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Intermediate Student’s Book

Life

2.5

**A = estate agent, C = customer**

**A:** Good morning.

**C:** Hi, I’m interested in any properties you have in the town centre.

**A:** OK, and is that to rent or to buy?

**C:** Oh, it’s to rent. I’ve just started a new job here, so I think I’d rather rent than buy, for now anyway.

**A:** Right, well we have quite a few flats on our books, from one-bed studios to four-bedroom apartments.

**C:** I’d prefer something small, but not too small. I imagine I’ll get a lot of friends staying with me. So, two bedrooms, and preferably with a lift. I cycle a lot and I don’t want to carry my bike up lots of stairs!

**A:** Well, most of the modern buildings have lifts, but a lot of the properties in the centre are quite old. Would you rather look at new places or older ones?

**C:** I don’t mind – at this stage I’m just getting an idea of what things are like here.

**A:** OK ... so you’re new to the area?

**C:** Yeah, I lived in a little village up near the mountains until recently.

**A:** Oh, that sounds lovely.

**C:** To be honest, I prefer towns to villages. The problem with a village is that everyone knows your business. Maybe I’m unfriendly, but I like the way the town is more anonymous.

**A:** Ah yes, I’ve heard a few people say that! I must say I prefer living here. I suppose I like my privacy too. Right, erm, what about garage space? Do you need that?

Life

**C:** No, I haven’t got a car. I prefer to walk or cycle. It keeps me fit.

**A:** Of course, you mentioned your bike!

**C:** Yeah! And anyway, in my experience, driving in town is a nightmare!

**A:** I know, and it’s getting worse. OK, well, the next thing to consider is your budget and the rental period.