Unit 1

♦ How to Look for an Apartment
♦ Reading Classified Ads
♦ What You Want in an Apartment
♦ What You Need to Move In
♦ Simple Past Tense
LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT — Part 1

Read the stories and answer the questions with complete sentences.

Marta and Jose are married and they have a beautiful family. He is a gardener and she is a student. They recently moved to Los Angeles. They are staying at the apartment of Marta’s sister Rosalba and her husband Roberto. This morning, Jose is at work and Rosalba is helping Marta look for an apartment in the classified ads of the newspaper.

In the ads, Marta sees a two-bedroom apartment for a very good price. She wants to call the manager right away to find out more information. Rosalba sees a one-bedroom apartment at a cheaper price and thinks it’s good for her sister. Marta tells Rosalba that she and Jose really need a two-bedroom apartment because of their children. Marta calls the telephone number in the ad right away to see about the apartment and to make an appointment with the manager.

1. Where are Martha and Jose staying right now?
________________________________________________________________________

2. Where is Jose this morning?
________________________________________________________________________

3. How many bedrooms are there in the apartment that Marta wants?
________________________________________________________________________

4. Why does Rosalba prefer the one-bedroom apartment?
________________________________________________________________________

5. Who is Rosalba’s husband?
________________________________________________________________________
LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT — Part 2

Marta and Rosalba arrive for their appointment at 11:00 am to see the apartment. They’re on time, but the manager is not there. Marta is worried that maybe the landlord rented the apartment to a different family. After a few minutes, the manager finally arrives. He’s carrying a large box. He apologizes. “Hello, I’m Ivan, the manager. I’m sorry I’m late. The clerk at the hardware store was slow.” They go upstairs to see the apartment.

Inside, Marta walks through every room. She examines the windows, walls, closets and cabinets. She likes this apartment very much and asks Ivan what is required to move in. “The monthly rent is $535.00. You’re required to leave the first and last months’ rent, as well as a $500.00 security deposit in advance in order to move in,” Ivan informs her. “Utilities are extra.” He gives Marta an application and asks her to fill it out and come back with it.

1. Who is Ivan?

_________________________________________________________________________

2. Where did Ivan go before he met Marta?

_________________________________________________________________________

3. Is the apartment located upstairs or downstairs?

_________________________________________________________________________

4. How much is the rent each month?

_________________________________________________________________________

5. What is required for Marta and Jose to move in?

_________________________________________________________________________
APARTMENT VOCABULARY

Study the following definitions.

• apologize   say “I’m sorry”
• application for rent  a form you fill out to rent an apartment
• as well as   also; in addition
• come back with   return and bring with you
• excited about  very, very happy about something
• fill out   complete a printed form
• find out   get information; learn about
• hang up   put the telephone receiver on its hook
• happy for someone   pleased when something good happens to someone you like
• in advance   before
• landlord   the owner of an apartment
• look for   try to find
• make sure   be certain
• move in   move yourself and your furniture into a place
• on time   not early and not late
• rent    money you pay to live in an apartment
• right away   immediately; now
• security deposit  money given to the landlord as insurance
• see about   get information about
• tenant   a person who rents an apartment
• utilities   water, electricity and gas
Fill in the blanks with the vocabulary from the previous page.

1. When you make an appointment with someone, you should never be late; you should be _____________.

2. The best way to _________________ an apartment is to look in the classified ads.

3. To rent an apartment, you usually have to pay a first and last months’ _________________ as well as a _____________.

4. I’m _________________ my new apartment because it comes with air conditioning, a dishwasher and a fireplace.

5. You should _________________ everything in your new apartment is fixed, cleaned, painted and ready before you _________________.

6. After you decide on the apartment you want, you must fill out an _________________ and give it to the landlord or manager.

7. If you are late for an appointment, it’s nice to _________________ to the manager.

8. The water, electricity and gas are called _________________.

9. The owner of the apartment is the _________________ and the person who rents the apartment is the _________________.


ABBREVIATIONS IN ADS

Study the following abbreviations.

- & and
- /mo per month
- ½ ba toilet and sink, no shower or tub
- AC air conditioning
- apt apartment
- avail available
- ba / Bath bathroom
- bach bachelor (1 room apartment, usually no kitchen)
- balc balcony
- bldg building
- BR / Bdrm bedroom
- dep deposit
- DR / Dnrm dining room
- dw / dshwshr dishwasher
- elev elevator
- eves call evenings only
- fl bath full bathroom with toilet and tub
- fp / frpl fireplace
- frig refrigerator
- furn / unfurn furnished; has furniture / unfurnished; has no furniture
- ga / grg garage (for cars)
- incl included (you do not have to pay for them)
- kit separate kitchen
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lg</td>
<td>large</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indry</td>
<td>laundry facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LR / lvrn</td>
<td>living room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nr</td>
<td>near; close to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nu crpt</td>
<td>new carpet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nu pnt</td>
<td>new paint job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pets OK</td>
<td>cats and dogs can live there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pkg / prkg</td>
<td>parking available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prvt</td>
<td>private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rm</td>
<td>room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>schl</td>
<td>school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sec bldg</td>
<td>building that has security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sep</td>
<td>separate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sgl</td>
<td>single (one room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stu</td>
<td>studio (one room with kitchen appliances)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>util</td>
<td>utilities (water, electricity and gas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yd</td>
<td>yard (grass in front or in back)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
READING CLASSIFIED ADS

Look at the different ads below and answer the questions.

1. The apartment is in _________________________________.
2. The kitchen isn’t small; it’s _________________________.
3. There is a place to park the car because there is a _____________.
4. You do not have to pay for ______________ because they are included.
5. You do not need furniture because the apartment is _______________.

6. Where is the apartment? ________________________________
7. Is the building old? ________________________________
8. Does the tenant need furniture? _____________________
9. Does the tenant pay extra for utilities? ______________
10. How much is needed to move in? ____________________
11. The apartment is in ______________________________.

12. The apartment is sunny. This means that it has many ________________.

13. Parking is not included in the rent. It costs an extra ________________.

14. The apartment is good in hot weather because it has ________________
    and a ________________.

15. How much is the rent? ______________________________

16. What is the phone number? ______________________________

17. When is a good time to call? ______________________________

18. Who do you call for information? ______________________________

19. Are utilities included? ______________________________
Write the words for these abbreviations.

1. bath ________________________________
2. AC ________________________________
3. frpl ________________________________
4. sec bldg ____________________________
5. grg ________________________________
6. yd ________________________________

Answer these questions using the information on the sign.

7. How much is the rent? ________________________________
8. What city is the apartment in? ____________________________
9. What’s the phone number? ________________________________
10. Who do you ask for? ________________________________
11. Is there a place to park your car? __________________________

JAMESTOWN APT, $900, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, AC, frpl, sec bldg, sep grg, nice yd, call (818) 429-9138
Ask for Nancy.
**READING SIGNS**

Room for Rent
MONTEBELLO, $150
util included, prvt bath,
Indry & new kit, unfurn,
(213) 728-9134, eves only

**Write the words for these abbreviations.**

1. util ____________________________
2. prvt ____________________________
3. Indry ___________________________
4. kit _____________________________
5. unfurn __________________________

**Answer these questions using the information on the sign.**

6. How much is the rent? ________________________________
7. Are the utilities included? _____________________________
8. Is the bathroom shared or private? _____________________
9. Is the rent expensive? ________________________________
10. Is there furniture in the room? ________________________
MARTA APPLIES FOR THE APARTMENT

Read the story and answer the questions with complete sentences.

After Marta fills out the application for rent, Ivan looks it over and asks her a few questions.

Ivan: “Your husband Jose, what does he do?”
Marta: “He’s a gardener.”
Ivan: “And you, what do you do?”
Marta: “I’m a mother and a housewife. I’m also a student. I’m studying auto mechanics.”

Ivan likes Marta, and he thinks she’s a responsible person and probably a good tenant. He tells her that he needs to check her credit and references. If there are no problems, they can probably move in this weekend.

1. What does Jose do for a living?

_____________________________________________________________________

2. Why is Marta so busy?

_____________________________________________________________________

3. Does Ivan need to check Marta’s credit and references?

_____________________________________________________________________

4. When can Jose and Marta move in?

_____________________________________________________________________
MARTA GETS THE APARTMENT

At Rosalba’s apartment, Marta and Rosalba wait for Ivan’s telephone call. They hope that the application was OK. Finally, the telephone rings. It’s Ivan, and he tells Marta that everything is fine and she and Jose can have the apartment. When Marta hangs up, she is very excited. Rosalba is happy for Marta. Rosalba loves her sister, but she and Roberto will be happy to have their apartment to themselves.

When Jose comes home from work, Marta tells him the good news. He’s glad, but he thinks it’s too much money. Marta thinks they can afford it and, of course, Marta knows best. So, they decide to move in this weekend.

1. Where are Marta and Rosalba?

_________________________________________________________________________

2. Who calls Marta on the telephone?

_________________________________________________________________________

3. Do Jose and Marta get the apartment?

_________________________________________________________________________

4. Does Jose think the apartment is too expensive?

_________________________________________________________________________

5. Who is more confident about paying the rent, Jose or Marta?

_________________________________________________________________________
THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE

PRESENT
Tanya plays soccer every day.

PAST
Tanya played soccer yesterday.

Compare the sentences.

PRESENT
• I cook lunch every day.
• Juan watches TV every morning.
• Jin Lee studies English every day.
• Maria and Carolina wash their clothes on Saturdays.
• Luna listens to the radio every day.
• Fred cleans his house every week.
• Joe and I work in Texas every summer.

PAST
I cooked lunch yesterday.
He watched TV last night.
She studied English last year.
They washed their clothes last Sunday.
She listened to the radio last week.
He cleaned his house last Monday.
We worked in Oregon last summer.
THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td></td>
<td>yesterday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td></td>
<td>last night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td></td>
<td>last week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>worked</td>
<td>two days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It</td>
<td></td>
<td>two weeks ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td></td>
<td>this morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td></td>
<td>yesterday morning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
- study > studied
- wrap > wrapped
- live > lived
- carry > carried
- stop > stopped
- dance > danced

Change these sentences to the simple past tense.

Ex: Alicia plays cards on Saturdays.
Alicia played cards last Saturday.

1. Dina listens to music every night.
   She listened to music last night.

2. Joe and Mary watch TV every day.
   They watched TV yesterday.

3. We paint the house every 5 years.
   We painted the house 4 years ago.

4. I wash the windows once a week.
   I washed the windows last week.

5. Sam studies Spanish at the adult school.
   He studied Spanish two years ago.

6. The train stops in Fresno every day.
   It stopped in Fresno yesterday.

7. John fixes his car every month.
   He fixed his car last month.

8. Habib cleans his room every morning.
   He cleaned his room this morning.

9. I cook dinner at home every night.
   I cooked dinner at home last night.

10. Tina and Tuy dance on Fridays.
    They danced last Friday.
FOCUSED LISTENING WORKSHEET

Watch the video section called “Focused Listening.”
Then circle the correct answer in each group.

SCENE 1
What caused the problem?
1. Marta and Jose had too much furniture.
2. Marta and Ivan hadn’t set a specific day to move in.
3. Marta and Jose wanted to surprise Ivan.

SCENE 2
What caused the problem?
1. Marta didn’t tell Ivan that the light should be fixed right away.
2. Ivan didn’t feel like doing the work.
3. Jose forgot to tell Marta that he was going to install a new light fixture.

SCENE 3
What caused the problem?
1. Ivan parked his car wherever he wanted.
2. Jose preferred parking on the street.
3. Jose didn’t know where his parking space was.
UNIT 1 TEST

Circle the best answer.

1. If you want to rent this apartment, you’ll have to _____________ an application.
   a. fill out
   b. apologize
   c. find out

2. _______________ are included. You don’t have to pay for electricity, water & gas.
   a. Telephones
   b. Food
   c. Utilities

3. Mr. Martinez owns this apartment. He’s the _________________.
   a. tenant
   b. landlord
   c. doorman

4. I live in this apartment. I am the _________________.
   a. tenant
   b. landlord
   c. doorman

5. Before you move in, you must pay the first and last months’ rent as well as the ____________.
   a. utilities
   b. security deposit
   c. landlord

6. A good place to look for an apartment is in ______________________ of the newspaper.
   a. the front page
   b. the sports section
   c. the classified ads

7. If there’s an apartment you like, you should call the manager to make an ________________
   to see it.
   a. appointment
   b. plan
   c. date
UNIT 1 TEST

8. When you see furn in an ad, that means the apartment ________________.
   a. needs furniture  
   b. has furniture  
   c. wants furniture

9. If you want a balcony in your apartment, you need to look for ___________ in the ad.
   a. dep  
   b. bach  
   c. balc

10. There are different kinds of apartments: a one bedroom, a studio, and a ___________.
    a. villa  
    b. balcony  
    c. bachelor

11. Marco _____________ English every morning before he goes to work.
    a. study  
    b. studying  
    c. studies

12. Yesterday morning, Marco _______________ English before work.
    a. studied  
    b. studying  
    c. studies

13. Maria and Jose ______________ their apartment every weekend.
    a. clean  
    b. cleaning  
    c. cleans

14. Last Sunday, they ______________ their apartment.
    a. clean  
    b. cleaned  
    c. cleaning

15. John _____________ to New York last year.
    a. move  
    b. moved  
    c. moveed
UNIT 1 TEST

16. I ____________ to New York every month.
   a. traveling
   b. traveled
   c. travel

17. The train ______________ at Fresno yesterday.
   a. stopped
   b. stoped
   c. stops

18. Ivan _____________ many heavy packages yesterday afternoon.
   a. carryed
   b. carried
   c. carries

19. We _______________ dinner at 6:00 pm last night.
   a. cook
   b. cookked
   c. cooked

20. Kerry and Robert ______________ to the theater last night.
   a. walk
   b. walked
   c. walking
UNIT 1
STUDENT ANSWER KEY

VOCABULARY (page 5)
1. on time
2. see about / look for
3. rent, security deposit
4. renting / excited about
5. make sure, move in
6. application
7. apologize
8. utilities
9. landlord, tenant

READING SIGNS (page 11)
1. utilities
2. private
3. laundry
4. kitchen
5. unfurnished
6. It’s $150.00.
7. Yes, they are.
8. It’s private.
9. No, it isn’t.
10. No, there isn’t.

READING CLASSIFIED ADS (pages 8 & 9)
1. Hollywood
2. large
3. garage
4. utilities
5. furnished
6. It’s in Burbank.
7. No, it isn’t.
8. No, the tenant doesn’t.
9. No, the tenant doesn’t.
10. It’s $925.00.
11. Los Angeles
12. windows
13. $35.00 a month
14. air conditioning, pool
15. It’s $700.00.
16. It’s 626-893-4567
17. Call after 7:00 pm.
18. Call Fred.
19. No, they aren’t.

THE SIMPLE PAST TENSE (page 15)
1. listened
2. watched
3. painted
4. washed
5. studied
6. stopped
7. fixed
8. cleaned
9. cooked
10. danced

FOCUSED LISTENING (page 16)
1. 2
2. 1
3. 3

READING SIGNS (page 10)
1. bathroom
2. air conditioning
3. fireplace
4. building that has security
5. garage
6. yard
7. It’s $900.00.
8. It’s in Jamestown.
9. It’s (818) 429-9138.
10. Ask for Nancy.
11. Yes, there is.