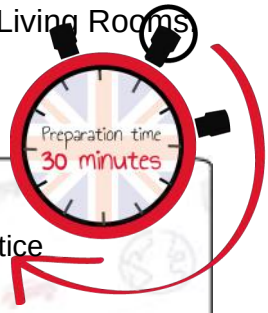
Room For Life



EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Practice talking about Living Rooms and Living Room furniture in English. Practice dialogues, descriptions, practice the past tenses and irregular past participles.



Activity One - **Discussion**.

1. Are you familiar with the term 'living room'?
2. What furniture is in your lounge, or living room at home?
3. What other terms do you know of, in English, to refer to this room in the house?
4. What activities usually take place in this room?
5. What scenes does your IKEA catalogue show this year for that room?
6. What room settings do you show and how are they set up, for a living room space, in your store, or the store near to where you live?

Activity Two - **Your Opinion.**

The IKEA Catalogue says…

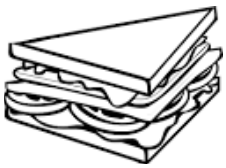
"Your living room is where you share the story of who you are. So our living room furniture helps you do that – with lots of ways to show off the things you've done and the places you've been."

1. **Do you agree that a living room is where you share your story?**

"Nowadays the living room often needs to work as more than just that."

2. **Explain what is meant by this sentence, and what solutions IKEA offer for this.**

3 Do you agree with the statements made in the text below. Does this reflect the life of a typical French family? Do you agree that it doesn't matter where we eat? How does this influence the living room solutions you are selling?



Share a meal – anywhere

Our meals have migrated, from the dining table to the sofa, floor and desk. These days, a meal with friends or family doesn't have to happen around a perfectly set table. And it doesn't even have to include chairs. The days of "have to" are over. Go ahead and eat around a coffee table. Sit on the sofa. Or the floor. Because it doesn't really matter where we eat, just that we get together and have a whole load of fun.



Activity Three - **Home quotes … Which do you agree with?**

Robert Frost said "Home is the place where when you have to go there, they have to take you in." **TS Eliot said** "Home is where one starts from"**. William Morris said** "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful."

Activity Four - History of the living room - Fill the gaps using the correct past tense of the verb in brackets.

While archival evidence suggests that so-called “living rooms” _____ (be) a part of some homes for nearly two centuries, it _____ (be) until the tail-end of the 19th century that the living room _____ (become) a mainstay in the home.

Until the late 19th century, the front parlor _____ (be) the room in the house used for formal social events, including where the recently deceased were _____ (lay) out before their funeral. The term "living room" is _____ (find) initially in the decorating literature of the 1890s, where a living room _____ (understand) to be a reflection of the personality of the designer, rather than the Victorian conventions of the day.

The living room only _____ (develop) once people had the leisure time and spare money to spend on making it comfortable, and you should think of it as a sort of stage-set where homeowners _____ (act) out an idealized version of their lives for the benefit of guests. Here taste and style _____ (express) not who you really _____ (be) but who you _____ (long) to be.

Activity Five - **The Living is Easy** - **Dialogues** - *Read the dialogue with your teacher and then continue it to show what happens next…*

Melania: Darling we need a new sofa because someone sat on this one.
Donald: OK what color do you want my dear? Gold, or gold.
Melania: Whatever you decide Mr President…
Donald: Well let me call my friend Ingvar and see what he can do. He knows all about furniture..

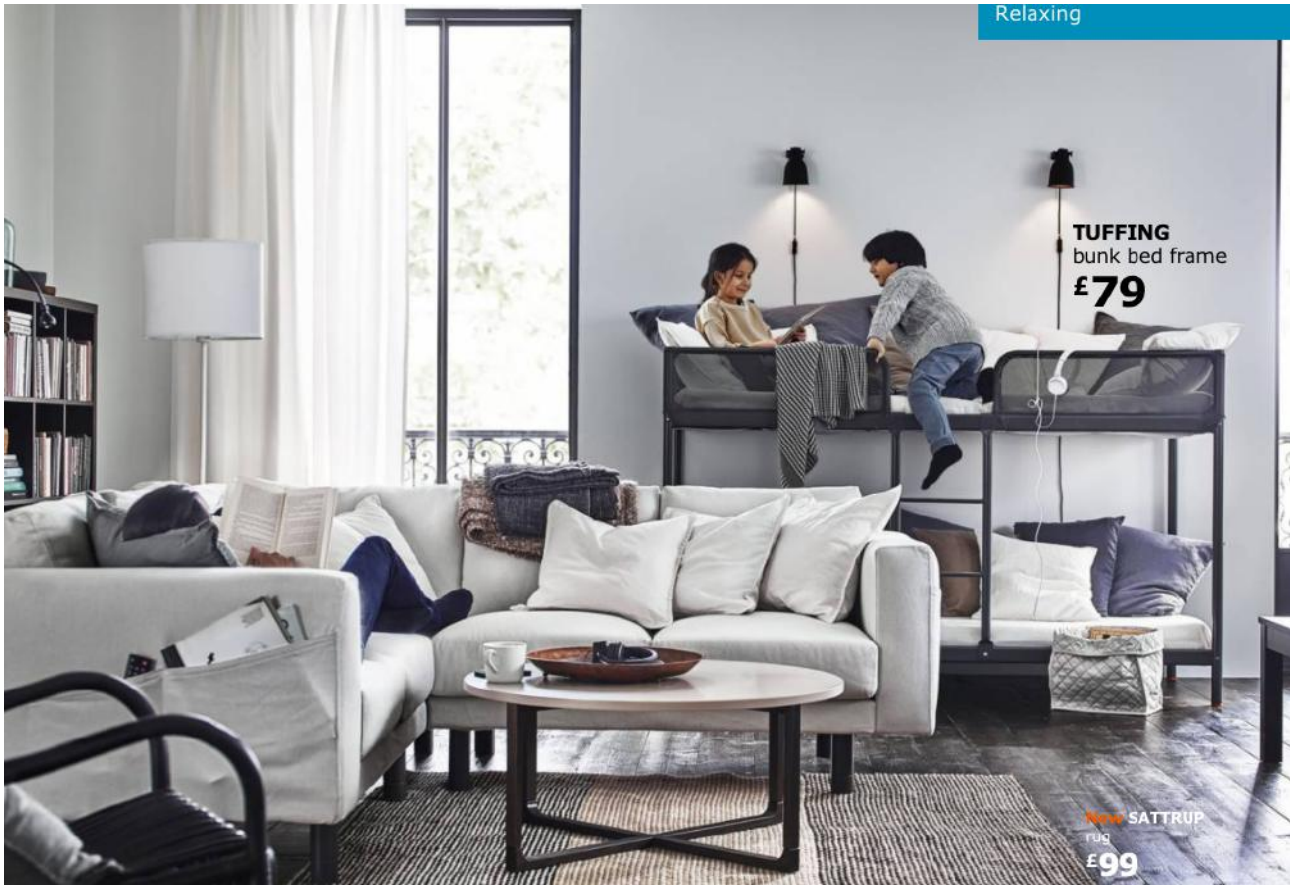
Barak: Hey babe let’s go down to IKEA and get some new furniture now that we are moving out of the White House.
Michelle: OK darling, that’s cool, I have some ideas and I like their living room range.
Barak: Let’s check out their online catalogue and see what you think…

Hilary: Bill, I’ve just seen an advertisement for IKEA and they are doing a special offer on living room furniture. It would cheer me up to change things around in here.
Bill: Well, OK, but I don’t really like that Scandinavian style….
Hilary: Oh come on Bill….

Activity Six - **What happened next**… Using the past tense. say what happened next..

- Two guys were waiting for their wives in the sofa department of IKEA. They sat down on a comfortable looking sofa…
- An elderly lady ordered an IKEA sofa and when the delivery van arrived…
- A couple could not agree on which sofa to buy in the store and started to argue…

Activity Seven - **Unconventional**…



A. Describe the room setting and everything in it.
B. Explain why this room setting is unconventional and why this is in the IKEA catalogue.
C. Do you think that this set up will be a popular choice?

Activity Eight - **Irregular**..

These verbs all have irregular past participles. Write sentences in the past tense using these verbs, to explain some of the solutions IKEA proposes for storage, for small space living and for family living. Please prepare this at home before the lesson.

1. **To find**
2. **To show**
3. **To sit**
4. **To throw**
5. **To sleep**
6. **To sink into**
7. **To feel**
8. **To eat**
9. **To choose**
10. **To bring together**



