**Homes in the UK**

**Look at the photos of different homes in the UK.**

**Are they the same as the homes in your country?**

Martha and Matt Turner live in Birmingham. Their house is a typical semi-detached house in the **suburbs**. There’s a garage, a small garden at the front and a bigger garden at the back.   
There’s a **pond** in the garden, and a **shed** where Martha and Matt keep their gardening things.



Matt’s brother Paul and his family lived in a **rented** house for a long time, but now they’ve got a modern house on a new **estate**. Paul says ‘It’s great to have our own home at last, but there isn’t a lot of space, and we need more cupboards’. New houses in the UK often have smaller rooms, so a lot of people don’t like them.



**Terraced** houses are very common in the UK. A ‘terrace’ is a row of houses which are joined together. Martha’s sister, Rosie, has got a terraced house near the city centre. There’s a shop at the end of the road, but most people do their shopping at the local supermarket. The people in Rosie’s street are very friendly. ‘I like my neighbours,’ she says. ‘But sometimes their music is a bit loud!’



Matt’s parent’s live in a **cottage** in a village in Sussex, in southeast England. They’ve got a dog and two cats. Matt says ‘I love my mum and dad’s house. It’s so quiet and peaceful. And it’s got a beautiful garden. I’m very jealous!’



Most people in the UK live in a house but, in big cities, a lot of people live in flats. In the 1960s, new flats in ‘tower blocks’ were popular. They were clean, modern and had excellent views. But today many people don’t like them. Julia Turner lives on the twelfth floor of a tower block in London. ‘The lifts don’t always work, and the stairs and **corridors** are dirty,’ she says. ‘But houses are so expensive now, we haven’t got much choice.’



**About the PM’S home**

The British Prime Minister lives at 10 Downing Street. (It’s a terraced house in the middle of London.) But he hasn’t got a **front-door** key.

**Tasks**

**A Are these sentences true, false or ‘we don’t know’?**

1. Martha and Matt’s house has got two gardens. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Their house is near the city centre. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Paul and his family don’t live in a rented house now.
4. Their new house isn’t very big. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Terraced houses have got big gardens. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Rosie’s local supermarket is at the end of the road. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Matt’s parents’ house has got a garage. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Julia doesn’t like her flat very much. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **TYPE OF A HOME** | **Who?** | **Where?** | **How big?** | **What is it like?** |
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