

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

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HOUSING

I. Pre-reading activities.

Answer the questions.

- Describe the place where you live.
- On which floor do you live?
- How many rooms do you have?
- Describe your own room.
- Do you have a garden? If so, how big is it?
- Does your family have any weekend house or cottage?
- What kind of housing is typical for your country?
- What makes a house a home?
- Explain an English proverb "My house, my castle."

II. Housing – text

I live in a three-roomed flat in a housing estate not far from the town centre. We live on the fourth floor and unfortunately there is no lift. Our flat is comfortable and lovely, the rooms are quite small but they respond to modern standards. The surroundings of our house are quite nice as there are many trees and lawns everywhere. But you have to mind where you step because there are many dogs around and their owners mostly don't clean up their droppings. Our housing estate looks generally nice, a lot of grey buildings now have a new coloured facade. There is also a good connection to both the centre and the railway station.

If you visit our family, you will come first to the entrance hall. It is small and there are many doors leading to each room. You will leave your coat on a hall stand and then I will show you round our flat.

The kitchen is our mother's kingdom. It is well equipped with a fridge, a freezer, a dishwasher, an electric oven and a gas-stove. Then there is a kitchen unit, a food store and a sink. In the corner there is a squared table with four chairs. Our kitchen is small but bright because there is a big window decorated with curtains.

The living room is in the centre of our family life. We spend our evenings here. It is the largest room of our flat. Here we can watch TV, listen to music, meet our guests sitting on a sofa or in armchairs. There is a coffee table with a vase in the middle of the room. We can see a wall-unit along the wall and there are some shelves with many books between the windows. The whole floor is covered with a brown carpet.

I have my own room. I used to share it with my brother but now when he left for Prague I have it for myself. My room is furnished with a cabinet, a wardrobe, a desk with a chair, a small bed and one very old and beautiful armchair. In the corner there is also a small table with a computer where I often play games or prepare to school. The walls are painted in light orange and they are decorated with many photographs and posters, so my room looks sunny and cosy.

My parents bedroom is quite small but it gives them privacy. There are only some wardrobes. A double bed with bedside tables and a mirror. Opposite this room there is a toilet and a bathroom with a large bath tub and a washbasin. On the walls you can see lovely light-blue tiles. There is also a small utility room next to the entrance hall. We can also store some things down in the cellar.

I have to help my mum to do the cleaning every week. It is usually Saturday morning when our flat has to be clean and tidy. I dust the furniture, water the plants and vacuum the carpet. My mum does the rest – she cleans the bathroom, does the washing and mops the floor. Sometimes, when it is my turn, I also

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have to do the stairs in our building. At other times we change the bed linen, clean the windows, wash the curtains and then someone has to iron them.

It must be very nice to live in a house with a beautiful garden, mainly with a swimming pool. You can go out and have a swim whenever you want, you can read in the garden or just relax. You can also hold barbecue parties for your friends. I'd really love to live in a house but it must be hard work too. I know from my friends who live in a house that they have to help much more than I have to, they have to mow the lawn, rake the leaves in autumn or clear the snow from the pavement in winter. Living in a flat is more comfortable, less expensive but there is no privacy. You must be quiet at night as neighbours may complain. It's also difficult to keep pets in a flat.

In Great Britain there are various types of houses:

Cottages are traditional houses in Britain. The cottage idyll is picturesque and romantic – the gardens are full of roses and herbs. Many of them have thatched or slate roofs.

Terraced houses are built in long rows, each house attached to another on both sides. The bedrooms are usually situated upstairs, the living room and kitchen downstairs.

Semi-detached houses are simply two houses joined side by side. These have fewer rooms and typically smaller gardens than detached houses.

Detached houses stand alone surrounded by gardens. These houses are mostly situated in the suburbs of towns and they are often owned by rich people.

Bungalows come in many variations; they only have a ground floor. They may have two or three bedrooms, extra study space, etc.

III. Vocabulary.

three- roomed flat - třípokojový byt

housing estate - sídliště

respond - odpovídat něčemu

surroundings - okolí

entrance hall - předsíň

hall stand - věšák

dishwasher - myčka

kitchen unit - kuchyňská linka

sink - dřez

squared table - čtvercový stůl

coffee table - konferenční stolek

wall unit - obývací stěna

share - sdílet

furnished - vybavený

cabinet - skříňka

poster - plakát

cosy - útulný

privacy - soukromí

bedside table - noční stolek

bath tub - vana

wash basin - umývadlo

tiles - obkládačky

pantry - komora

store - skladovat

cellar - sklep

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dust the furniture - utírat prach z nábytku

vacuum - vysávat

mop the floor - vytírat podlahu

bed linen - ložní prádlo

iron - žehlit

mow the lawn - sekat trávník

rake the leaves - hrabat listí

picturesque - malebný

thatched - doškový

slate - břidlice

suburb - předměstí

VI. *Post-reading activities.*

1. According to previous text answer the questions.

- Where does the boy live?
- Are there any disadvantages of the place where he lives?
- Describe his own room.
- What household jobs does he have to do?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a house and in a flat?
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2. Name the following types of houses and characterize them.



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V. Grammar Guide.

Vazba **there is, there are** vyjadřuje, že něco nebo někdo existuje nebo se vyskytuje. Odpovídá české větě se slovosledem:

Určení místa + je/ jsou + podmět
U okna je stůl.

Anglická věta začíná slovem *there*, které nepřekládáme, a určení místa stojí zpravidla na konci. Při překladu do češtiny je třeba začít určením místa.

There + is are + podmět + určení místa
There is a table at the window.
There are two books on the table.
Otázka: Is there a lamp in the corner?
Zápor: There isn't a lamp in the corner.

Translate into English.

1. Blízko náměstí je pošta.
2. V této básni je mnoho zajímavých nápadů.
3. Kolik másla je v lednici?
4. Není tady výtah.
5. Jsou tady záchody, prosím?
6. V té krabici nic není.
7. V tomto patře jsou čtyři byty.

VI. Exercises.

1. Name five activities that you can do in the following places.

- In the living room I can
- In the kitchen I can
- In the bathroom I can
- In the garden I can
- In my own room I can

2. Match the words to form compound words. Fill each gap with the correct compound word.

a/ bath	1.....bin
b/ bed	2.....board
c/ cup	3.....case
d/ door	4.....lady
e/ dust	5.....pot
f/ flower	6.....mat
g/ hand	7.....room
h/ land	8.....stair
i/ stair	9.....shop
j/ work	10.....spread

1. A -----is known in the US as a garbage can.
4. My mother keeps all the plates in a -----.
5. My father keeps all his DIY tools in the -----.
6. My grandmother uses a ----- to cover the blankets and pillows.
7. My grand father can't climb stairs without holding the -----.
8. John's ----- always gets angry when he falls behind with the rent.
9. Wipe your dirty shoes on the ----- before you come i
10. There is a spiral -----leading all the way up to the tower

3. Choose the best answer A, B, C or D.

1. They decided to down the old hostel and built a new one.
A. take B. destroy C. pull D. hit
2. Mary has lots of built- cupboards in her flat.
A. up B. on C. off D. in
3. I always the cleaning on Saturday morning.
A. do B. make C. have D. prepare
4. Sharon's flat is finally fully
A. equip B. equipped C. equipping D. equipment
5. The of living is very high in any capital city
A. price B. rate C. cost D. bill
6. You should come and a look at our new three piece suite.
A. have B. make C. do D. give

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7. Sit the sofa. It's more comfortable than the armchair.
A. in B. at C. on D. up
8. I've got a great from our balcony.
A. window B. view C. floor D. entrance.

4. Fill each gap with one word.

Housing in the USA

In 1/ Czech Republic, people usually say they live in the house or in a flat. In the US there
2/ Many different sizes and styles of apartments and houses in every city, small town and village.

The early settlers in America usually made houses out of wood, because the lands 3/ covered
with thick forests. As the country began 4/ develop, houses were made of wood, brick, or stone.
After World War II the US government tried to help 5/ returning soldier find work and buy
6/ own little home. Then, owning your own home became 7/ even bigger symbol of
individual rights, independence, and the ability to live 8/ own life exactly in 9/ way you
choose.

In cities 10/ towns, people own private homes or apartments. In small towns and 11/
countryside, they might own an apartment or home, a farm, or a ranch.

The way you decorate your home both inside 12/ outside – whether artistically (traditional or
modern) 13/ quite crazily – is a very important statement of your individuality. Not many
Americans own a summer cottage; they would think that Czechs 14/ do must be very rich.
15/ , almost every American can own a home – a symbol of freedom for them

5. Choose the best answer.

Most British people expect to buy a house 1/some time in their lives. 2/ The last few years
house prices have become very high. Even the smallest; old terraced cottage (a row 3/ small
houses joined side 4/ side) can now cost well 5/ 150,000 pounds. If the terraced cottage is
a fisherman's cottage 6/ the sea, or 7/ a beautiful English village, you can add another
50,000 pounds 8/ that price. Wages in Britain are quite high, but the cost 9/ living here is
high too, so borrowing enough money to buy a small house is now almost impossible = no wonder so
many British people 10/ debt.

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. A. in | B. at | C. after |
| 2. A. in | B. after | C. since |
| 3. A. from | B. for | C. of |
| 4. A. with | B. by | C. for |
| 5. A. about | B. over | C. off |
| 6. A. on | B. with | C. by |
| 7. A. on | B. around | C. in |
| 8. A. to | B. for | C. from |
| 9. A. of | B. for | C. on |
| 10. A. on | B. at | C. in |



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Solutions.

- Grammar:
1. There's a post office near the square.
 2. There are a lot of interesting ideas in this poem
 3. How much butter is there in the fridge?
 4. There isn't a lift here.
 5. Are there any toilets here, please?
 6. There isn't anything in the box.
 7. There are four flats on this floor.

Exercise 2: 1. dustbin, 2. bathroom, 3. flowerpot, 4. workshop, 5. cupboard, 6. bedspread, 7. handrail, 8. landlady, 9. doormat, 10. staircase.

Exercise 3: 1.C, 2.D, 3.A, 4.B, 5.C, 6.A, 7.C, 8.B.

4: 1. the, 2. are, 3. were, 4. to, 5. every/each, 6. his, 7. an, 8. your, 9. the, 10. and, 11. the, 12. and, 13. or, 14. who, 15. However.

Exercise

Exercise 5: 1 B, 2.A, 3.C, 4.B, 5.B, 6.C, 7.C, 8.A, 9.A, 10.C.

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