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Level 2

Hong Kong's poor live in homes smaller than prison cells

4th November, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-2.html>

A new study shows there are poor people in Hong Kong who live in tiny homes. A housing group found that 204 families in one area live in homes that are smaller than prison cells. The average space per person was 4.6 square meters. This is about the size of three toilet cubicles, or half the size of a car parking space. The average size of a cell for Hong Kong's maximum security prisoners is 50 per cent bigger than the size of the homes in the study. A 2016 report stated that over 65 per cent of Hong Kong families live in homes that are between 7 and 14 square meters.

Hong Kong has some of the world's most expensive homes. An average person has to save for 18 years to buy a tiny home. A member of the housing group told reporters how unhappy people are about living in such small homes. He said: "It is completely unacceptable and inhumane that the living area for people is the same as for prisoners in such a prosperous city like Hong Kong." Another resident said the tiny room for her husband and six-year-old son only has a bed, a closet and a small table. She said: "The bathroom is so small we have to sit sideways to go to the toilet."

Sources: <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/prison-cells-larger-living-spaces-hong-kong-poor-article-1.3604376>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/nov/01/hong-kongs-poor-live-in-homes-smaller-than-prison-cells-study>
<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/community/article/2117810/average-living-space-hong-kongs-poorest-residents-same>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. 204 families in one | a. of the homes |
| 2. The average space | b. area |
| 3. toilet | c. meters |
| 4. half the size of a car | d. per person |
| 5. The average size of a | e. prisoners |
| 6. maximum security | f. parking space |
| 7. bigger than the size | g. cell |
| 8. between 7 and 14 square | h. cubicles |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. some of the world's most | a. her husband |
| 2. An average person has to | b. sideways |
| 3. A member of the housing | c. inhumane |
| 4. completely unacceptable and | d. save for 18 years |
| 5. a prosperous | e. expensive homes |
| 6. the tiny room for | f. small table |
| 7. a closet and a | g. group |
| 8. we have to sit | h. city like Hong Kong |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-2.html>

A new study shows there are (1) _____ Hong Kong who live in tiny homes. A housing group found that 204 families in one area live in homes that are smaller (2) _____. The average space per person was 4.6 square meters. This is about the (3) _____ toilet cubicles, or half the size of a car parking space. The (4) _____ a cell for Hong Kong's maximum security prisoners is 50 per cent bigger than the size of the homes (5) _____. A 2016 report stated that over 65 per cent of Hong Kong families live in homes that are between 7 and (6) _____.

Hong Kong has some of (7) _____ expensive homes. An (8) _____ to save for 18 years to buy a tiny home. A member of the housing group told reporters how unhappy people are (9) _____ such small homes. He said: "It is completely unacceptable and inhumane that the living area for people is the same (10) _____ in such a prosperous city like Hong Kong." Another resident said the tiny room for her husband and six-year-old (11) _____ a bed, a closet and a small table. She said: "The bathroom is so small we have to sit (12) _____ to the toilet."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-2.html>

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LIVING SPACE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Living space in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

