

## Chapter 2 Fantasies



In Mexico, Amelia had many fantasies about life in California. Of course, she realized that some of her thoughts were ridiculous. There weren't going to be movie stars in expensive cars everywhere she looked. But she believed that other things about California were real: beautiful beaches, big green palm trees, and scenic views that were very different from the surroundings she knew.

It surprised Amelia to see where Eduardo and Marisol lived in real life. First, it was nowhere near a beach. There was a sign outside the entrance of their building: *The Desert Palms*. But there were no palm trees or any other trees—just a desert. And it was not a very pretty one. Eduardo unlocked the door and led Amelia into an apartment that was small and dark. The carpet was brown, or at least it was now. The walls were thin and certainly didn't keep out the sounds of music playing and babies crying around them. There was only one window. "You'll sleep here," said Eduardo as he pointed to the sofa in the living room.



"Can I open the curtain," asked Amelia, "and get some light in here?"

"Go ahead," said Eduardo. So Amelia opened the curtain to reveal a not very scenic view of an ugly gray wall covered with graffiti.

"Oh, I see," said Amelia with a laugh.

"Yes, that's our view," said Eduardo.

"Now you know why we keep the curtain closed."

### Answer the questions.

1. What did Amelia have many fantasies about in Mexico?
2. What did she realize that some of her thoughts were?
3. What weren't there going to be?
4. What other things about California did she believe were real?
5. What surprised Amelia?
6. Where was it nowhere near?
7. Where was there a sign? What did it say?
8. What did Eduardo unlock? Where did he lead Amelia?
9. What color was the carpet?
10. How were the walls? What didn't they keep out?
11. How many windows were there?
12. What was there a not very scenic view of?





## A Conversation in Eduardo's Living Room

Practice the dialog with a partner.



A: You'll sleep here on the sofa.

B: Okay. Can I open the curtain and get some light in here?

A: Go ahead.

B: Oh, I see.

A: Yes, that's our view.

B: Ah, an ugly gray wall covered with graffiti.

A: Now you know why we keep the curtain closed.

B: I understand completely.

## Past-Tense Verbs

### A. Write the negative form of each past-tense verb.

1. surprised \_\_\_\_\_
2. kept out \_\_\_\_\_
3. said \_\_\_\_\_
4. realized \_\_\_\_\_
5. knew \_\_\_\_\_
6. opened \_\_\_\_\_
7. led \_\_\_\_\_
8. believed \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Complete each sentence with *was* or *were*.

1. Eduardo and Marisol's apartment \_\_\_\_\_ nowhere near a beach.
2. There \_\_\_\_\_ a sign outside the entrance of their building: *The Desert Palms*.
3. But there \_\_\_\_\_ no palm trees or any other trees—just a desert.
4. Eduardo led Amelia into an apartment that \_\_\_\_\_ small and dark.
5. The carpet \_\_\_\_\_ brown, or at least it \_\_\_\_\_ now.
6. The walls \_\_\_\_\_ thin and certainly didn't keep out the sounds around them.



## Listening

Listen to the sentences. Write the missing word or words.

1. It surprised Amelia to see where Eduardo and Marisol lived in \_\_\_\_\_.
2. First, it was nowhere near a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. There was a sign outside the \_\_\_\_\_ of their building: *The Desert Palms*.
4. But there were no palm trees or any other trees—just a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Eduardo led Amelia into an \_\_\_\_\_ that was small and dark.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_, or at least it was now.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ were thin and certainly didn't keep out the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. There was only one \_\_\_\_\_.
9. "You'll sleep here," said Eduardo as he pointed to the sofa in the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. "Can I open the \_\_\_\_\_," asked Amelia, "and get some light in here?"

## Pronunciation

Check (✓) *d*, *t*, or *id* to show the pronunciation of the final sound in the past-tense verbs below.

	d	t	id		d	t	id
1. asked	_____	_____	_____	6. believed	_____	_____	_____
2. surprised	_____	_____	_____	7. opened	_____	_____	_____
3. pointed	_____	_____	_____	8. looked	_____	_____	_____
4. realized	_____	_____	_____	9. revealed	_____	_____	_____
5. unlocked	_____	_____	_____	10. lived	_____	_____	_____

## What about you?

Circle **Yes** or **No**. Then write questions and ask your partner.

**Yes** **No** 1. I sometimes have fantasies about life in another place.

Do you sometimes have fantasies about life in another place?

**Yes** **No** 2. I live in a place that has beautiful beaches.

**Yes** **No** 3. I live in a place that has big palm trees.

**Yes** **No** 4. I live in a place that has scenic views.

**Yes** **No** 5. I live in an apartment that is small and dark.

**Yes** **No** 6. I sometimes hear music playing and babies crying.

**Yes** **No** 7. I sometimes keep the curtains closed in my home.

## Topics for Discussion or Writing

1. What thoughts did you have about the place where you live now before you lived there?
2. What surprised you about the place you live now when you saw it in real life?
3. In what places do you sometimes see graffiti?