At home

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

ADVANCED | C1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each housing term with its precise meaning.

1 tenure	____	a diagram showing the arrangement of rooms
2 owner-occupier	____	b homes available within an area
3 rental market	____	c ease of use for people with varied needs
4 housing stock	____	d person living in a home they own
5 floor plan	____	e pattern showing which spaces have priority
6 adaptive reuse	____	f legal basis on which a home is occupied
7 mixed-use development	____	g conversion of an existing structure to a new purpose
8 accessibility	____	h sector in which homes are let
9 energy efficiency	____	i scheme combining homes with other functions
10 spatial hierarchy	____	j useful output achieved with limited energy

2 Complete the formal housing collocations.

accessibility standards | **architectural character** | **housing shortage** | **natural light** | **spatial layout** | **urban sprawl** | **underused space** | **the housing stock**

1 alleviate the _____

2 retrofit _____

3 maximise _____

4 optimise the _____

5 meet _____

6 preserve the building's _____

7 curb _____

8 convert _____ into housing

3 Choose the concept that best captures the distinction.

1 The legal basis for occupying a home: *tenure / floor plan*.

2 The supply of existing homes in an area: *housing stock / rental market*.

3 Changing a warehouse into flats: *adaptive reuse / mixed tenure*.

4 Homes, shops and offices in one scheme: *mixed-use development / spatial hierarchy*.

5 Reducing energy needed for heating: *energy efficiency / accessibility*.

6 Ensuring step-free entry and usable circulation: *accessibility / tenure*.

7 A plan that gives formal rooms greater prominence: *spatial hierarchy / housing stock*.

8 The sector shaped by landlords, tenants and rents: *rental market / owner-occupation*.

At home

4 Complete the housing analysis with terms from the box.

accessibility | adaptive reuse | energy efficiency | floor plan | housing stock | mixed-use development | owner-occupiers | rental market | spatial hierarchy | tenure

The district's ageing **1** _____ requires substantial investment in **2** _____. Many homes have a rigid **3** _____ and pronounced **4** _____, with formal rooms prioritised over flexible space. A former factory offers scope for **5** _____ within a broader **6** _____. The scheme must also improve **7** _____ through step-free routes. A mixture of **8** _____ and rented homes could broaden **9** _____ options, although local pressure in the **10** _____ would remain.

5 Read the text and answer the questions concisely.

The home as infrastructure

A home is both private refuge and material infrastructure. Its layout distributes light, privacy, care work and access; these effects are not neutral. Open-plan design may support sociability while exposing household members to noise and constant visibility. A dedicated utility room can conceal domestic labour without reducing it. Likewise, step-free access should not be treated as a specialist addition: it can serve residents across changing stages of life. Evaluation therefore needs to move beyond visual appeal. A resilient home accommodates varied bodies, shifting routines, repair and lower-energy living without placing every adaptation burden on the occupant.

1 What two roles does a home perform? _____

2 Which four resources or experiences does layout distribute? _____

3 What is the trade-off in open-plan design? _____

4 What may a utility room conceal without reducing? _____

5 Why is step-free access not merely a specialist feature? _____

6 Which four capacities characterise a resilient home? _____

6 Paraphrase using the expression in capitals.

1 The city updated old homes to reduce energy use. **RETROFITTED** _____

2 The design uses daylight as effectively as possible. **MAXIMISES** _____

3 The scheme prevents further low-density expansion. **SPRAWL** _____

4 The conversion retains the building's original identity. **CHARACTER** ____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **160-190 word** critical response: What makes a home resilient to changing needs? Evaluate layout, accessibility, energy use and the distribution of domestic work.

[ ] Use at least ten target terms or collocations. [ ] Analyse trade-offs. [ ] Connect design choices with lived experience.

ANSWER KEY

1 Housing terms

1 **f** 2 **d** 3 **h** 4 **b** 5 **a** 6 **g** 7 **i** 8 **c** 9 **j** 10 **e**

2 Formal housing collocations

1 **housing shortage** 2 **the housing stock** 3 **natural light** 4 **spatial layout** 5 **accessibility standards** 6 **architectural character** 7 **urban sprawl** 8 **underused space**

3 Conceptual distinctions

1 **tenure** 2 **housing stock** 3 **adaptive reuse** 4 **mixed-use development** 5 **energy efficiency** 6 **accessibility** 7 **spatial hierarchy** 8 **rental market**

4 Housing analysis

1 **housing stock** 2 **energy efficiency** 3 **floor plan** 4 **spatial hierarchy** 5 **adaptive reuse**
6 **mixed-use development** 7 **accessibility** 8 **owner-occupiers** 9 **tenure** 10 **rental market**

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 Private refuge and material infrastructure. 2 Light, privacy, care work and access.
3 It can support sociability but increase noise and constant visibility. 4 Domestic labour. 5 It serves residents as their needs change across life. 6 It accommodates varied bodies, shifting routines, repair and lower-energy living.

6 Paraphrasing - possible answers

1 The city **retrofitted the housing stock** to reduce energy use. 2 The design **maximises natural light**. 3 The scheme **curbs urban sprawl**. 4 The conversion **preserves the building's architectural character**.

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check conceptual precision, trade-offs and links between design and experience.