

TOPIC: Housing and Family Life
Unit 5: Managing Family Life

A young couple from Russia, the Pushkins, looks for an affordable apartment in the same neighborhood where they work. The apartment needs to fulfill certain requirements and standards. One landlord tries to intimidate them into signing a lease before they have had time to completely read through it. Then they find an apartment they like, but the manager refuses to rent to them because they have a child.

Key Vocabulary	Grammar	Language Functions	Workplace / Life Skills
afford neighborhood listings near size studio cost abbreviation noisy building rent move in sign lease standard pressure bright landlord tenant place	Verbs of necessity: “have to” and “must”	Stating needs and obligations Making suggestions Persuading Refusing Making predictions	Identifying sources for finding an apartment Interpreting abbreviations and reading rental ads Reading and signing a lease Identifying the conditions of a lease

TOPIC: Housing and Family Life
Unit 6: Using Information Services

After the Pushkins find the ideal apartment, they must take legal action to force the manager to rent to them. First, however, they must access resources in the local library, contact government agencies, and meet with helpful officials.

Key Vocabulary	Grammar	Language Functions	Workplace / Life Skills
attorney case fair library break the law contact phone book suggest forms online complaint file explain trust refuse pretend schedule hearing judge credit history	Using “can” and “could” to express ability in the present and past	Expressing a problem and asking for help Expressing ability to do something in the present and in the past Expressing and supporting an opinion	Making inquiries to get information about your rights Seeking legal or professional help Accessing resources at the local library Contacting government agencies such as HUD Scanning a HUD complaint form for specific information

TOPIC: Housing and Family Life
Unit 7: Accessing Services

In their new apartment, the Pushkins must have all the services installed, including the telephone. They set up an appointment time for a technician to install the phone, but are unable or prevented from keeping the appointment. Attempts to make a new appointment prove extremely frustrating and time-consuming.

Key Vocabulary	Grammar	Language Functions	Workplace / Life Skills
order miss rearrange representative nasty neighbor kind services access turn on technician wait hold line dial bill hook up trained utilities frustrating	Modal auxiliaries “may,” “would,” “can,” “could” to make formal and informal requests and offers: “Would you like...?” “May I help you?”	Requesting services Offering help Making phone calls to service companies Asking for clarification Describing past events Making predictions	Requesting services for utilities Listening & responding to telephone menus on an automated voice system Recognizing the importance of hiring trained workers Reading a utility service notice for specific information

TOPIC: Housing and Family Life
Unit 8: Men's Changing Roles

Karina Pushkin is unhappy that she must do all of the housework since she works outside of the home. Her husband Victor believes there are certain male and female jobs around the house. In the end, he learns to share the responsibilities around the home.

Key Vocabulary	Grammar	Language Functions	Workplace / Life Skills
role housework chore mess get dressed fold tired take care of locksmith expect society share special appreciated plumber fix disappointed guest dine invite	Present tense of "make" and "do"	Stating a complaint Describing daily activities Identifying sequence of activities	Recognizing gender stereotypes Identifying changes in men's and women's roles in society Identifying the parts of a letter of complaint Writing a letter of complaint