Yaopeng Wong

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Me in Penver

July 2004 Penver, Colorado, U.S.A.

This is my third month as a student in Denver, Colorado. I'm learning a lot in English class. I'm writing in this journal to practice my English.

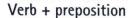
I'm living with a host family. Patricia, my host mother, is really nice. She's divorced and has two kids — a seventeen-year-old son, Jason, and a twelve-year-old daughter, Clarissa. We live in a large apartment. I have my own room. It has a bed, a desk, and a small closet. We share the bathroom and a computer in the living room. I can also use the kitchen or watch TV in the living room.

Living with an American family is interesting. On the first day here, Patricia showed me the house and my room. She said, "Make yourself at home." At first, I didn't understand, but now I do. The house is like my house. I usually make breakfast for myself. I do my own laundry. I clean my own room. Patricia is my host mother, but she is like a friend or a roommate. But, there are rules. It's okay for my friends to visit, but only on the weekend. Jason's friends come to the apartment on the weekend. They hang out in his room and listen to music or watch videos. Sometimes my friends

from school have dinner with my family.

ANSWER

What does the expression Make yourself at home mean? Is there a similar expression in your language? Think about Yaopeng's host family. Is your house and family similar or different? How?



Many verbs in English are followed by a preposition. Some prepositions are at, about, for, to, with.

	verb	prep.	noun		verb	prep.	noun phrase
Jason	listens	to	music.	I	listen	to	the radio.



Underline the verb + preposition in each sentence.

- 1. Let's not take a taxi. Let's wait for the bus.
- 2. Tom is talking to his roommate, Sean.
- 3. Joey is talking about his roommate, Lance.
- 4. Robert is looking at the menu.
- 5. Yoshi is looking for his keys.
- 6. Mona lives with her grandmother.
- **B** Match each picture with a sentence from A.











Pair work. Complete the sentences with a verb + preposition from A. Use the correct form of the verb.

- 1. A: Sheila, who are you <u>talking to</u>?
 - B: Ellen. We're _____ our trip to Las Vegas.
- 2. A: What are you _____?
 - B: My sunglasses. I lost them!
- 3. A: Do you want to _____ a taxi?
 - B: No, let's walk.

- 4. A: Why are you _____ that woman?
 - B: I think I know her.
- 5. I _____ my family in a large apartment.

5 Writing

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My house



Read the description of an apartment in Hong Kong. Then write about your house or apartment.



I live with my family in an apartment in Hong Kong. We live on the sixteenth floor. There are two bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen, a bathroom, and a balcony. There are plants on the balcony. The balcony has big glass doors. I share a bedroom with my sister. In the room, there are two beds. There is also a desk, a closet, and a stereo. We like to listen to music at night before we go to sleep. Sometimes, we talk about our day.

B Pair work. Share your writing with a partner. Ask questions about your partner's house or apartment.

6 Communication

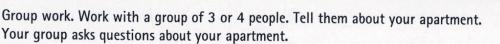


Looking for a roommate



Read the advertisement and answer the questions.

- 1. How many rooms are there in the apartment?
- 2. Is there a private room for you? What rooms do you share?
- 3. Where is the apartment?
- 4. What are the house rules?
- B Imagine you have an apartment. You want a roommate. Write an ad on a separate piece of paper.



Is there a washer and dryer?

Is the apartment near shops?

What are your house rules?



Check out the World Link video.



Practice your English online at worldlink.heinle.com.

Looking for a roommate!

Share a large, five-room apartment with me. There are two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bathroom. There is a washer, a dryer, and a dishwasher.

Where: I live in the university district.
The apartment is near shops and restaurants, and subway lines 2 and 3. It's perfect for a student!

No smokers please!