What is a Home?

Everyone imagines something different when they think of a home. Some of us imagine a place or the way something looks. Some of us feel a certain way when we think of a home. When YOU think of a home, what pops into your mind and heart?

What is the best place you have ever lived?
What did you like most about it?
What do you like most about where you live now?

The Meaning of Home

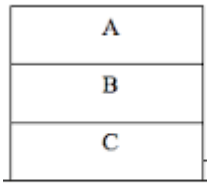
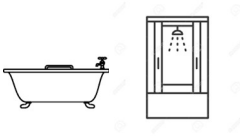
Take a moment and draw or write in the boxes below that are most important to you in a home. Be sure to include how home feels, as well as how it looks.

Housing Needs and Wants

What kind of housing do I need and want?

Look at the categories below and put a check mark in the box that you feel best suits your lifestyle.

Category	A	B	C
Location 	**1hour each way to work, schools, stores**	**½ hour to work, schools, stores**	**Walking or bicycling distance to work, schools, stores**
Transportation 	**No bus available**	**Bus top within 6 blocks**	**Bus stop within 2 blocks**
Neighborhood stores + services 	**Few stores + services**	**Some stores + services available**	**Many stores + services**
Security 	**Door locks**	**Door and window locks**	**Door, window & deadbolts**
Outdoor space 	**No private outdoor space**	**Small patio or balcony**	**Private yard**
Appliances 	**Hotplate, bar fridge**	**Full-size stove & fridge**	**Stove, fridge & dishwasher**
Laundry 	**None**	**Shared laundry room**	**In-suite laundry**
Furniture 	**Unfurnished**	**Partial furnished**	**Fully furnished**

Size of suite 	**Small**	**Medium**	**Large**
	**Basement suite**	**Bottom floor**	**Top floor**
Pets allowed 	**Maybe some day**	**Cat**	**Dog**
Bedrooms 	**Studio style**	**One bedroom**	**2 or more bedrooms**
Bathrooms 	**Shower, no bath**	**Full bathroom**	**2 or more bathrooms**
Condition of unit 	**Poorly maintained**	**Average maintenance**	**Excellent maintenance**
Parking 	**No -off street parking**	**First come, parking on site**	**1 reserved parking space**
Other 			

What are the things I need and want right now?

Short Term Needs and Wants

The things you need and want right now are your short term needs and wants.

In the chart below, list (in order form the chart above) the things you need and the things you want in a home today. These things may change as you change or your income changes.

NEEDS	WANTS

Long Term Needs and Wants

List the things (in order) you may need and want in housing in 2-5 years. When thinking long term, think about how your life may change in the future. Your job may change, you may have different needs as you age.

NEEDS	WANTS