you recommend somewhere central?
- It's too expensive for me.
- What's it like?
- I'm not keen on sharing a bedroom.
- That sounds interesting.
- Can you tell me more about that?
- Could I have a look at it?

making a general enquiry	a.
asking for more detailed information	
saying 'no'	
showing interest	

2 The sentences below are from Exercise 1. Replace the words in *italics* with an expression from the box.

cooking my own breakfast really good
far from the centre

- It's too *expensive* for me.
.....
- I'm not keen on *sharing a bedroom*.
.....
- That sounds *interesting*.
.....

Now complete these expressions.

sleeping in a tent far from the airport great

- It's too
- I'm not keen on
- That sounds

Learning tip

When you learn a new expression, it's a good idea to practise it with different words, like in Exercise 2.

Sound smart

Word stress

- Listen to the word stress in *noisy* and *quiet*. Which syllable is stressed?
- Repeat these words and mark the stress. Which word has different stress from the others?
noisy quiet hotel central luggage private hostel
- Where do you think the stress is in these three-syllable words?
expensive convenient interesting possible
- Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the words.

Learning tip

When you look up a new word in the dictionary, remember to check which syllable is stressed. A ' is put in front of the stressed syllable e.g. *noisy* /'noɪzi/. This means the stress is on the first syllable.

Speak up!

3 Listen to Dan speak then use the words below to help you answer his questions. Choose one of the three words or expressions in *italics*.

Example: a

Dan: Hello. Can I help you?

You say: I'm looking for somewhere *cheap*.

- Dan: Hello. Can I help you?
You: looking / somewhere / *cheap/quiet/private*
- Dan: Hi there. How can I help you?
You: looking / somewhere / *central/inexpensive/convenient*
- Dan: How about the Vancouver Inn? It's \$110 a night.
You: too *expensive/far from the centre/close to the airport*.
- Dan: You could try a hostel.
You: not keen on *sharing a bedroom/cooking my own meals/staying somewhere noisy*
- Dan: How about this guesthouse – the Maple Leaf Villa? It's very central, but it's not too expensive.
You: sounds / *interesting/possible/good*

4 Now try to do Exercise 3 again with this book closed.

