My family and I live on the tenth floor in an apartment building downtown. The building is next to a supermarket and across from a bank. There are two small bedrooms in our home and there is a large living room. I really like our living room because you can see all the city from our window. Also, there is a comfortable sofa and two chairs where we can watch TV together. There is a coffee table in front of the sofa and there are some flowers on it. There aren’t any windows in our kitchen, but it’s clean and modern. This is great because sometimes I like to cook dinner for my family. Our home is located downtown, so it’s a little noisy, but I like it.
I live outside the city in a large house with my family. There aren’t many buildings near our home, but there is a small store across the street. We’re lucky because we have a large yard behind our house, and so we also have a small garden and a few pet rabbits that we keep. I like my bedroom because it’s large and it has a large window, but I have to share it with my younger brother. We have three bedrooms in our home. In the living room, there is a lot of furniture – there are three big book shelves and there are several chairs, so when friends come to visit everyone has a place to sit. I think our home is really great!
Listen and answer. INTERVIEW with Jennifer

1. What floor do Jennifer and her family live on?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. How many bedrooms are there in her home?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. What can she see from the living room window?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. What is on the living room coffee table?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. How many windows are there in the kitchen?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Listen and answer. INTERVIEW with Eduard

1. What is across the street from Eduard’s home?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. What is behind Eduard’s home?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. What is in Eduard’s yard?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. How many bedrooms are there in Eduard’s home?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. What does Eduard say about his living room?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
INTERVIEW

Describing Homes

Aims Listening and speaking practice (describing places); practice reading aloud and taking notes

Level Elementary

ANSWER KEY

INTERVIEW with Jennifer

1. They live on the tenth floor.
2. There are two bedrooms in her home.
3. She can see (all) the city.
4. There are some flowers on the coffee table.
5. There aren’t any windows.

INTERVIEW with Eduard

1. There is a (small) store across the street.
2. There is a (large) yard behind his home.
3. There is a (small) garden and there are (a few) rabbits.
4. There are three bedrooms.
5. There is a lot of furniture.

ACTIVITY NOTES

- Because the interviewers must both listen and take notes at the same time, consider allowing them to write incomplete sentences ("notes") on the question/answer handout.

- Following the activity, you can elicit complete sentences and write them on the board – or have students volunteer to come up and write their sentences.

- Before the activity, it may be useful to write one or two phrases on the board asking for repetition or clarification – and practice them with your students. For example: “Excuse me, could you repeat that?” or “Did you say ...?”

- This activity works well as a lead-in to a less guided activity in which students interview their classmates (who supply real answers about themselves).

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