Understanding Rental Ads

Name:

1. Describe what makes a <u>studio</u> apartment *different* from a 1 or 2 bedroom apartment?

2. What is another name sometimes used to describe a studio apartment? _____

3. Explain a <u>duplex.</u>

4. What is the *difference* between a duplex and <u>townhouse</u>?

5. What makes a <u>"suite"</u> type dorm *different* than a <u>traditional</u> dorm room?

What are these ads saying?

6. 1 BR APT AC NS _____

7. EFF INCL UTILS _____

8. 2 BR TH $750 1 MO SEC DEP _____

9. $300 MO HT INCL _____

10. 2BR 1 BA FPL BALC _____

11. STU NO LSE UTILS INCL_____

12. 2 BR APT NS NP _____

13. 4 BR 3 BA DPLX AVAIL Jan 1 NO SMKG

_____

14. 1 BR, UTILS INCL DBL GRG OYL $550

_____

15. TH 2 BR 1 BA DW FP W/D INCL

_____

Please Turn Over and Complete Activity Using Apartment Ads

Apartment Shopping Within the Mankato Area

Read and review apartment ads selecting three that interest you. Trim neatly and place below:
*If you do not have room staple to this activity.

1.

2.

3.

1. List 4 questions not answered in your first ad you would have if inquiring about that rental property.

    *
    *
    *
    *

2. What interested you about the second apartment ad?

3. Which apartment out of the three would you be most likely to rent a year from now if you where staying in the Mankato area? _____ Describe WHY?

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4. Why do you suppose some rental ads give telephone numbers but no addresses?

5. A year from now you anticipate your housing arrangement Trent to be: (circle one)
    living with parent(s)/relative, dorm, apt. alone, apt. with roommate(s), rental house

For Rent: A Guide to Rental Classified Ad Abbreviations and Acronyms

By **J.M. Monroe**

If you're an inexperienced tenant searching the local "For Rent" ads for a new apartment to call home, all those abbreviations and acronyms in the ads can be a bit confusing. Sure, "BR" is easy enough to figure out, but "EIK" might be a head-scratcher.

Landlords are increasingly turning to the Internet to advertise their available apartments where ad space is often reasonably inexpensive and always plentiful, but traditional newspaper ad writing habits die hard. Many landlords spent years figuring out how to cram a lot of apartment information into a little space, as newspapers always charged them to advertise their rental units by the word, character or line.

Below is a list of the most commonly used abbreviations and acronyms in apartment ads and their meanings. You'll find them mostly in newspaper classified ads, but occasionally in online ads, too.

AC or A/C or AIR COND - air conditioning
APPL - appliances
APT - apartment
AVAIL - available

B or BA or BTH - bathroom
BALC - balcony
BLDG - building
BMT or BSMT - basement
BR or BDR or BRM or BDRM - bedroom

CLN - clean
CONV - convenient

D or DUP or DPLX - duplex
D/D - dishwasher and disposal
DISP - disposal
DR or DIN RM or FDR - dining room, full dining room
DRMN or DM - doorman
DW or D/W or DSHWR - dishwasher
DOWN - lower floor

EFF - efficiency, a one-room apartment
EIK - eat-in-kitchen
ELEC - electric
ELEV - elevator
EX $ - extra charge

FAM HS or FAM HM - family house or family home
FP or FPL or FPLC or FRPLC - fireplace
FURN - furnished

G or GAR or GRG - garage

HC or HLTH CLB - health club
HDW or HWF or HDWD - hardwood floors
HT&HW - heat and hot water

INCL - included

KIT - kitchen

LNDRY - laundry
LOW or LWR FLR - lower floor

L/R - living room
LUX - luxury

MEIK - modern eat-in kitchen
MO or MOS - month or months
MOD - modern

NEGOT - negotiable
NO SMKG - no smoking
NR - near

OS - off-street parking
OWN OCCUP or OWNER OCC'D - owner occupied

PETS OK - pets allowed
PKG or PRKG - parking
PRIV ENTR or PVT ENTR - private entrance
PRVT - private

REFS or REFS REQ'D - references required
REN or RENOV - renovated

SEC DEP - security deposit
SQ FT - square feet
STU - studio
SWM POOL or SWMMG - swimming pool

TERR - terrace
TRANS - transportation

UF or UNFURN - unfurnished
UP or UPR FL - upper floor
UTILS - utilities

WBFP - wood-burning fireplace
W/ - with
W/D or W/D HKUP - washer and dryer or washer and dryer hookup
WIC - walk-in closet

YD - yard

Sources:

Garden State Apartments
New York Times advertising tips
Massachusetts Institute of Technology: Housing | Common Rental Abbreviations