

Italian Houses on sale for One Dollar

1. Which of the following words would you use to describe the homes below? What other words would you use to describe them?

cozy

modern

gorgeous

run down

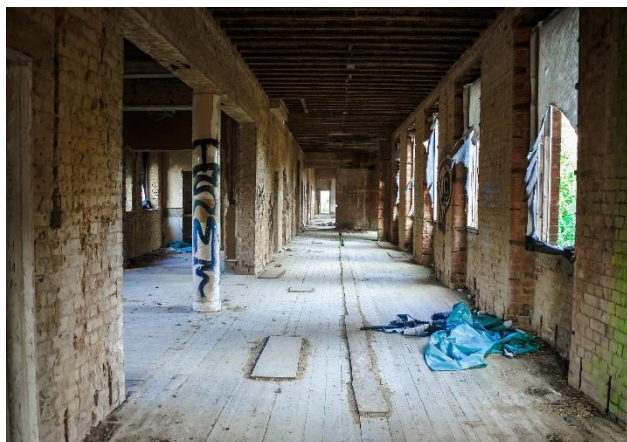
creepy

tacky

fancy

stylish

picturesque





2. In your own words, describe your dream house. Where would it be? Would it be modern or traditional? A mansion or a cottage?



3. You are going to watch a video about 1\$ homes in Italy. The video contains the following phrases. Use the words and phrases to complete the sentences below

auction	deter	abandoned	stucco
	rural	the catch	on the verge of

- The state of the house didn't them from buying it, so now they have a new house.
- Some species of rhino are extinction.
- The deal seems too good to be true! What's?
- The house is nice, but there are a lot of creepy buildings nearby.
- The is peeling off the stone because it's so old.
- Many areas are struggling because young people tend to leave for bigger cities.
- We tried to buy the house at the, but somebody made a bid that was higher than our top price.



4. Watch the first 5 minutes of the video "[The Truth Behind Italy's \\$1 Homes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nP2vtDLTAzM)"¹ and answer the questions

- Why is the Italian government selling homes for 1 dollar?
- What are some of the reasons the populations of small Italian towns are shrinking?
- What is the town of Molise offering to newcomers in addition to cheap housing?
- How did most of the newcomers hear about 1\$ homes?
- Is there a lot of competition for the 1 dollar houses?

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nP2vtDLTAzM>



5. Use the words and phrases in the box to complete the sentences below

in a heart beat	smear campaign	listing price
ground zero	approved	rip off

- a) I'd move to France if I could. I'd love to live there.
- b) The for the property is \$300,000, but I can negotiate it down.
- c) 4 dollars for a bottle of water?? What a!
- d) The president ran a against his competitor, claiming he was untrustworthy and weak.
- e) The city of Wuhan is for the corona virus.
- f) The bank finally the transfer, the money should come through soon.



6. Watch the last 5 minutes of the video and answer the questions

- a) Why did most of the 1 dollar homes in Sambuca end up selling for more than 1 dollar?
- b) What do homeowners have to do to get their security deposit back?
- c) Does the Scottish woman regret buying a dollar house?
- d) Why has coronavirus affected South Italy more (in some ways) than North Italy?
- e) Would you ever consider buying a 1 dollar home in Italy? Why/why not?



7. Ask and answer these questions with a partner.

- Have you ever bought a house? If not, do you think you ever will?
- Do you think real estate in your country is a good investment? Why/why not?
- Have you ever known someone who bought a house and later regretted it?
- What kind of house did you grow up in? What are some details you remember?
- Are there any houses in your city or area that you think are particularly beautiful or ugly? Describe them.