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|  | **Language Support for Migrants *A Council of Europe Toolkit*** |  |

**Tool 66 – Scenario: Finding accommodation**

**Aims: To inform migrants about housing in the host country and enable them to communicate about accommodation.**

**Communicative situations**

* Understand advertisements for apartments and houses to let.
* Understand and be able to give simple information.

**Materials**

1. Pictures related to housing.
2. Floorplans of apartments.

**Language activities**

*Activity 1*

Use the pictures related to housing to get learners to talk about:

* Accommodation and housing in their own country.
* Similarities and difference between homes in the host country and in their own countries.

*Activity 2*

Use the pictures to introduce some key-words related to housing (e.g. *flat, apartment, house, bedroom etc.).*

* Ask participants to write these words on cards.
* Check comprehension by asking them to match the words with pictures.

*Activity 3*

Show migrants one of the floorplans and introduce or check their knowledge of keywords by asking e.g. *Where is the kitchen? And the bathroom?* Then ask them to point to these rooms on the floorplan.

*Activity 4*

Ask migrants to draw a floorplan by following simple instructions, e.g. *an apartment with one large bedroom, a kitchen, a big living room, and a very small bathroom*.

*Activity 5*

* Hand out the two floorplans and describe one of the apartments.
* Ask learners to indicate which is the apartment you described.
* Then, allowing time for preparation, ask them to describe the other floorplan in a simple way.

*Activity 6*

Find some advertisements (with pictures) of flats or houses to let in the area.

* Ask questions such as: *Have you ever tried to find an apartment or house to rent? Where did you look for advertisements? Was it hard/easy to find one? Why? etc.*
* Invite participants to exchange information in pairs about the advertisements: the price, the location, the description of the apartment etc., recycling language from the previous activities.

*Activity 7*

Migrants practice language they may need for speaking to an estate agent or a letting agent

A*. Hello, I’m looking for a house/apartment to rent. Do you have anything suitable for me?*

B. *Where do you want to live and what sort of accommodation do you need?*

A. *I’d like an apartment near the centre with two bedrooms.*

B. *We have a number of properties that might suit you – have a look at these details*.

A. *I’ll take these away and look at them. I’ll come back tomorrow. Thank you.*

**Sample materials**

1. Pictures related to housing

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1. Floorplans of apartments

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