

The Home Smart Team Quiz

 15 to 45 mins



Aims

- To generate discussion on leaving home, housing and homelessness.
- To learn some key facts about leaving home, housing and homelessness.

What you need

- Question Sheet
- Blank paper for writing quiz answers on and keeping track of scores
- Optional: prizes for winning team and runners up

Step 1. Explain the rules 5 mins

- Split your class into teams and ask them to come up with a team name.
- Make sure each team has some blank paper to write their answers on.
- You will read out the questions, they will discuss them in their team and write the answers on the quiz sheets.

Step 2. The quiz rounds 5 mins per round

- You can do up to four rounds, depending on how much time you have.
- Each round has a different theme.
- The themes for the round are: leaving home; housing; money; information & advice.

Step 3. Giving the answers 5 mins per round

- After each round, get each team to pass their answer sheet to the next team for marking.
- Read out the answers and take some time to discuss them.
- Highlight any issues raised by the quiz.
- Keep a running total of the scores for each round, so you can see which team is the overall winner.

OPTIONAL Step 4. Points make prizes

- Give a prize to the team with the highest score and runner up prizes to the other teams.

The Home Smart Team Quiz

Quiz Sheet 1



Leaving Home Round

Q1. When are you legally allowed to leave home in Scotland?

Options: a) 16 b) 18 c) 21

Answer: a) 16 **Points: 1**

Q2. What is the average age for leaving home in Scotland?

Options: a) 18 b) 22 c) 25

Answer: b) 22 **Points: 1**

Q3. How many young people aged 16-17 in Scotland in 2005-2006 went to their local council because they felt they had nowhere safe and secure to stay? (Hint: there were around 120,000 16-17 years old in Scotland at that time.)

Options: a) 1,439 b) 3,226 c) 4,339

Answer: c) 4,339 **Points: 1**

Q4. Name three useful things you might do before you leave home. You get one point for each (useful!) answer.

Possible Answers: talk it over with your family; save up furniture; work out a budget/how much you can afford; think about where you would like to live; go to the council or an agency for housing advice; look for somewhere to live; raise money for a deposit. **Points: 3**

Q5. True or false – if you go to the council because you are homeless, they will ask you lots of questions. You're not allowed to have anyone with you when they ask these questions.

Answer: False – you can have a friend with you or someone to advocate on your behalf.

Points: 1

Total points for this round: 7

Housing Round

Q1. What is a housing association?

Answer: A housing association is an organisation that provides housing to rent at affordable rates. You can apply to them directly or through your council. There is a waiting list. **Points: 1**

Q2. True or false – if you want to get a place through the council or a housing association they can usually sort you out with a nice place in a good area in about a month or so.

Answer: False - waiting lists for council homes are different for each council, but in some areas it can take years to get a place. **Points: 1**

Q3. Name two advantages of renting a place from a housing association or a council that make it easier than renting privately.

Answers: it's cheaper; you don't have to pay a deposit; it's more secure – so long as you pay your rent and follow the rules, you can't be evicted. Private lets are not so secure, i.e. the landlord can ask you to leave if they give appropriate notice. Private rents are often more expensive for example, a council rent might typically cost £234 per month, whereas private is more likely to be £560. Private lets usually require at least one month's rent in advance for a deposit. **Points: 2**

Q4. True or false – if you're living on a friend or relative's sofa you are legally homeless.

Answer: True – but depending on circumstances it can be a good option until you get yourself sorted. It might be better than the temporary accommodation the council could offer. **Points: 1**

Q5. True or false – you can only be legally evicted from your home by your landlord if they have a court order, otherwise they could be committing a criminal offence.

Answer: True

Points: 1

Total points for this round: 6

The Home Smart Team Quiz

Quiz Sheet 2



Money Round

Q1. If you are 16 and claim job seekers allowance how much money do you get a week?

Options: a) £34.60 b) £45.50 c) £57.45

Answer: a) £34.60. If you are 18 plus you receive £45.50. Over 25s receive £57.45. Note: 16 and 17 year olds will not get JSA if they are living at home. Find out more at:

www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk **Points: 1**

Q2. Can you name three types of bills (other than your rent) you will have to pay when you have your own place?

Answers: council tax; water rates; electricity; gas; phone; TV licence; satellite or cable TV; internet connection. **Points: 1**

Q3. True or false? If you are over 18 and single you can apply for council tax benefit, but it won't cover your water rates – you have to pay for them by yourself.

Answer: True – water rates are on the same bill as your council tax, but they are not covered by council tax benefit. **Points: 1**

Q4. What does it mean if you pay for something by hire purchase?

Answer: It means you pay for it over a long period of time and you also pay interest. Because you pay interest you end up paying more than the original price, e.g. if you buy a fridge freezer at £160 by the time you have paid it off with HP the interest could be as much as £48. **Points: 1**

Q5. True or false – it doesn't cost anything to leave your TV on standby.

Answer: False – usually your TV uses as much electricity on standby as it does when it's switched on. Switching it right off can save you a lot of money. **Points: 1**

Total points for this round: 5

Information & Advice Round

Q1. Name two places you could go to for housing information and advice.

Answer: www.leavinghome.info; Shelter's free housing advice helpline 0808 800 4444; your local council; Citizens Advice Bureau; Young Scot Info line. **Points: 2**

Q2. What is Childline's phone number?

Answer: 0800 11 11 **Points: 1**

Bonus question: What is the number of Shelter's free housing advice helpline?

Answer: 0808 800 4444 **Points: 2**

Q3. Name four things you could get from an information and advice service.

Possible answers: information; advice; support; someone to talk to; information on other organisations who can help you; leaflets. **Points: 4**

Q4. True or false – if you don't have any money for a phone call and you want to phone for help or advice there's a service that can connect you for free.

Answer: True – you can call Get Connected on 0808 808 4994 for free, tell them what sort of information and advice you're looking for and they will connect you, without charge, to an organisation who can help you. **Points: 1**

Q5. What is the best time to call a help line?

Options: a) during the day
b) around dinner time in the evening
c) when the soaps are on

Answer: c) when the soaps are on. **Points: 1**

Total points for this round: 11