

What Makes a Home Feel Like Home?

Pre-intermediate (A2-B1)



Part 1. Look at the words below. What's the first thing that comes to mind? Share it with your partner.

Home

Moving house

My bedroom

A smell

Music

Neighbours

Part 2. Choose one option in each pair. Give a reason or example.

Living somewhere alone

or

living with others?

Owning your home

or

renting?

A tidy, organised space

or

a lived-in, messy one?

Somewhere you've lived for years

or

somewhere you just moved to?

Familiar faces nearby

or

your own private space?

Part 3. Read the statements. Say which ones feel true for you and why.

- I feel most at home when I'm around familiar objects.
- A new place can start to feel like home quite quickly.
- The people around me matter more than the place itself.
- I find it hard to relax in a new space until I've settled in.
- I've had places that never really felt like home, even after a long time.

Part 4. Complete the sentences in a way that feels natural for you.

- When I walk into my home, the first thing I usually...
- The thing that makes my place feel like mine is...
- I never feel completely at home when...
- I know a place is starting to feel like home when...

Part 5. Discuss the following questions.

1. What's one object in your home that you'd really miss if it wasn't there? Why?
2. Have you ever lived somewhere that didn't feel like home? What was it like?
3. Do you think 'home' is a place, a feeling, or the people in it?

Part 6. Look at the list below. Rank the five things that matter most to you when it comes to feeling at home. Then compare with your partner.

- Natural light
- Quiet / peace
- A comfortable bed
- Being able to cook
- Personal items (photos, books, etc.)
- A clean and tidy space
- Good neighbours
- Familiar sounds or smells
- Your own front door
- Plants or greenery
- Fast Wi-Fi
- Enough storage

Part 7. Read the situations below. Talk about what you would do and why.

- You move into a new flat. It feels cold and empty. What's the first thing you do to make it feel like yours?
- A friend is staying in temporary accommodation and says it doesn't feel like home. What advice would you give?
- You're going to be away for three months. What would you miss most about your home?
- You have to choose: a beautiful flat in an area where you don't know anyone, or a smaller flat near people you love. Which do you pick?

Part 8. Read the two viewpoints. Which one do you agree with more? Explain your reasoning.

Viewpoint A

Home is mostly about the people. You can feel at home in a tiny room or a strange city if you're surrounded by the right people. The space itself matters much less than who's in it.

Viewpoint B

Home is mostly about the place. You need a physical space that feels safe, familiar, and yours. Good relationships are important, but without the right environment, you never truly switch off.

Part 9. Read the statements. For each one, say whether you agree, disagree, or partly agree. Explain why.

- You can make anywhere feel like home if you stay long enough.
- Most people don't appreciate their home until they leave it.
- Renting never truly feels like home because you're not in control of the space.
- Children adapt to new homes more easily than adults do.
- A house full of stuff isn't always a home – sometimes less is more.

Part 10. Think about the place you feel most at home – now or in the past. Describe it.

- Where it is (or was)
- What it looks and feels like
- Who else is (or was) there
- What makes it feel different from other places

REFLECTION

Complete the sentences in your own words.

- Home feels like home when...
- The place I feel most settled is...
- Something I want to change about where I live is...
- One thing that always makes me feel at home is...