

QUICK REVIEW Making generalisations

Write three sentences to describe typical characteristics of your nationality: *We tend to ...*, *We can be rather/a bit/quite ...*, *Most people aren't very ...*, *Generally speaking, ...*, *On the whole, ...*. Work in groups. Tell the group your sentences. Do you agree with your partners' sentences? Why?/Why not?

Vocabulary and Speaking Homes

- 1 Work in pairs. Put these words/phrases into groups 1–3. Then check in

VOCABULARY 5.1 p138.

in the city centre an apartment block
 a balcony in the country a loft
 in the suburbs a study
 in a quiet/lively/friendly neighbourhood
 a cottage in a residential area
 a garage a detached house a roof
 on the ground/first/top floor
 a terraced house stairs

- 1 homes and buildings *an apartment block*
 2 parts of a home *a balcony*
 3 location *in the city centre*

- 2 a What are the five most important things to look for in a new home? Use words/phrases in 1 and your own ideas.

a garden or a balcony
in a quiet neighbourhood

- b Work in new pairs. Compare ideas and give reasons for your choices. Did you choose any of the same things?

Reading and Listening

- 3 a Read about three places to rent in Bristol, England. Which do you like best? Why?
- b **CD1** 42 Tim and Jo are looking for a new place to live. Listen to their conversation. Which place do they want to see again? Why?

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PROPERTIES TO RENT Bristol



BISHOPSTON

Spacious terraced house in friendly neighbourhood



Three bedrooms (two double and one single), bathroom, large living room, new kitchen, loft, gas central heating, attractive front and back gardens.

Unfurnished
£1,100 pcm

REDLAND

Large detached house in quiet residential area



Large kitchen/breakfast room, three double bedrooms, new bathroom, living room, electric central heating, garage, front and back garden.

Unfurnished
£1,350 pcm

HOTWELLS

Spacious flat on top floor of new apartment block



Two double bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen, living room, electric central heating, air conditioning, balcony with river views, parking space.

Unfurnished
£1,200 pcm

4 a Work in pairs. Look at these sentences. Do you think they describe the house in Bishopston (B), the house in Redland (R) or the flat in Hotwells (H)?

- 1 It seemed **slightly bigger** than where we live now. *B*
- 2 It's the **least expensive** place we've seen so far.
- 3 It's one of the **oldest** houses we've looked at.
- 4 It's **a little further** away from the city centre.
- 5 It was **a lot more spacious** than I'd expected.
- 6 It had the **most amazing** view.
- 7 It's got the **worst** kitchen I've ever seen.
- 8 The back garden was **far smaller** than I'd expected.
- 9 It was **much noisier** than the other two.
- 10 The first place we saw was **better**.
- 11 It's **a bit less expensive** than the Redland house.

b **CD1** 42 Listen again and check.

HELP WITH GRAMMAR

Making comparisons

5 a Look at the words/phrases in **blue** in the sentences in **4a**. Then answer these questions.

- 1 Which are comparatives?
- 2 Which are superlatives?
- 3 When do we use *-er* or *-est*?
- 4 When do we use *more* or *most*?
- 5 Which comparatives and superlatives are irregular?
- 6 What are the opposites of *more* and *most*?

TIP • We can also use *more* or *most* with nouns:
It's got more space. It's got the most rooms.

b Look at the words in **pink** in the sentences in **4a**. Which mean: a big difference? a small difference?

c Look at the phrases in **bold** in these sentences. Then answer the questions.

It's **the same size as** our house.

It's **not as big as** the other two places.

It was **different from** anything else we've seen.

It's **as small as** the one we've got now.

It's very **similar to** where we live now.

- 1 Which phrases mean the things we are comparing are: the same? nearly the same? not the same?
- 2 Do we use the adjective or its comparative form with *(not) as ... as*?

d Check in **GRAMMAR 5.1** p139.

6 **CD1** 43 **PRONUNCIATION** Listen and practise. Copy the stress and weak forms.

It seemed slightly bigger than /ðən/ where we live now.

It's not as /əz/ big as /əz/ the other two places.

7 Fill in the gaps with the comparative or superlative forms of the adjectives in brackets. Use *the* where necessary.

The terraced house in Bishopston is:

- 1 the smallest (small) of the three properties.
- 2 _____ (near) to the shops than the flat.
- 3 _____ (expensive) of the three properties.

The detached house in Redland is:

- 4 in a _____ (busy) street than the terraced house.
- 5 much _____ (attractive) than the flat.
- 6 _____ (far) from the city centre.

The top-floor flat in Hotwells is:

- 7 a lot _____ (bright) inside than the two houses.
- 8 _____ (modern) of the three properties.
- 9 in _____ (friendly) neighbourhood in the city.

8 a Rewrite these sentences with the words in brackets.

- 1 Her flat is more spacious than mine. (not as ... as)
My flat isn't as spacious as hers.
- 2 I'm not as organised as her. (more)
- 3 I don't look the same as her. (different)
- 4 Her taste in music is almost the same as mine. (similar)
- 5 I'm a bit more confident than her. (less)
- 6 I'm more ambitious than her. (not as ... as)
- 7 I'm much less stubborn than her. (more)
- 8 We're the same age. (as ... as)

b Choose a woman or girl you know well. Tick sentences in **8a** that are true for you and her.

c Work in pairs. Tell your partner about the woman or girl you chose. Use sentences from **8a**.

Get ready ... Get it right!

9 Choose three houses or flats that you know well. Write six sentences to compare these homes. Use the language in **5** and these ideas.

- location and size of house/flat
- size of rooms/balcony/garden
- age and condition of house/flat
- distance from shops/centre/station
- type of neighbourhood
- your own ideas

My friend Julia's house is a bit larger than mine.

My sister's flat is a lot closer to the city centre.

My grandparents' flat is probably the oldest.

10 a Work in pairs. Tell your partner about the houses or flats you chose. Ask follow-up questions.

b Tell the class two interesting things about the homes you talked about.