



Segment 6 (Units 9–12)

Wow! It's so clean!

Genre: Reality show

Viewing Time: 2:10

Background Information

It is common for people to share apartments or houses with each other in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Often, several men or women, who are usually young and unmarried, will rent an apartment or house together and share costs. These people are called "roommates" even if they don't share a bedroom with each other.

You may want to ask students if they are familiar with reality shows, currently a popular TV genre. There are no actors on these shows, but real people going through real situations that are videotaped as they happen. In this case, one roommate has made a number of changes to the apartment while the other two roommates have been away, and they aren't completely happy with the changes.

Vocabulary for Comprehension

Preview the vocabulary with your students.

cluttered: *messy, filled or covered with things*

dingy: *dirty, in bad condition*

kindergarten: *school or class for children aged five to six*

name tag: *a small sign with your name on it*
organized: *arranged in an effective, ordered, and sensible way*

Answer Key

Previewing (Answers may vary—as long as they are appropriate guesses, accept them for now.)

1. They are roommates/young women/Americans.
2. They are in an apartment.
3. They talk about changes one of the roommates made to the apartment.
4. It's about what happened after a young woman made changes to an apartment that her roommates didn't like very much.

In-Depth Viewing

1. T
2. F—Emma and Crystal have been away on vacation.
3. F—Mariel put their names on everything.
4. F—Crystal doesn't like the changes.
5. T



Video Script

Emma: Wow! Look at this. I can't believe it.

Mariel: So . . . you like it?

Emma: Like it? I love it. It's so . . . bright and clean, and . . . organized.

Mariel: Phew. I'm so glad you like it. It was just so . . . cluttered in here all the time, you know?

Emma: Yeah, and everything was messy. And it was impossible to find anything.

Mariel: Exactly. That's why I put these little baskets out. One for your stuff, one for mine, and one for Crystal's. What do you think?

Emma: Um, it's a good idea, but . . . I, uh . . . do we really need our names on them?

Mariel: Hmm, well, I think it's a good idea. Do you think Crystal will like it?

Emma: Um, I —

Mariel: Ooh! And look! Go look in the kitchen. Each cabinet has one of our . . .

Emma: . . . names on it. Yeah. Um, well, what else have you done here?

Mariel: Well, I've organized the bookshelves and . . .

Emma: Put name tags on them. Yeah, um . . . well, you've painted the wall! I love the color. You *have* been busy since we've been away.

Mariel: Yeah, the walls were just so dingy, you know, so once I got started, I just thought, why not . . .

Crystal: Oh my goodness.

Emma: Crystal! Welcome home! How was your trip?

Crystal: It was, um . . . It was a great trip . . . and I . . .

Mariel: Good. So, what do you think?

Crystal: Mariel, you did . . . you did . . . all this?

Mariel: Yep.

Crystal: What have you done to our apartment?

Mariel: Well, isn't it great? I've organized things, and moved things around, and then painted.

Crystal: And put our *names* on everything! I mean, what do you think we are, your kindergarten students?

Mariel: What do you mean? My students *love* having their names on everything. And sometimes I even let them write their own names, and it's just so much neater.