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Level 1

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

4th November, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-1.html>

A study shows many poor people in Hong Kong live in tiny homes. A housing group found that some families live in homes that are smaller than prison cells. The average space was 4.6 square meters per person. This is about half the size of a car parking space. The average size of a prison cell in Hong Kong is 50 per cent bigger than the size of the homes in the study. 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. People must save for 18 years to buy a tiny place. People are very unhappy living in such small homes. One person said it was "unacceptable and inhumane" that homes are the same size as prison cells in a rich city like Hong Kong. Another person said her house only had 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-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A housing | a. the study |
| 2. homes that are | b. space |
| 3. The average | c. square meters |
| 4. about half | d. smaller |
| 5. The average size | e. Hong Kong families |
| 6. the homes in | f. group |
| 7. Over 65 per cent of | g. of a prison cell |
| 8. between 7 and 14 | h. the size |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. save for 18 years | a. size as prison cells |
| 2. unhappy living in such | b. small |
| 3. it was unacceptable | c. small homes |
| 4. homes are the same | d. sideways |
| 5. in a rich city | e. and inhumane |
| 6. a closet and a small | f. like Hong Kong |
| 7. The bathroom is so | g. to buy a tiny place |
| 8. we have to sit | h. table |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-1.html>

A study shows many (1) _____ Hong Kong live in tiny homes. A housing group found that (2) _____ in homes that are smaller than prison cells. The average space was 4.6 (3) _____ person. This is about (4) _____ of a car parking space. The (5) _____ a prison cell in Hong Kong is 50 per cent bigger than the size of the homes in the study. Over 65 per cent of Hong Kong families (6) _____ that are between 7 and 14 square meters.

Hong Kong has some of (7) _____ expensive homes. People must save for 18 years to buy (8) _____. People are very unhappy living in such small homes. One person said it was "unacceptable and inhumane" that homes (9) _____ size (10) _____ in a rich city like Hong Kong. Another person said her house (11) _____ bed, a closet and a small table. She said: "The bathroom is so small we have (12) _____ to go to the toilet."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171104-living-space-1.html>

A study shows many poor people in Hong Kong live in tiny homes. A housing group found that some families live in homes that are smaller than prison cells. The average space was 4.6 square meters per person. This is about half the size of a car parking space. The average size of a prison cell in Hong Kong is 50 percent bigger than the size of the homes in the study. Over 65 percent 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. People must save for 18 years to buy a tiny place. People are very unhappy living in such small homes. One person said it was "unacceptable and inhumane" that homes are the same size as prison cells in a rich city like Hong Kong. Another person said her house only had a bed, a closet and a small table. She said: "The bathroom is so small we have to sit sideways to get to the toilet."

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) _____

