



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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Survey Renting a Place to Live**

**1. Have you ever thought or talked about the following issues with friends or family members or co-workers?**

	For each line, Please check the box that applies to you			
	No or Maybe once	Fairly often	A lot	Not Interested
a. How well it works to share housing with other families, relatives or friends				
b. Your rights to share a house or an apartment with whoever you want				
c. What kinds of things you can do and landlords need to do to make the building or neighborhood you live in a good one for families				
d. What makes a good landlord and a good tenant				
e. How housing here where you are is different from other places you've lived and what makes a difference to you				
f. How people know whether they've been discriminated against or not				
g. Whether it's worthwhile to have a written rental agreement				

**2. Please give Sandy some advice. She has read in the paper about a place that is for rent which seems perfect. When she went to see it, she found some things wrong with it--light fixtures in the hall were broken, faucets that dripped--but the landlord said that these problems would be fixed right away, as soon as she signed the lease.**

a. What can she do, if anything, to find out (ahead of time) if there are likely to be problems with the landlord when she rents the apartment?

b. The landlord is pressing her to sign the lease now, or lose it. She wants to add something to the lease to ensure that the problems are fixed. What should she say to the landlord? And, how should she word what she adds to the lease?

*In the spaces below marked "Sandy" and "Landlord," please write a dialogue showing what Sandy should say to the landlord, and what you expect the Landlord will reply; and word what she adds to the lease in the box.*

Sandy:

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Landlord:

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Sandy:

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Landlord:

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Wording of what she wants to add to the lease:

**3. How confident are you that you know all you need to know about the following**

	For each line, Please check the box that applies to you			
	Not Very Confident	A Little Confident	Quite Confident	Know all I need to know
a. Landlord's legal responsibilities about keeping places in good repair				
b. Landlord's rights to check out people's credit history to decide whether to rent to you				
c. How to find out about your credit yourself.				
d. Your rights protecting you from being discriminated against in housing				

**4. If you wanted to rent a room, apartment or house, how confident are you that you have the information or skills you need to:**

	For each line, Please check the box that applies to you			
	Not Very Confident	A Little Confident	Quite Confident	Know all I need to know
a. Read all the abbreviations in newspaper ads listing places available to rent				
b. Do the calculations to determine if you can afford the rent				
c. Read a rental agreement and decide if it protects you or if it violates your legal rights				
d. Understand what your responsibilities are as a tenant in this situation				
e. Understand what you can be evicted for and what situations will lead the landlord to raise your rent				
f. Negotiate to resolve problems				
g. Understand how much the landlord can raise your rent and how often (whether there is rent control and its provisions)				
h. Your rights relating to security deposits				
i. Your rights to have the people you want live with you				
j. Understand what goes into a credit report and how your credit gets rated				

**5. What would you like to learn about housing problems and how to solve them?**

I would like to learn:

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