Renovation, DIY and Decorating

Part 1 “Fixing Up My Apartment”

Last year, I moved into an old apartment that needed many repairs. The walls were dirty, the kitchen cabinets were loose, and the bathroom light didn’t work well. At first, I felt stressed because I didn’t know much about DIY or home repairs. But I wanted to make the place feel comfortable, so I decided to learn.

I started with small jobs. I cleaned the walls and painted them a light blue color. It took two days, but the room looked brighter and more modern. Next, I fixed the kitchen cabinets by tightening the screws. I watched a short video online, and it was easier than I expected. After that, I changed the bathroom lightbulb and bought a stronger one.

Little by little, my apartment began to feel like home. I learned that renovation doesn’t always need to be expensive. Sometimes, simple changes—like new paint, better lighting, or organizing a room—can make a big difference. Now I feel proud when friends visit, because I improved the space myself.

Part 2 Vocabulary List

- **renovation** — making a home newer or better
- **DIY** — “do it yourself”; fixing things without a professional
- **repair** — to fix something broken
- **decorate** — to make a room look nice
- **paint** — to add color to a wall or object
- **tools** — items used for fixing (hammer, screwdriver, etc.)
- **screws** — small metal pieces used to hold things together
- **lightbulb** — the part of a lamp that gives light
- **cabinet** — storage furniture in a kitchen or bathroom
- **wall** — the vertical part of a room
- **flooring** — the material on the floor
- **budget** — the amount of money you can spend
- **measure** — to find the size or length of something
- **install** — to put something new in place
- **upgrade** — to improve something
- **fix** — to repair
- **broken** — not working
- **modern** — new and stylish
- **comfortable** — pleasant and easy to live in
- **project** — a task you work on over time

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General Home Questions

1. What kind of home do you live in now?
2. What is your favorite room in your home, and why?
3. Is your home old or new? Do you prefer an older home or a modern home?
4. What is one thing you would like to change in your home?

DIY & Repairs

5. Are you good at DIY projects? Why or why not? Were your parents good at renovations?
6. What small repairs can you do by yourself?
7. Have you ever fixed something at home? What was it?
8. What tools do you know how to use? List a few.
9. Name some advantages/disadvantages of fixing things yourself or calling a professional?
10. What is something in your home that often breaks? How can you repair it?

Renovation & Decorating

11. Have you ever painted a room? How did it go? What colours did you choose?
12. What colors do you like for walls? Do you prefer subtle and understated or colourful?
13. What style of decoration do you like (simple, modern, colourful, etc.)?
14. Do you enjoy shopping for home items like lamps, curtains, or furniture?
15. What is one decoration that makes a home feel warm or cozy?
16. Do you think plants make a room look better? Why? Which types of plants are the best?

Planning & Budgeting

17. What home project would you do if you only had a small budget?
18. What project would you do if you had a bigger budget?
19. How do you decide which repairs are most important?
20. Are renovations popular in your home country? Are they expensive?

Experiences & Opinions

21. Have you ever helped someone with a home project? Did you learn anything?
22. What is the most difficult home repair you can imagine doing?
23. Do you think DIY videos online are helpful? Do you watch renovations shows on TV?
24. What type of home project would you like to learn in the future?

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