

Tiny Living

adapted from a blog by Ashley Rossi



- 1 If you haven't come across a tiny home TV show or *Buzzfeed* article yet, let me be the first to introduce you to the concept of "tiny living." It's a minimalist lifestyle that's resonating with multiple generations, and some people are going so far as to ditch their four-bedroom homes and white picket fences for a mini-sized house on wheels.
- 2 Each tiny home tells a story about its owner(s) – how it was built, where it has traveled, and what purpose it serves. Mario lost his house in the 2008 recession, and when it came time for him to buy a new house after paying off his debts, he looked for an alternative. He built his house completely on his own, and included features like saltwater batteries, wireless lights, a skylight, air conditioning, and a wireless door. Going green wasn't his motivation, but that lifestyle fit well with tiny living. Jenna and Guillaume didn't want the burden of a mortgage and debt, so they quit their 9-5 jobs for a tiny-house lifestyle. Alexis and Christian always loved the concept of outdoor living.
- 3 When Mario went to register his tiny house in California, it was initially classified as a "travel trailer." And while it is a widely accepted lifestyle, in the U.S. it is forbidden by law to stay and sleep in a travel trailer full-time, so this makes tiny living a little tricky. Jenna and Guillaume were given an eviction notice last year when parked on a lot in Denver because someone complained about their house in the neighborhood they were parked in. Jenna believes things are changing, though. "I think they're not going to tell 30,000 (or however many tiny houses there are) people that they have to destroy their tiny home on wheels." Alexis and Christian think they have a great potential to positively impact the homeless population and low-income areas.

- 4 The situation is beginning to change. Fresno, California is now the first official city to classify tiny homes as a secondary residence, which meets the basic requirements for full-time living. That is a step forward. Mario is confident that once some states allow tiny homes to be permanently occupied, 7.
- 5 Ranging between 100 to 400 square feet, one of the most fascinating parts of a tiny home is the creativity in fitting the necessities in such a small space. "Overall it feels like me and it fits my personality ... I've never lived somewhere where it's felt so much like me," says Alexis. One of the best parts for the couple is "really tailoring for how you live your life, about boiling down to the essence of what you really love or need and how you use your space." Jenna says: "You don't have to have the 4,000-square-foot mansion to show off your wealth. It's a different idea of the American Dream." The average cost of a U.S. home is \$341,500, while a professionally built tiny house averages around \$47,500, and a personally built tiny home costs around \$27,500.

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Tekst 4

- 1p 4 'It's a minimalist lifestyle' (alinea 1)
→ In welke latere alinea wordt uitgelegd wat met 'minimalist lifestyle' wordt bedoeld?
Schrijf het nummer van deze alinea op in de uitwerkbijlage.
- 1p 5 What is the point made about tiny house owners in paragraph 2?
A They failed to settle down in the way society expects of them.
B They have their own reasons for choosing to live as they do.
C They share a passion for living an environmental-friendly lifestyle.
D They suffered a financial loss that forced them to downsize.
- 1p 6 What becomes clear about tiny houses in the U.S. from paragraph 3?
A A lot of people are forced to leave them.
B It is illegal to live in them all year round.
C They provide shelter for people without homes.
D Wealthy home owners disapprove of them.
- 1p 7 Kies bij 7 in alinea 4 het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.
A others will follow
B protests will increase
C the costs will drop
D they will be taxed
- 1p 8 What becomes clear about tiny-house owners in paragraph 5?
A They like to save money when possible.
B They need freedom to fulfil their ambitions.
C They prefer a more individualistic way of life.
- 1p 9 What is the main goal of this text as a whole?
A to inform people about the phenomenon of tiny living
B to make opponents of tiny living change their minds
C to motivate more people to try and take up tiny living
D to point out the difficulties associated with tiny living

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.