



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

Date: _____

Student Name _____

Teacher Name _____

Module 9 "Renting a Place to Live"

Please answer the four questions (Q1 through Q4) which appear on this and the following page. This assignment is in two parts. The first part asks you to respond to housing situations that have come up in your neighborhood. The question appears in the shaded boxes; the rest of the material is background information to use in answering the questions. The second part asks you to reflect on how useful your work on this module has been for you.

Part I.

You are part of a very active neighborhood group which has decided to put out a monthly newsletter. You have been asked to be the columnist who will respond to letters sent in by readers. This month's theme is housing issues. The following letters have been sent to you for answers. Choose 3 of the 5 letters, and respond to them with advice about what they can do about their problem.

Q1. Which three (3) of the five (5) letters sent in on the housing theme will you select to put in you column

___ Letter 1 ___ Letter 2 ___ Letter 3 ___ Letter 4 ___ Letter 5 **Q2. What will your response be to the three letters you chose?** *Please write your response to three of the five letters in the space provided below the letters you choose for your newspaper column.*

Letter 1

Dear your name-,

I have just learned that my landlord wants to put me out. I don't think he can. I have lived here for three years and have paid my rent on time. Last month, I let my cousin and her children stay with me. She is a very nice lady and her children do not disturb anyone. What can I do?

Response:

Letter 2

Dear your name-,

I have spoken to my landlord many times about the leaking roof. It has been raining a lot this month and the leak has just gotten worse! He still hasn't fixed it and the water is ruining my carpet. Can you help?

Response:

Letter 3

Dear your name-,

Norma, my girlfriend, has been looking for a place for a while. She read in the paper about a small place which seemed perfect for her. The newspaper said it was available right away. We drove by to look at it and she really liked it. It had a for rent sign on the window and when we went in to see about it the man told us it was rented already. We went by again a couple of days later and the sign was still in the window. We think that he doesn't want to rent to Norma because she can't speak English that well. Could you please tell us what we can do?

Response:

Letter 4

Dear your name-,

I just want to know why I was not given the apartment I applied for. I have had good credit for two years and I have paid my rent on time. I feel that the landlord must not want me in his apartment. What do you think?

Response:

Letter 5

Dear your name-,

I can not read English very well. I went to rent an apartment and the landlord said I could have it but I had to sign this paper he called a rental agreement. I want the apartment, but I do not know why I have to sign this paper. I am not sure what it says or what it means. Should I just sign it? Where can I go to get help?

Response:

Response:

Part II. Please tell us, by answering the questions below, how useful the module was for you in developing your abilities to use English and working on questions important to you.

Q3. Did you benefit from your work on this module regarding any of the following?

For example, in your ability to	Yes/No	Please comment on either: < How you benefited; or < Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area
a. What kinds of things you can do and landlords should do to make the building or neighborhood you live in a good one for families		
b. What makes a good landlord and a good tenant		
c. How people know if they've been discriminated against or not; and your rights protecting you from being discriminated against.		
d. Landlord's legal responsibilities about keeping places in good repair		
e. Landlord's rights to check out people's credit history to decide whether to rent to you		
f. How to find out about your credit		
g. How to read a rental agreement		

h. Your rights relating to security deposits		
i. Your rights to have the people you want live with you		
j. Understand the consequences of being evicted for not paying your rent or some other violation of a rental agreement		

Q4. Did your work in this module help you in any of the following areas?

For example, in your ability to	Yes/No	Please comment on either: < How you benefited; or < Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area
a. Reading and understanding technical information?		
b. Researching how to get information you need about housing?		
c. Asking questions and getting the information you need to know?		
d. Understanding the information contained in technical documents and making good use of it?		
e. Communicating with people who may not agree with you and who are in a position to make life difficult for you?		
f. Writing letters and communicating your ideas in writing?		
g. Anything else? Please tell us:		

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