

PROVA D'ACCÉS A CICLES FORMATIUS DE GRAU SUPERIOR DE FORMACIÓ PROFESSIONAL, ENSENYAMENTS D'ESPORTS I ENSENYAMENTS D'ARTS PLÀSTIQUES I DISSENY 2008



SÈRIE 1		
DADES DE LA PERSONA ASPIRANT		QUALIFICACI
OGNOMS I NOM:		3071211107101
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Sharing flats

Barcelona is not cheap and as a result flat sharing is becoming very popular. But sharing a flat is no longer a choice restricted to students. It is not only youngsters under 30 who are opting for sharing; the spectrum of flat sharers now ranges from elderly people who rent out a room to students in order to have company while sharing expenses, to those who

5 take in lodgers¹ in order to pay the mortgage² at the end of the month.

Although people say that those from the baby boom generation tend to stay on at home with their parents, there is an increasing number of people who choose not to. The reality for this generation is that many work more than eight hours a day, have temporary contracts and a salary that does not usually go beyond ?1,000 a month. This means that many have to abandon their dream of living on their own and are forced to share a flat, either with friends or with strangers.

Waldesca Santana is one of them. This illustrator rented a room to study when she was 17. As one of nine children she says, "it was difficult to find peace and quiet at home." A year later she moved in and that was ten years ago.

Now 28, she lives with her partner, but they could only afford to pay for one room with their two salaries. "We do not want to live outside Barcelona, far from friends, family and our jobs", says Santana. They have opted to stay in the city, in a more spacious flat, with two other people. The couple have been living in the same flat for the last 5 years but "almost every year, someone new moves into the house". This means the space needs to be redistributed and "adapted to new needs".

Santana is one of the members of the social movement "V de Vivienda". They try to find solutions to the problems people encounter when trying to find a decent home. She believes that this movement has started to produce fruit because this subject has "not been silenced the way politicians wanted it to". She also adds that the problems of finding accommodation are not only for the young, "This is what they want us to believe, I consider myself and adult and I know people in their 50s who have similar problems to mine", she says.

Despite the fact that more and more people are being forced into sharing a flat, the government has no specific data regarding the number of people in this situation, nor does it have a specific guidance service.

Increasing numbers of people are having to find unconventional arrangements to continue living in the Catalan capital.

Catalonia Today, January 2007 (adapted)

^{1.} hostes, rellogats

^{2.} hipoteca

- 1. Sharing flats...
 - a) is only possible if your are a student.
 - b) is an option taken by many people.
 - c) is promoted by government.
 - d) is only possible if you are under 30.
- 2. People from the baby boom generation don't usually live on their own because...
 - a) their parents want them to live at home.
 - b) they can't afford it.
 - c) they prefer sharing a flat with some friends.
 - d) they all like living with their parents.
- 3. Adults share their flats...
 - a) to help their economy.
 - b) only to have company.
 - c) to make friends.
 - d) to have their house redistributed.
- 4. Waldesca and her partner...
 - a) have been living with the same people for 5 years.
 - b) redistributed their flat 5 years ago.
 - c) have lived in the same place for 5 years.
 - d) are living in one room with their two salaries.
- 5. Waldesca and her partner want to live in Barcelona because...
 - a) it's easy to share a flat.
 - b) salaries are better there.
 - c) they work there.
 - d) flats are more spacious.
- 6. Waldesca thinks that...
 - a) finding accommodation is a problem for many people.
 - b) politicians are doing a lot to solve the problem of accommodation.
 - c) only young people have problems to find accommodation.
 - d) politicians want to talk about the problems of accommodation.

B) Choose the correct words or definitions a, b, c, or d for the words below as they are used in the text: 2 MARKS (0,50 FOR EACH CORRECT ANSWER)

1. Restricted (line 2)				
a) Limited	b) Forbidden	c) Reduced	d) Forced	
2. Expenses (line 4)				
a) Money	b) Salary	c) Costs	d) Income	
3. Opted (line 17)				
a) Chosen	b) Optional	c) Wanted	d) Needed	
4. Regarding (line 29)				
a) Watching	b) According to	c) Because	d) On the subject of	

C) Write 80-100 words about one of the following topics:

5 MARKS

- **1.** Write an essay about the advantages and disadvantages of sharing a flat.
- **2.** You are a student and want to live in Barcelona. You have seen an interesting advert from an old woman who has a room to rent. Write a letter to her. Include your personal information, details about yourself and the conditions you want.