

**OBJECTIVE 4: DESCRIBE METHODS AND PROCEDURES TO OBTAIN HOUSING AND RELATED SERVICES INCLUDING LOW COST COMMUNITY HOUSING**

## **HOUSING LESSON 1**

**LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE-ADVANCED**

**Objectives:** Name and identify various types of housing

**ESLRS:** Critical and Creative Thinker  
Self Directed Learner

**SCAN SKILLS:** Organizes and processes symbols, pictures and other information  
Locates, understands and interprets written Information

## TYPES OF RENTAL PROPERTIES

### SINGLE FAMILY HOME



A **single family home** or **house** is the most common type of property. Typically free-standing, a house may be surrounded by a front yard and a backyard. A house owner takes responsibility for the entire house and its grounds. That includes all of the maintenance, from cutting the lawn to getting a new roof. If you rent a single family home, the landlord will usually be responsible for this type of maintenance.

### CONDOMINIUM



A **condominium** is usually less expensive housing option. Condominium units are clustered in condo complexes which can be anywhere from 3 units to several hundred. The units themselves are like apartments. All the units in the complex share common facilities. Maintenance in a condo complex is handled by the **condominium association**. The board oversees all of the common expenses, from cutting the grass to (in some complexes) cable TV services.

## TOWNHOUSE



A **townhouse** is like a condominium but it has two or more stories, rather than the typical one floor found in a condominium. A townhouse may also have a small yard. Townhouses are also less expensive than houses but have less privacy. Because one or more walls are shared, noise can seep in from neighbors. Townhouses are available in many shapes and sizes, and most may have yards or common spaces that can be used by the owners.

## DUPLEX



A **duplex** is a building that has two separate family units, under the same roof.

## APARTMENT BUILDING



An **apartment building** is a structure with individual apartment units. All the units share a common entrance and hallway. Apartment buildings in the city can

be several stories high. These are called **high risers**. Most apartment buildings in our area, i.e. Huntington Beach, Westminster, and Fountain Valley are not high risers.

Most apartment buildings have a **manager** who takes care of collecting the rent and resolving maintenance problems that tenants may encounter.

### MOBILE HOME



A **mobile home** is also known as a **manufactured home**. They are built in a factory on a non-removable steel chassis. These units sit on wheels and may be moved. Mobile homes are placed in a Mobile home park and are generally less expensive than other types of housing.

### RELATED VOCABULARY:

The **landlord** is the person who owns the property. It can be a single family house, a condo, a townhouse, a duplex or an apartment building.

A **tenant** is the person who rents the property.

A **manager** is the person who takes care of the property, collects rent and deals with tenants' issues. He may or may not be the landlord.

A **lease** is a contract granting use or occupation of property during a specified period in exchange for a specified rent.

A **month-to-month lease** means you do not have to make a long term commitment to rent the unit. You can rent the unit for a month at a time.

A **security deposit** is money given by a tenant to a landlord to compensate for possible loss or damage

**HOUSING LESSON 1 PRACTICE**

**LEVEL: BEGINNING LOW – HIGH**

**PART A**

Look at the pictures in Lesson 1 and answer the following questions:

1. I live in a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In my country, most people live in a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I would like to live in a/an \_\_\_\_\_.

**PART B**

Read the statements and circle T if it is True or F if it is False:

T	F	1. A townhouse is usually single storied.
T	F	2. The landlord is always the manager.
T	F	3. The tenant must take care of the common grounds in a condo.
T	F	4. A single family home is also known as a house.
T	F	5. A duplex has 2 units that are identical.
T	F	6. In a townhouse you share a wall with other units.
T	F	7. Some townhouses have small yards.
T	F	8. A single family home does not share walls with any other property.

**PART C:**

Look at the pictures and circle the correct answer

	<p>a. Single family home b. Townhouse c. Mobile home d. Condo e. Duplex f. Apartment Building</p>
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## Housing Lesson 1