



## What Is This Module About?

What materials is your house made of? Do you live in a house made of wood or cement? Have you ever lived in an apartment or a nipa hut?

All around Asia, you will notice that one of the things that we have in common are houses. People all over Asia, no matter where they live, need homes to protect them from the rain, and to eat and sleep in. In this module, you will learn about the importance of houses. You will also learn about the different styles of houses in Asia and why houses differ from place to place.

You will understand why houses look different in some places and the same in others. You will learn about the five important factors which can determine what a house will look like.

This module is divided into two lessons:

Lesson 1 — *Why Is My House Important?*

Lesson 2 — *Why Do Their Houses Look Like That?*



## What Will You Learn From This Module?

After studying this module, you should be able to:

- ◆ explain the importance of shelter;
- ◆ identify the functions of shelter for people around Asia;
- ◆ identify five major factors which affect the design of a house;
- ◆ describe the differences and similarities between different house styles around Asia; and
- ◆ compare your own house with houses from other cultures in the Philippines and around Asia.



## Let's See What You Already Know

Before studying this module, answer this test to check how much you know about the topics that will be discussed.

- A. There are five main factors that influence the design or style of a house. Can you name these five factors? Look at the box of words below. Pick out the five main factors and write them down in the blanks.

Mood	Financial Resources	Ideas	Building Materials
Setting	Technology	Neighbors	Parents' House
Culture	Wood	Rain	Climate

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

- B. Complete the sentences below. Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

1. One important feature of a nomad's house is that it should be:
  - a. made of bricks
  - b. elevated 4 feet off the ground
  - c. light and movable
  - d. cool, with many windows
2. In many countries in Southeast Asia, the houses are elevated. The space under the house is usually used as:
  - a. a place to plant crops
  - b. a place to keep domestic animals
  - c. a place to eat
  - d. a place to play cards

3. The different kinds of houses in Asia have many similarities, but the most common similarity is that:
  - a. they usually have a shrine or an altar.
  - b. they are very big.
  - c. they are made of mud and bricks.
  - d. they have a garage.

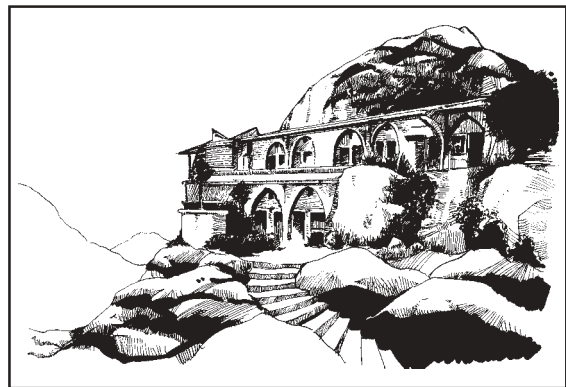
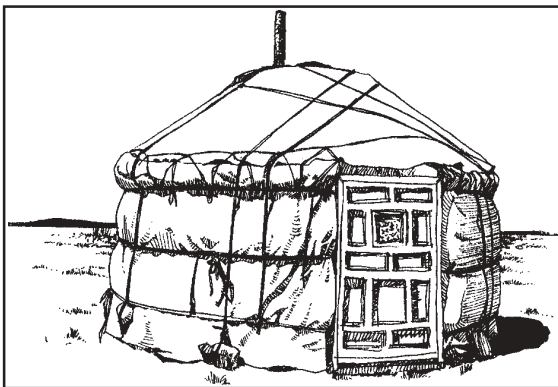
C. Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences below.

1. Shelter is one of the three basic \_\_\_\_\_ of people.
2. Everyone needs shelter in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

Shelter is important to all people. Give at least three important functions of shelter:

3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

D. Look at the pictures below. Identify the Asian region where you can find each of the kind of house presented. Write your answer in the space below the picture.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



E. Look at the box below. Some of the countries in the right column have houses that look similar to the houses in the Philippines. Draw a line to connect the Philippines to the countries that have similar types of houses.

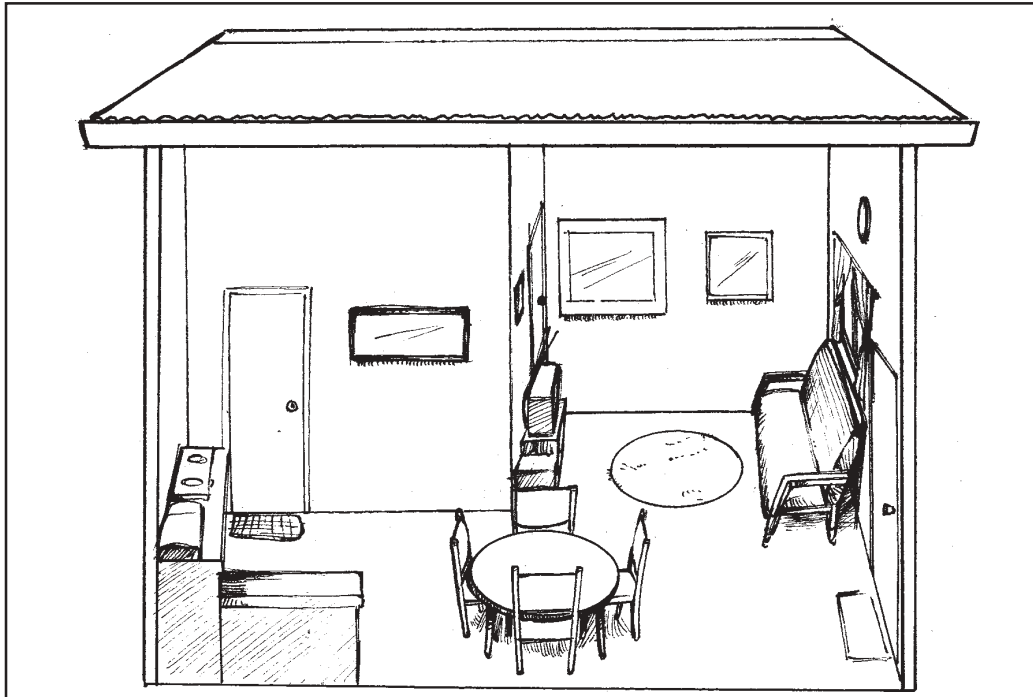
Philippines	Bangladesh
	China
	Burma
	Iraq
	Vietnam
	Japan
	Malaysia

You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on pages 47–49.

How did you do? If you got all the correct answers, then that's very good! You know a lot about the subject matter of this module. You can still study this module to gain additional knowledge. If you were not able to answer all the questions correctly, don't worry. That means this module is for you! Study it well, and you will surely have a better understanding of the importance of houses to us and our Asian sisters and brothers.

Are you ready to learn? You can now go to the first lesson. Have fun!

## Why Is My House Important?



Have you ever wondered what it would be like if you had no house? Can you imagine how difficult it would be if you had no shelter or place to stay when it rained? The fact is, we all need some sort of shelter, no matter who we are.

After studying this lesson, you should be able to:

- ◆ explain the importance of shelter;
- ◆ identify the functions of shelter for you and for other people around Asia;
- ◆ talk to another person about how you feel about your own house; and
- ◆ discuss the problem of lack of housing of different communities throughout Asia.

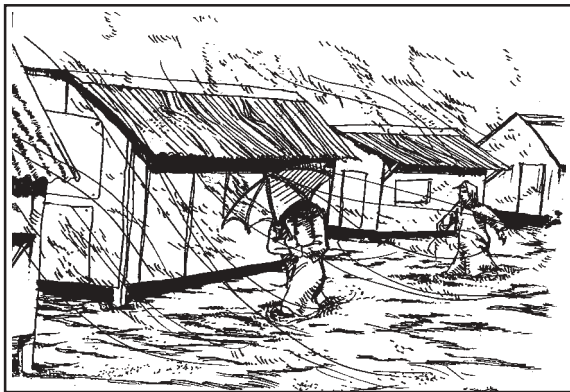


## Let's Try This

For this activity, read the paragraphs below. After you have read them, close your eyes and take a few minutes to imagine the scenario given to you.

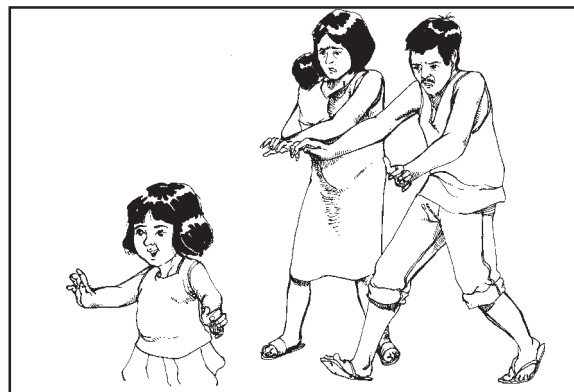
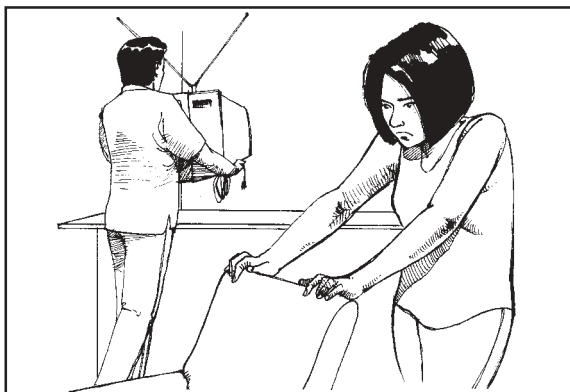
Imagine that one day, you wake up and you have no house to live in. You do not know where you live and you cannot find any other shelter. You and your family are wandering, with no permanent place to live. You have no house, so you sleep in the fields under the trees or on the streets of the city. You cannot even find anything to put over your heads when it rains or when it becomes very hot.

Think about the questions below as you imagine the scenario above.



1. What will you do if it rains?

2. Where will you cook and eat?



3. Where will you put the things you own?

4. Where will you raise your children?

Now close your eyes for a few minutes. Try your best to clearly imagine what it would be like if you had no shelter. When you are done, you can go to the next activity.



## Let's Study and Analyze

Were you able to clearly imagine what it would be like without shelter? You probably had a difficult time imagining a situation where you could not find anything to keep you dry when it rained or to provide shade when the sun was very hot. How did you feel about the scenario? What did you imagine?

Answer the questions below. You can write your answer in the blanks. Use the insights you gained from the previous activity to guide you in answering the questions.

1. Do you think you could live without shelter? Why? Why not?

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2. Do you think you could own many things if you had no shelter? Why? Why not?

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3. Do you think you would be able to raise a family safely and securely if you had no shelter? Why? Why not?

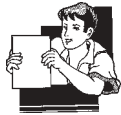
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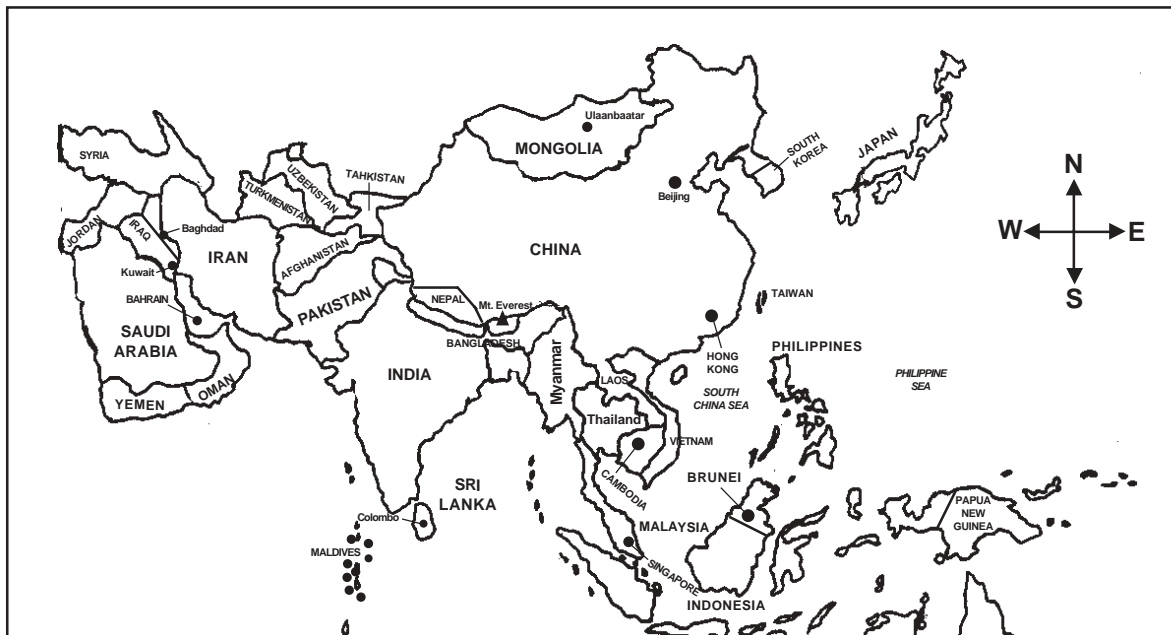
If you have finished answering the questions, you may move on to the next activity. It will discuss the issues raised by the three questions you have just answered.



## Let's Learn

After completing the previous activity, you probably realize now how important shelter is to everybody. Whether you live in the Philippines or in other parts of Asia and the world, shelter is very important to your survival. In fact, shelter is one of three basic needs we require as human beings. The others are **food** and **clothing**.

There are many kinds of shelter. Shelter includes the different kinds of houses in Asia. Just like you, our Asian sisters and brothers all need houses or some kind of shelter to house and protect them from harmful elements. They also need food and clothing as well. In this module we will be looking more closely at shelter as a basic need of people around Asia.



## Let's Try This

Look at the box of mixed-up letters on the next page. You are given below a list of words to look for. They can be found in the box. Circle each of the words as you find them in the puzzle. The words can be written horizontally, vertically, diagonally, or backwards.

Condominium

Townhouse

Cave

Bungalow

Nipa Hut

Treehouse

Yurt

Longhouse

Tent

Apartment

Yaodong



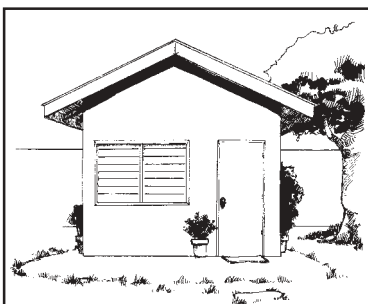


Were you able to find all the words? The solution to this puzzle is on page 49. From the puzzle, you can see that there are many different kinds of shelter around Asia and the world. Even here in the Philippines, there are also different kinds of shelter in the different regions and provinces.

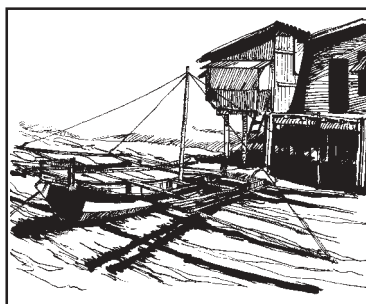


### Let's Try This

Look at the pictures below. Can you identify where in the Philippines (Luzon, Visayas or Mindanao) you can find each of the houses pictured below? You can write your answers in the blanks below.



Bahay na bato



Water dwellings



Wood house on stilts

You can compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on page 50.

You just learned that shelter is one of the three basic needs of people all over Asia. You also learned that in trying to meet this need, many types of shelter are used. One type of shelter we are all very familiar with is the house. These houses can come in different shapes and forms. There are different kinds of houses around Asia. Some examples of houses are **apartments**, **nipa huts** or **bungalows**. You will learn more about these different kinds of houses in the next lesson.



## Let's Try This

What benefits do you get from your own house? Think very carefully about the different functions or uses of your house. Write down your answers in the spaces below.

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How many functions were you able to list down? Did you think very hard about what benefits you get from your house?

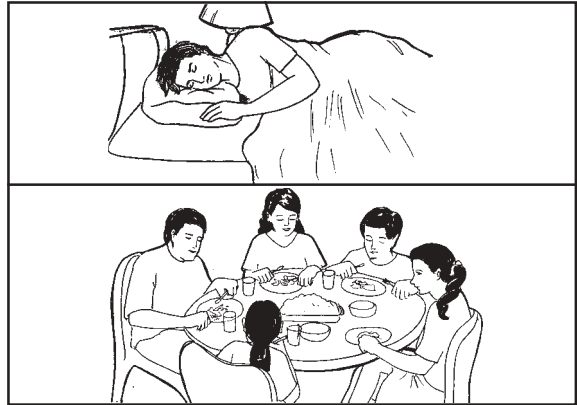


## Let's Study and Analyze

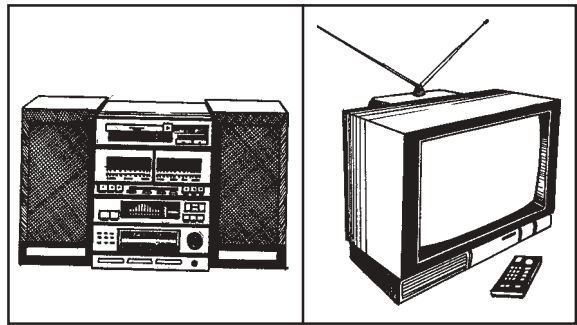
When you imagined what it would be like to have no house, you probably had a difficult time wondering where you would sleep, eat or keep your things. You wondered about these because your house functions as a place for you to eat and sleep in, among other things. Can you imagine that other people around Asia need shelter too? Can you believe that the different kinds of houses around Asia perform the same functions for your Asian sisters and brothers as your house does for you?

These are some of the more important functions of a house:

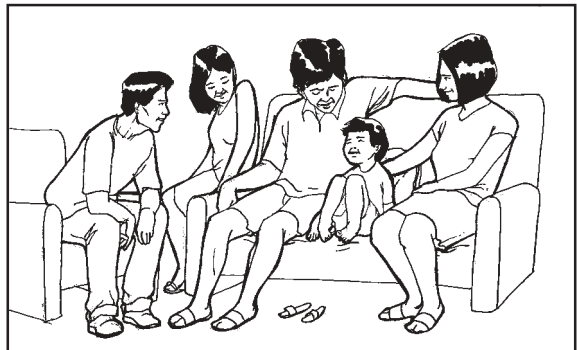
- ◆ It provides us with a place to eat and sleep in.



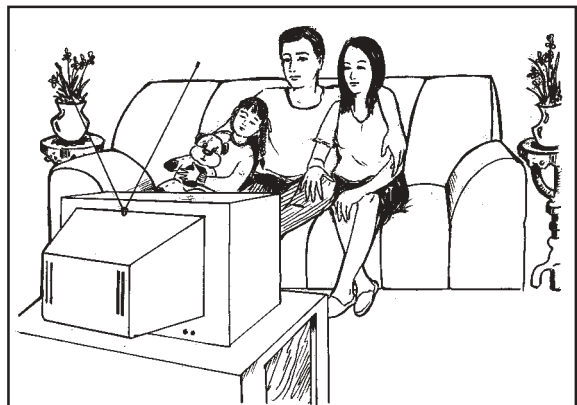
- ◆ It provides us with a place where to put our possessions.



- ◆ It provides us with a safe and secure place to raise our children.



- ◆ It gives us privacy.



- ◆ It protects us from rain, wind, extreme cold and the hot sun.



All around Asia, people get these same benefits from their houses. In fact, anywhere you go in Asia, you can be sure that if people live there, you can find houses there. That's how important houses are to all of us.



## Let's Try This

Each sentence below talks about an important function of a house. Complete the sentences below. You may write your answer in the blanks provided.

1. Houses protect us from \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, the hot sun and extreme \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Houses provide us with a place to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in.
3. Houses provide us with a safe and secure place to raise our \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Houses provide us with a place where to \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Houses give us \_\_\_\_\_.

You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on page 50.

How did you do? If you were able to get all the correct answers, then that's very good! You can move on to the next activity. Keep up the good work!

If you had made some mistakes, don't worry. Just review the lesson once more.



## Let's Read

Read the following newspaper article.

### 4.6 Million Families Have No Homes

Some 4.6 million Filipino families are homeless. This is according to the latest report of the National Statistics Office.

Homelessness has been a severe problem in the Philippines for many years. Homelessness is a problem especially in urban areas, where there is a higher need for houses due to the large number of people who live there. Many people live in crowded communities that have no basic services like drainage, sanitation (toilets), waste disposal, or decent



roads. The houses in these communities are very cramped, and are made of wood or thick boards with galvanized roofing. In extreme cases, some people even sleep on the streets because they have no money to buy a home.

The government recognizes every person's need for shelter. This is the basis for its housing program. The government intends to provide low-cost, good-quality housing to people to uplift their standard of living. The National Housing Commission is making an effort to provide low-cost housing units to some 1 million people over the next 4 years. However, the government cannot solve the problem by itself. It needs the help of all sectors of society like NGOs, local communities and private institutions. Homelessness is everybody's problem.

How did you like the article? Did you realize that the government has a housing program for those who are in need of houses? Why don't you try the next activity?



## Let's Think About This

In the previous activity, you were asked to read a newspaper article. Think about your reaction to the article then answer the questions below. Write your answers in the blanks provided.

1. Were you aware that many families in the Philippines are homeless?

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2. Are there people in your community who need houses? If there are, what type of shelter do they use at the moment?

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3. Based on the article you read, and in your opinion, do you think the government's housing program will benefit many people?

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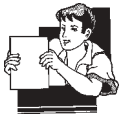
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How did you do? You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on pages 50–51.

Have you realized how important your house is? Maybe sometimes we take our houses for granted. We should always remember that there are people who do not even have a place to sleep in.



## Let's Learn

Lack of housing is a problem in many countries around Asia. If many people migrate to a certain place, there might not be enough houses for them to buy or rent. Sometimes they can find no place to live in, so they live on the streets. Often, they will construct shelters out of whatever materials they can find. In many countries and communities around Asia, the need for houses is much greater than the number of houses actually built. This has become a serious problem for many governments around Asia. Many times, these houses do not have the basic facilities like toilets or kitchens, or are built too close together. This contributes to unsanitary surroundings, which is a cause of many diseases.



The problem of providing good-quality housing to those who need it has become very serious. In fact, the United Nations held a conference on May 3, 1996 in Turkey to discuss the problem of housing. The United Nations believes that everyone should be given the chance to live in a decent home. Along with this, the government should provide basic services such as waste disposal, sewage systems and decent roads to improve the people's lives. Many Asian governments have programs that will provide low-cost housing to people who need it. These houses are sold at a very low price and the buyers are given low interest rates. The government also collects their payments over a longer period of time than usual.



## Let's Try This

1. Can you think of other ways by which the government and the different communities can help address the problem of lack of housing? Write down your thoughts in the spaces below.

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2. You just read about how important housing programs are to the different governments around Asia. How important is your house to you? Write down how you feel about your house and the benefits you derive from it in the blanks below.

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Discuss your answers with a friend, a family member or your Instructional Manager. Find out how important their house is to them and what they think about the housing problem in the Philippines.

You can compare your answers with the sample answers given in the *Answer Key* on page 51.





## Let's Remember

Houses are important to all people around Asia. Just like you, someone from Saudi Arabia, India or Japan needs some kind of shelter. Houses are the most common type of shelter. They provide a place for us to eat and sleep in, a place where to keep our possessions and raise our families. They also give us privacy and protect us from rain, wind, extreme cold and the hot sun.



## Let's See What You Have Learned

How much did you learn from this lesson? Why don't you try answering the questions below to test your knowledge?

- A. Identify whether the following items are examples of any of the three basic needs of human beings: *food*, *shelter* or *clothing*. You can write your answer in the blank beside each item. The first item has been answered for you as an example.

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. T-shirt                 | _____ clothing _____ |
| 2. Fried <i>galunggong</i> | _____                |
| 3. Instant noodles         | _____                |
| 4. Tent                    | _____                |
| 5. Denim jeans             | _____                |
| 6. Bungalow                | _____                |
| 7. Chicken <i>adobo</i>    | _____                |
| 8. Apartment               | _____                |
| 9. Nipa hut                | _____                |
| 10. Blouse                 | _____                |

- B. Look at the sentences below. Put a check mark (✓) beside the sentences that best describe the functions of a house.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Houses provide us with a place to plant rice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Houses provide us shelter from rain and the hot sun.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Houses are used for storing important government documents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Houses provide us with fruits and vegetables.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Houses provide us with a place where to put our material possessions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Houses provide us with a place to eat and sleep in.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Houses are made of brick so they can be moved from place to place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Houses provide us with a place to raise our children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Houses are places where very sick people go to be treated.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Houses give us privacy.

C. 1. Why is shelter important for everyone?

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2. What possible solutions can you think of to address the housing problem in the Philippines?

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How did you do? You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on pages 51–52.

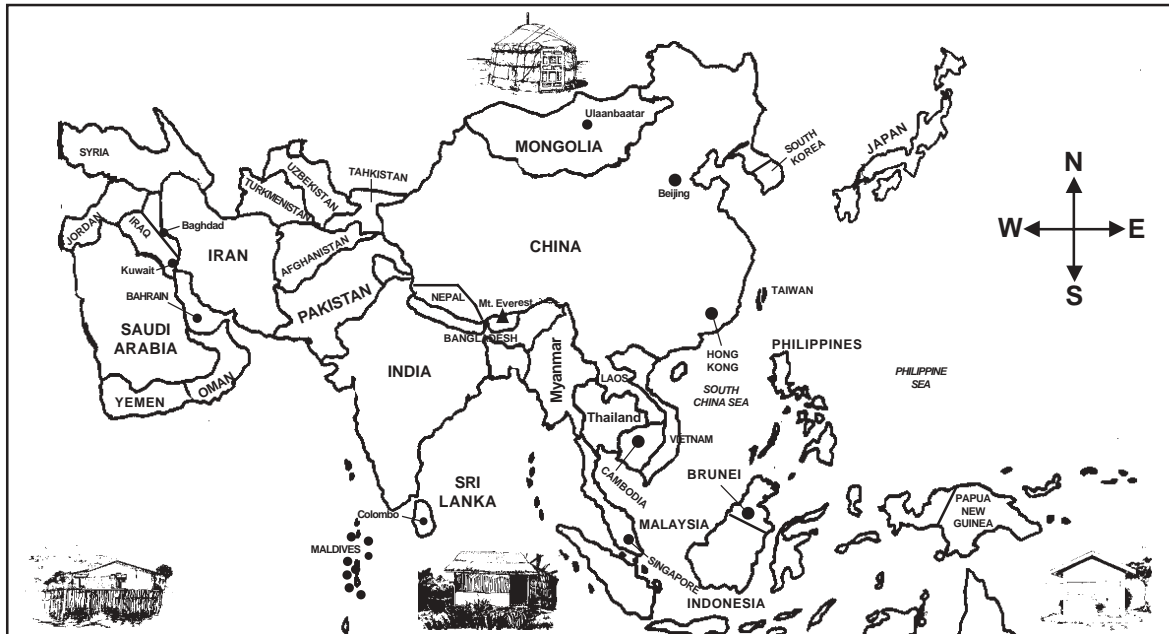


## Let's Remember

In this lesson you learned about the three basic needs of human beings: *food*, *shelter* and *clothing*. You learned that all around Asia, people need shelter. You also learned that one form of shelter is the house, and that everywhere you go in Asia, you can find houses. That's how important houses are to people. It is so important that the different governments around Asia have created programs to provide housing for many of their citizens who have no homes. Houses provide us with a place to eat and sleep, as well as a place to raise our families and our material possessions. Houses also give us privacy and protect us from rain, wind and the hot sun.

## LESSON 2

# Why Do Their Houses Look Like That?



Have you ever wondered why there are big houses and small houses? Have you ever wondered why houses are made of wood or cement, or why some are elevated? What is your house made of and why did you chose those materials?

Not all houses look the same. All around Asia, there are houses that are made of wood, bamboo or cement. There are also houses made of mud or rocks. There are many houses that are similar and different around Asia. In this lesson, you will explore the reasons why houses look the way they do. You will take a look at the houses in Asia, and compare them to the houses you find in the Philippines.

After studying this lesson, you should be able to:

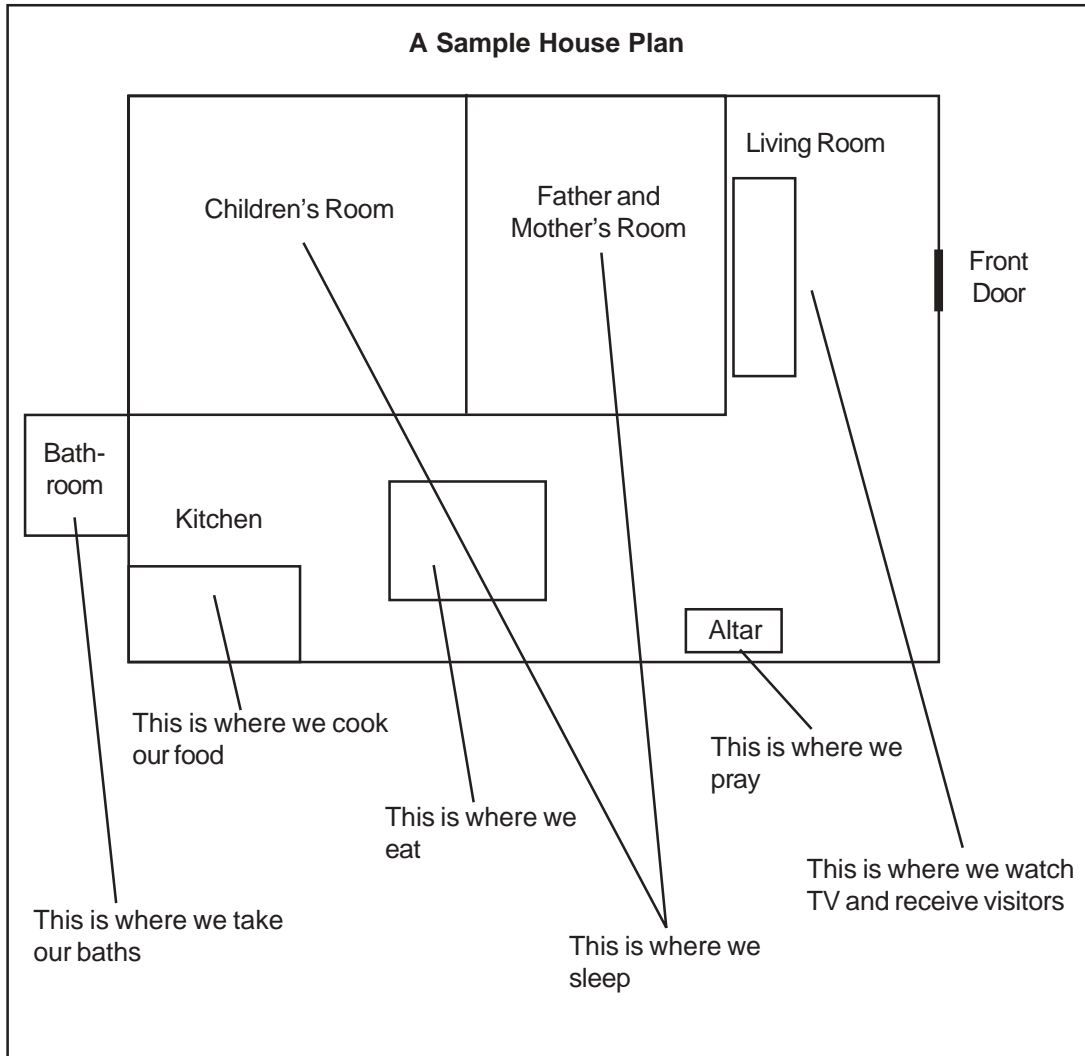
- ◆ identify the five main factors which help determine what a house will look like; and
- ◆ describe the differences and similarities between different house styles around Asia.



## Let's Try This

In this activity, you will draw a simple house plan.

A house plan is like the top view of your house, drawn without the roof. You can see all the rooms and their location. Look at the picture below.



Do you have a better idea now of what a house plan looks like? Why don't you try drawing one yourself? Here is what you will do:

**Step 1:** Walk through your house and take note of where each room is located.

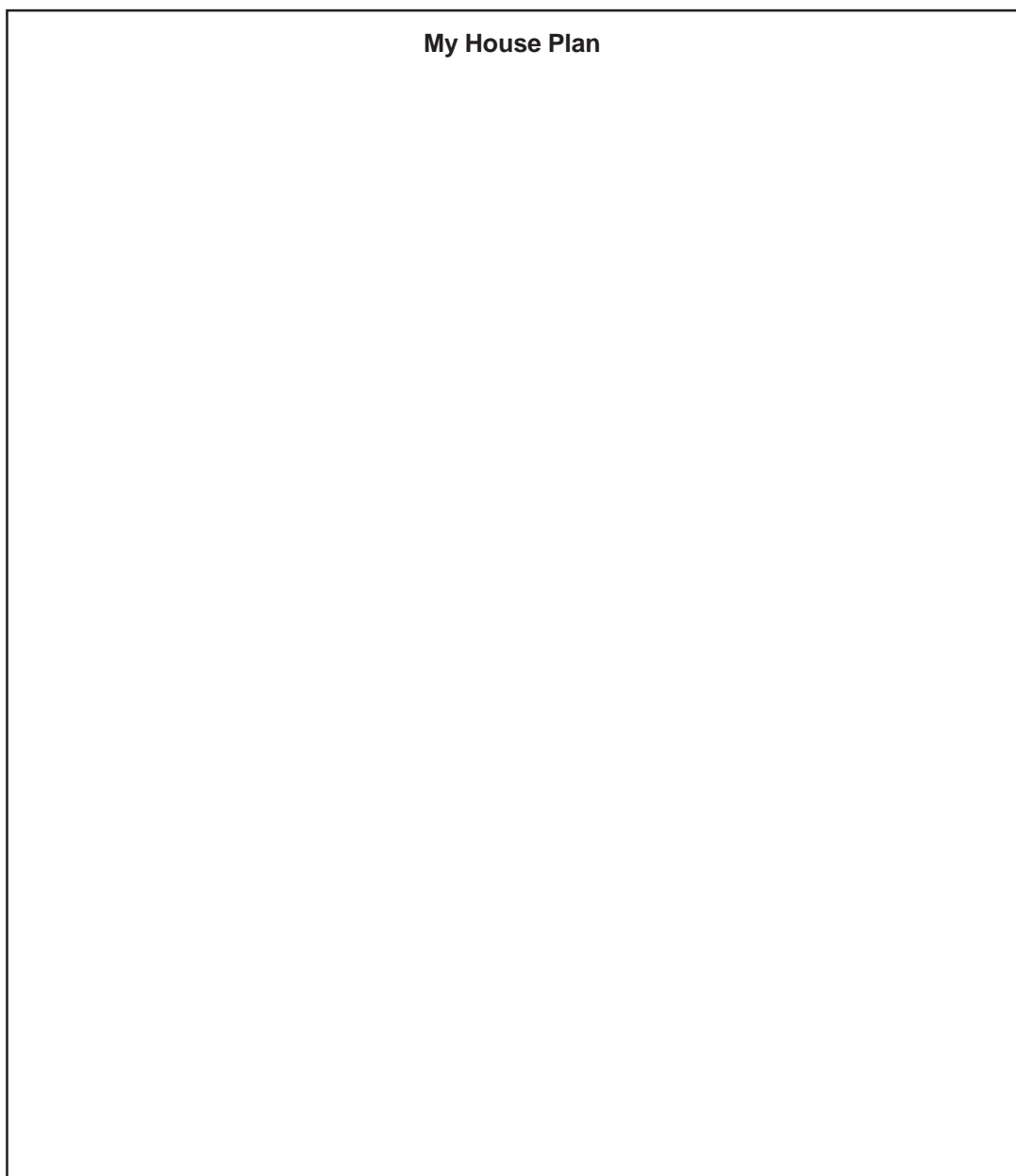
**Step 2:** Work on a table so you can draw your floor plan.

**Step 3:** Start drawing your floor plan. You can start by drawing the room you are in. Then draw the rooms that are connected to that room.

**Step 4:** Continue drawing all the rooms in the house. Label each room and describe what each room is used for.

As you are drawing your house plan, think of the uses of each room to your family. Also take note of the materials used to build your house. When you are done with your house plan, show it to a member of your family and ask them to comment on your sketch. You can sketch your house plan in the box below.

**My House Plan**





## Let's Study and Analyze

Take a look at the house plan you just drew. Did you take note of the function of each room? How about the materials that were used in building your house?

Answer the questions below. They are all about your house.

1. What materials were used in the construction of your house?

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2. Why were those materials used to build your house?

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3. What are the rooms in your house and what does your family use each room for?

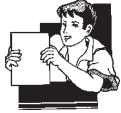
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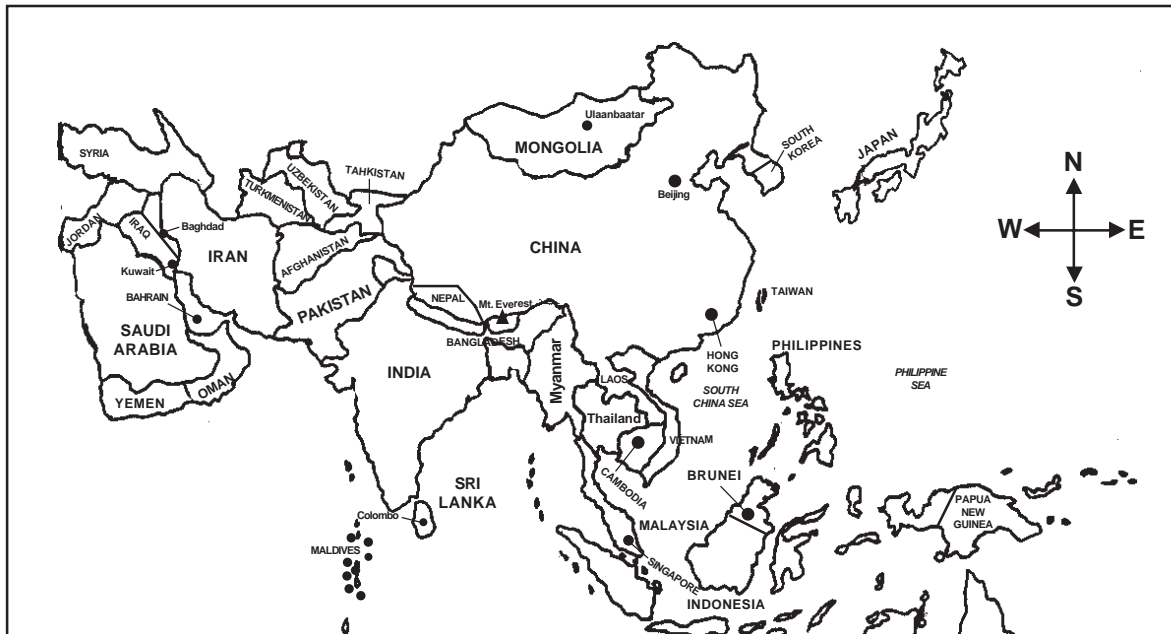
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Were you able to give your answers to the questions above? Were you able to think about the different parts of your house? You might have thought that each part of your house serves a purpose. There is a place to eat in and a place to sleep in. Do you think you can reverse the function of each room? You could, but it would be hard to imagine, wouldn't it? What about the materials used in the construction of your house? What effect or impact did they have on the design of your house? What other factors helped determine the design of your house? On the next page, write down your ideas on what things or factors determine how a house looks like.



## Let's Learn

In the previous activity, you drew a floor plan of your house. You also took note of the function of each room and the materials that were used to build your house. These things are part of the design of your house. They help to determine how your house looks like. We will now learn more about the different factors which affect the way a house looks like. We shall take a look at different houses around Asia.



The way a house looks is influenced by five factors:

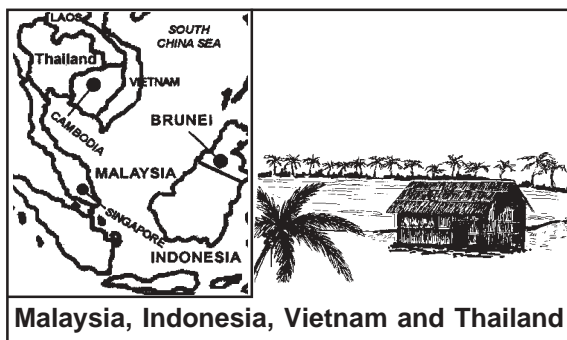
1. **Climate**
2. **Materials available**
3. **Technology**
4. **Culture**
5. **Financial resources**



Let us look at each of these five factors more closely.

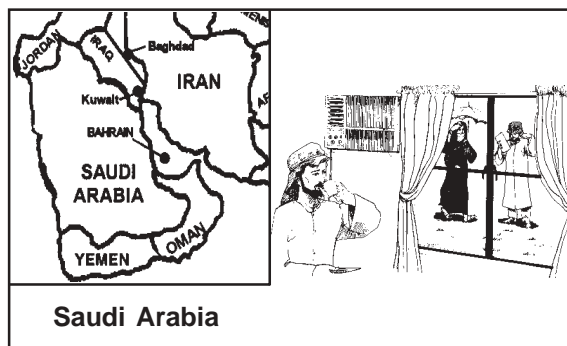
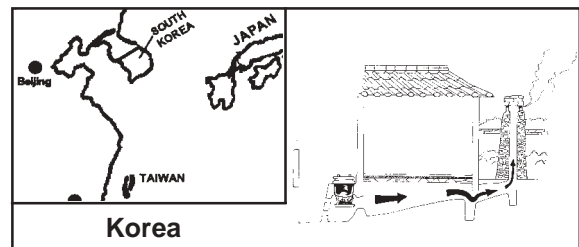
## 1. Climate

**Climate refers to the weather in a certain place.** For example, in West Asia (the Middle East) the climate is very hot. In China and Korea during the winter months, the climate is very cold. The climate in a certain region can determine the design of a house. Think about this: if you are in a hot place, will you want a house that is cool or hot? Of course you will want a cooler house! Meanwhile, if the climate is very cold, you will need a warm house to stay comfortable. Here are some examples of houses in Asia that were built for each region's climate.



The nipa hut is built out of straw and it has large windows. It is designed to let the air flow through the house so it remains cool in hot weather. You will find similar houses in Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand. The climates in these countries are hot and humid.

In Korea, the climate is extremely cold. Many houses there have an *ondol*, it is a space beneath the floor through which heat from a fire is passed. The raised floor helps to warm the house when it is very cold.



In Saudi Arabia, many of the houses are cooled by air-conditioners. This is because the climate in Saudi Arabia is very hot and dry. However, in other places in the Middle East, like Iran, there are many houses made of bricks or stone. This keeps the house from getting very hot.



## Let's Try This

Answer the following questions. You may write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. What does climate refer to?

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2. How do you describe the climate where you live?

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3. Study your own house. Do you think it was designed to match the climate in your area? Explain your answer.

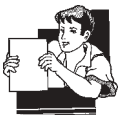
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You can check your answers by comparing them with those in the *Answer Key* on page 52.

Do you have a better understanding now of how climate affects house design? Just remember that people want to be comfortable. When it is too hot, people don't feel very well. In the same way, people don't feel good if it is too cold. People want to have the temperature just right so they can rest and eat comfortably. Can you remember the last time it was very hot? Did you sleep well? You probably wanted the weather to become very cool.



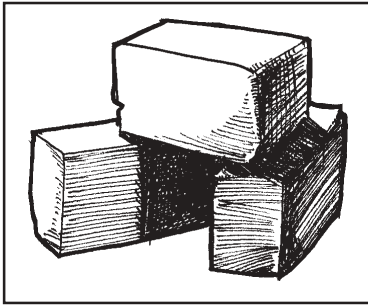
## Let's Learn

Why don't we take a look at the next factor that affects house design.

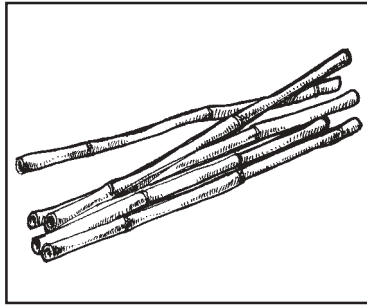
### 2. Materials Available

**Materials available refers to the things used to build your house.** Some examples of materials are: wood, cement, bamboo and bricks. The kind of materials that will be used in building a house depends on what is readily available. If wood is a very abundant resource in a particular area, you might expect to find that many of the houses there are made of wood or use a lot of wood. At present, there are many materials that can be used to build houses. Cement, hollowblocks and G.I. sheets are some modern materials that are used by many people in building houses. These materials have even replaced the traditional materials like wood and nipa in many places.

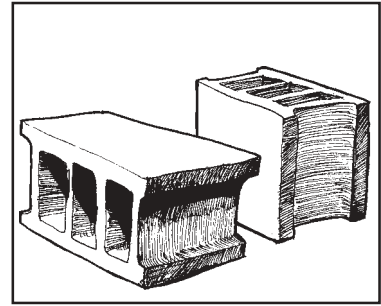
Here are some of the materials commonly used around Asia:



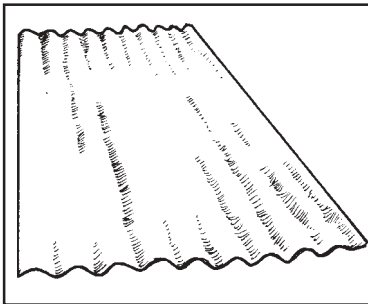
Bricks



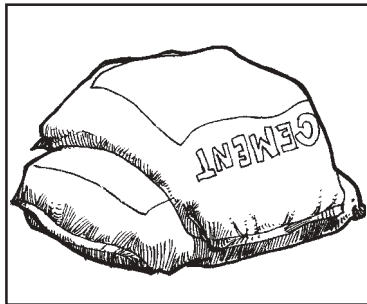
Bamboo



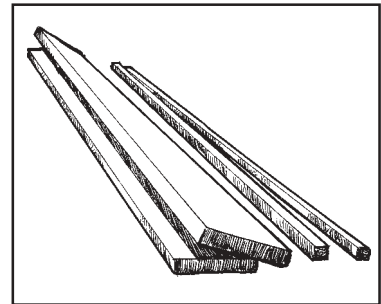
Hollow blocks



G.I. Sheets



Cement



Wood

What materials are readily available in your area? List down the materials that can easily be found in your community. You can write your answers in the spaces below.

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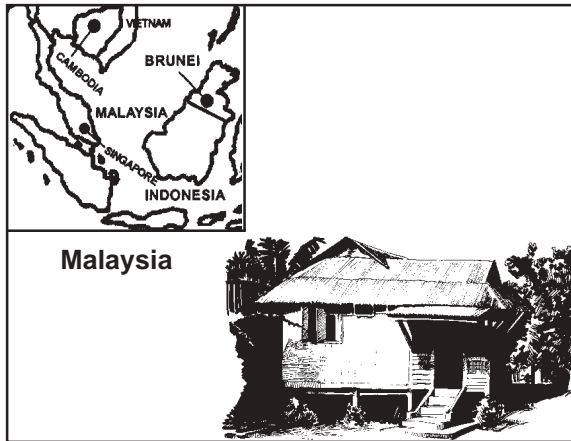
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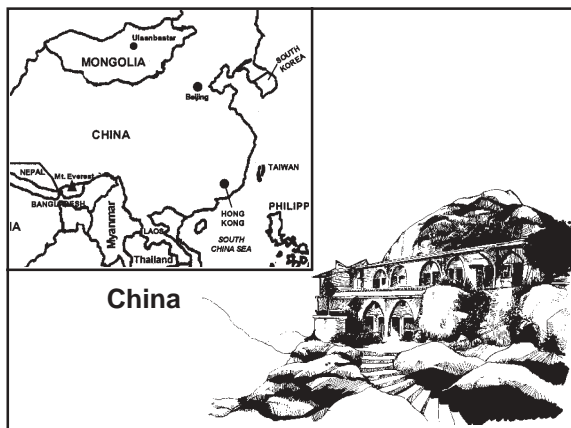
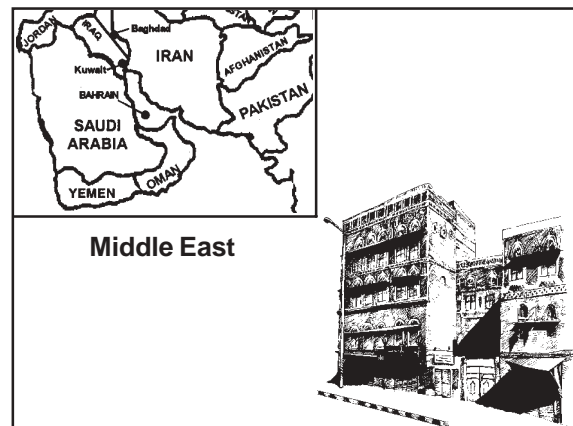
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On page 28 are the different kinds of houses around Asia that use the materials readily available in their area. As you will see, some of these houses are made of wood, some are made of brick and some are made of cement.



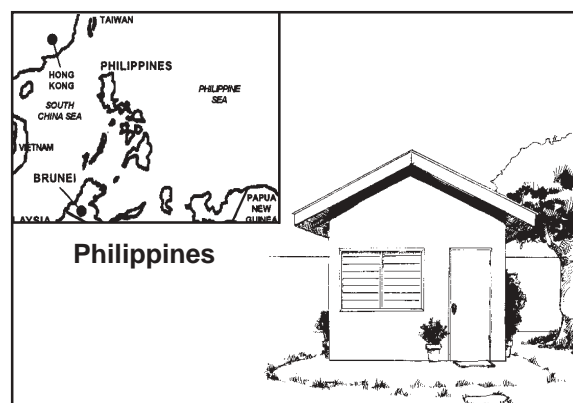
There are many forests in Malaysia. Wood is, therefore, a very abundant resource there. In Malaysia there are many traditional houses that are made of wood and are raised on stilts. Many houses around Southeast Asia follow the same pattern.

In the Middle East, houses made of bricks and clay are very popular. These materials are used because the Middle East is a very sandy and rocky place. This is where they get their materials.



In China, they have houses built out of rocks and bricks. These houses are called *yaodong*. They are usually built against the side of a mountain. You can find these houses in the mountainous regions of China. The stone houses of Yemen in the Middle East are very similar to the *yaodong*.

Many modern houses are built out of cement or hollowblocks and their roofs are made of G.I. sheets. These materials are very easy to buy and are available almost anywhere. These have become standard materials for many houses around Asia today, including in the Philippines.



Do you now have a better idea of the materials used in the different parts of Asia? Can you see the relationship between the materials available in a certain place and the materials used in the houses there? You should have noticed that the environment—the climate and the materials available—have a big influence on the design of a house.

Can you identify some houses in the different regions of the Philippines? How about the materials they use? You can write your answers in the spaces provided below.

Name of House	Materials Used
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-----	-----
-----	-----
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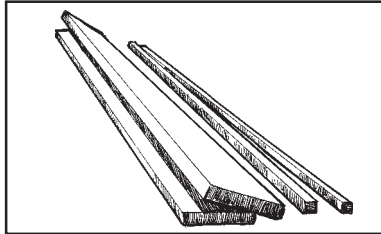
Many of the different kinds of houses around the Philippines use three basic materials. These materials are nipa, bamboo and wood. These materials are abundant all over the Philippines, which is why they are used most often in building a house.

- ◆ The Badjao of Mindanao live in a houseboat called a *lipa*. This is made of wood.
- ◆ The Bontoc of Central Luzon have a house they call the *ato* and the *olog*. These are houses made of nipa and bamboo.
- ◆ The Kalinga of Central Luzon have houses they call *dapay* and *ebgan*. These houses are made of wood, nipa and bamboo.
- ◆ The Negritos build their houses from twigs, branches, leaves and grass.



## Let's Try This

Look at the pictures below. Identify the materials each picture represents. Write down the region in Asia where they are abundant. Write your answers in the blanks.

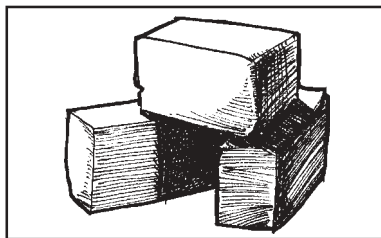


1. This material is called

\_\_\_\_\_

It is abundant in

\_\_\_\_\_

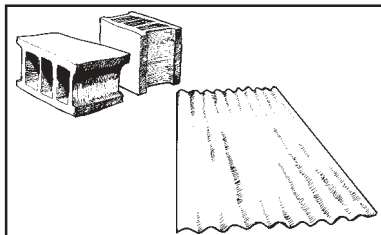


2. This material is called

\_\_\_\_\_

It is abundant in

\_\_\_\_\_

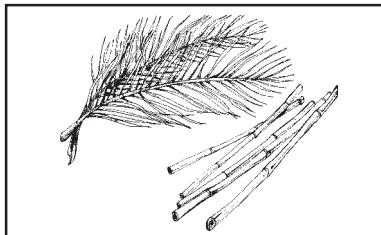


3. These materials are called

\_\_\_\_\_

They are abundant in

\_\_\_\_\_



4. These materials are called

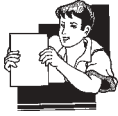
\_\_\_\_\_

They are abundant in

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you do? You can check your answers by comparing them with those in the *Answer Key* on page 53.

The materials used in the different regions of Asia can sometimes be quite similar or different. When you live in an urban area, usually, all the houses are made of cement, hollow blocks and steel. If you go to a city, you will notice this similarity. In rural areas, the houses are made of the materials that are readily available. You can find houses there made of wood, brick, stone, thatch and other materials.



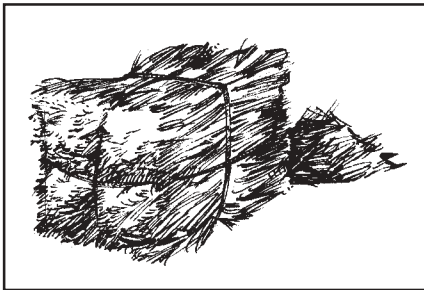
## Let's Learn

Let us now look at the next factor that can determine what a house will look like.

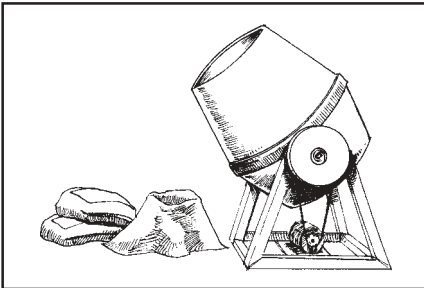
### 3. Technology

**Technology refers to the tools used to build a house.** The tools available also influence the kind of house you can build. For example, if you have access to a cement mixer, you can build a house made of cement without much difficulty. If you have access to rope and wood, you will probably secure your house with rope.

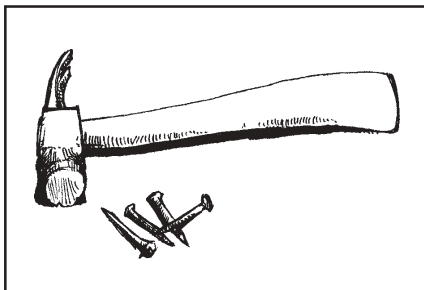
Here are some examples of technology:



This is straw. You can tie wood together with this technology. This material can be easily obtained from nature.



This is a cement mixer. With this, you can easily build a house made of cement. This technology is more difficult to acquire than the others because it is expensive.



These are a hammer and nails. You can use these to nail pieces of wood together. This is one of the most common types of technology used in building houses around Asia.



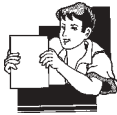
## Let's Think About This

Three kinds of technology were mentioned in the previous section. These were straw, hammer and nails, and a cement mixer. Can you figure out which of these were used when you built your house? You can write down your answer on the line below.

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Whatever technology you used, it was probably because it was the most readily available technology that you could use at that time. One thing that determines which technology you will use is the cost. The more expensive a technology is, the less people are likely to use it.

Can you see the relationship between technology and the way a house will look like? There are still two more factors that can determine what a house looks like. Let's find out what they are.



## Let's Learn

The next factor is probably one of the most important because it involves our feelings, customs, traditions and the beliefs we follow.

### 4. Culture

**Culture is roughly defined as certain beliefs and ways of thinking or doing things that are shared by a certain group of people.** This group of people can be small or very large, like a community or even a country.

When you talk about culture, you are talking about certain rules, traditions, customs and beliefs that you follow. These rules, traditions, customs and beliefs help you determine your actions in a particular situation. You learn these rules, traditions, customs and beliefs as you grow up. Your parents or elders teach you these things.

Can you identify some traditions, customs or beliefs in your own community? Write your answer in the blanks below.

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What were your answers? You might have answered that respect for your elders is very important in your community. You might have also mentioned special days that are celebrated, like your town fiesta. Here are some more examples of customs, traditions and beliefs:

- ◆ Greeting your elders by placing the back of their hand to your forehead.
- ◆ Among many Muslims in Mindanao, the dead must be buried within 24 hours. If a member of a household dies, a white streamer is usually hung outside.
- ◆ In the Ilocos Region in Luzon, every time there is a special occasion, they have a *cañao*, which is a celebration with dancing.



- ◆ The practice of *feng shui* is very common not only in the Philippines but around Asia. Believers in *feng shui* follow specific rules on how to design the house in such a way that it brings the most luck.

Here are some examples of *feng shui* beliefs concerning building a house:

1. The entrance must not be facing a mirror or else good luck will bounce out of the house.
2. The dining room must not be seen from the living room.
3. The front door must not be right in front of the front gate.

You can learn more about culture, traditions, beliefs and customs of different communities, countries and cultures in the following NFE A&E modules:

- ◆ *Let's Celebrate Our Cultural Diversity*
- ◆ *The Beautiful World of Our Native Brothers and Sisters*
- ◆ *Filipinos—One Heart, One Race*
- ◆ *This Is Our Culture*



## Let's Try This

Take a look around your house. Think about what your family does in each part of your home. You can write down everything that comes to mind. Ask your family members the customs or beliefs they practiced before your home was built. Did they put some coins in the foundation or under the floor? Do you have an altar in your house where you pray?

Answer the questions below. Think about each question and how it is related to your house.

1. How many people live in your house? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How long have you lived in your house? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you have an altar or shrine in your house? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find the questions? Each one of the questions you answered is related to culture. Are you wondering how each of those questions are related to your house? Well, you are about to learn the reason why!



Culture, traditions, beliefs and rules all have an influence on the way a house looks like. Family traditions can influence the number of people in a house. The family is very important to many people in Asia, and there are many instances where you can even find grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts and uncles living with a family. Sometimes you can even find the whole clan living together under one roof.



Many people locate their homes near their place of work. Many fishermen build their houses right over the water so that it is easier to get to their boats. Farmers build their homes near their fields. However, where public transportation is available, people may locate their homes farther away from their workplaces.

The length of time that you spend living in one place can also influence the house you build. Some people in Asia move from place to place, taking their houses with them. These houses are easily built and taken apart. Others who live in one place for a long time usually build more sturdy homes out of cement or large pieces of wood.



### Let's Try This

Can you think of customs that influenced the way your house looks? Answer the questions below.

1. Were you advised to make your house face a certain direction when you built it?

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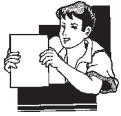
2. Were there customs, rules, traditions or beliefs that affected the way your house was constructed (the location of the doors or windows, the design of each room, etc.)?

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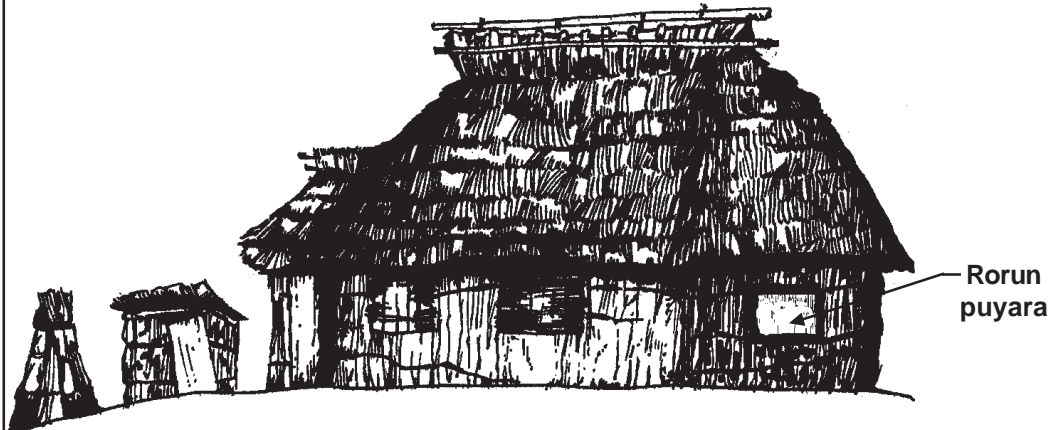
How did you find the questions? You might have seen the relationship between the different parts of your house and the traditions, values and beliefs in your community.



## Let's Learn

Perhaps the factor that influences the design of a house the most is culture. The beliefs and rules in a community will have an effect on how big or small the house is, or what direction it will face. Many times the spiritual beliefs of a certain group of people will influence the way their house looks like. Usually, the direction that a house faces is based on spiritual beliefs. The size and shape of the lot, the placement of the doors and windows are all positioned in such a way that they will bring good luck or ward off evil spirits. In the Philippines, many people have house blessings after a house is completed to bring good luck and blessings.

The Ainu of Northern Japan build their houses with a sacred window called *rorun puyara*. This window must always face east. The Ainu believe this to be the entrance for the gods or other holy beings.



Many Burmese and Cambodians also point their houses in a specific direction. In these two Asian countries, the entrances of the houses must face east. They usually build a pagoda shrine facing this direction.



Beliefs about the family are also very important factors in the design of a house. The customs and beliefs about marriage and family can determine the size and shape of a house.

In Myanmar, when a man marries, he goes to live in his father-in-law's house. To accommodate the new couple, an additional room is built. In Cambodia, the son who marries chooses where to build his new house.

The *Mirangkabau* tribe of Malaysia believe that all the members of their clan should live together. Because of this belief, they construct very large houses where the whole clan can live. These long houses are called *rumah gadang*. These houses are usually elevated off the ground.



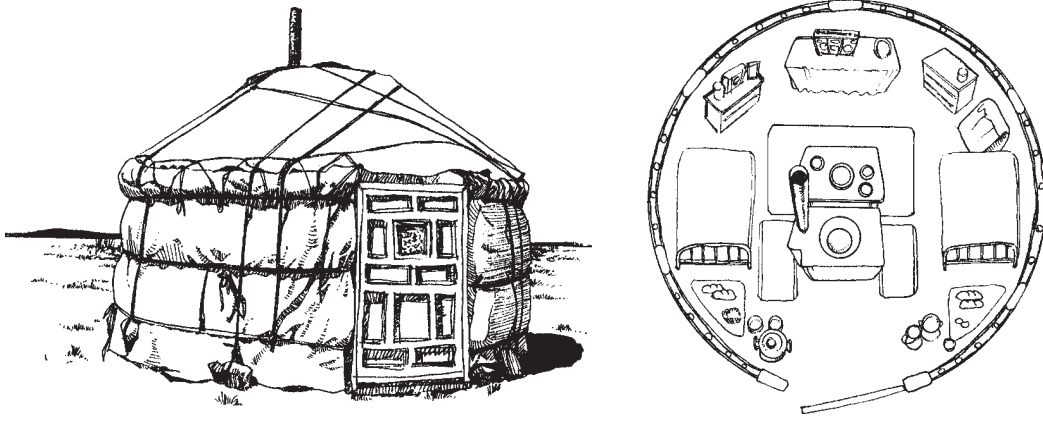
The *T'boli* of the Philippines also have large houses called *gunu bong*. It is common that relatives of the family live in the same house. The number of people living in a *T'boli* can range from 8 to 16 members. The house is made of wood and cogon or other dried grass. Like the *rumah gadang* of Malaysia, these houses are also elevated off the ground.





There are also people who do not have a permanent place to live in. They are called **nomads**. They move from place to place, usually moving their livestock to different grazing grounds during a particular time of the year.

The people of Mongolia are nomadic, so they move from place to place. The houses they live in are portable—they can bring them anywhere they go. It takes less than one hour to set up the house, and inside it is warm and comfortable. This house is called a *yurt*.

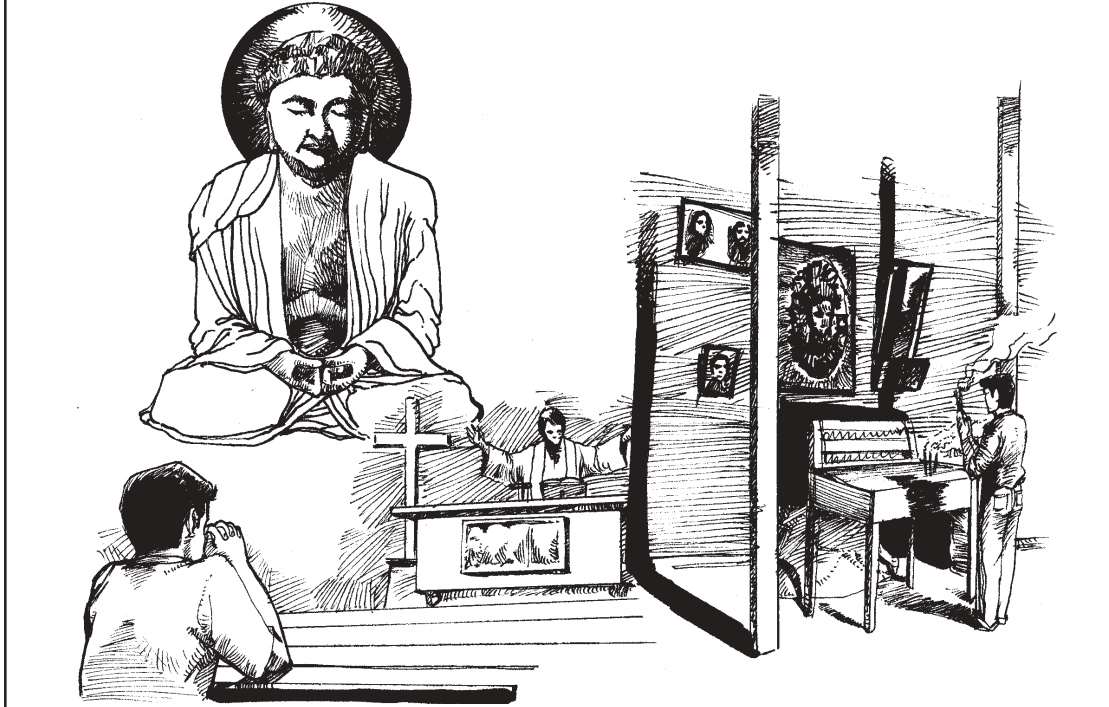


Perhaps one of the most common features of the houses around Asia is the place where people pray. These places are very common in North Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia. There is usually some special place in the house reserved for the gods or spirits of the ancestors.

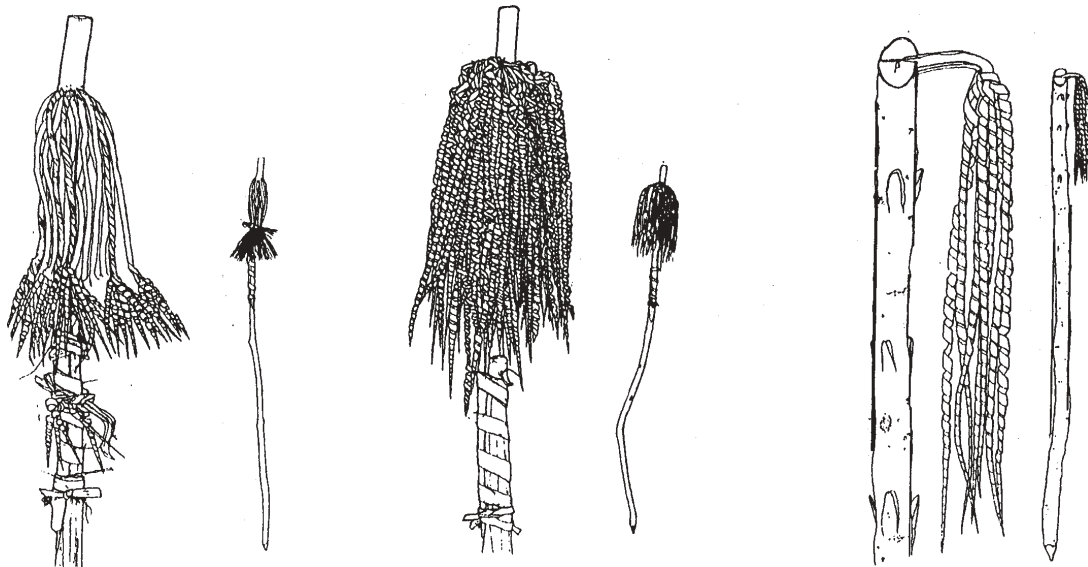
In South Asia, many homes have a shrine to their gods. The most common is a shrine to the god *Krishna*, whom the Hindus worship.



In almost all the houses in Asia, you can find a shrine or an altar. This is where they pray and keep their sacred images. For example, in Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand, a shrine to Buddha is a part of every house. In North Asia, it is usually a shrine to dead ancestors. This type of shrine is also common in China.



The *Ainu* of Northern Japan also have a place reserved for the spirits and the gods. They call this part of the house the *shintoko* (which means "treasures") and *chisekorokamui* (which means "sign of the houseowner god"). Below are some of the signs or *inau*.



*kikechinoye inau*  
(sign with the twisted locks)

*kikeparase inau*  
(sign with freely moving locks)

*ponsutu inau*  
(small inau made of willow)

How do you feel about what you just read? Do you see the influence of culture in your own home or in your neighbor's home?

In the previous activity, you answered questions about the number of people living in your house. Did you see how the size of a family can also affect the size of a house? Did you see the relationship between culture and the design of the house?



## Let's Try This

Ask the person who built your house how much they spent for the construction. Then go to your local hardware store and check the prices of the materials available there (wood, hollowblocks, cement, etc.). List down on the lines the cost of your home and the present prices of the materials. Try and estimate how much it would cost to build your house at today's prices of materials.

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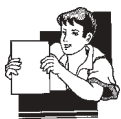
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What did you learn from discussing the cost of your house? Did you realize how important money is in determining the size of a house? Each piece of wood and each panel of roofing had to be bought, even your furniture and appliances.



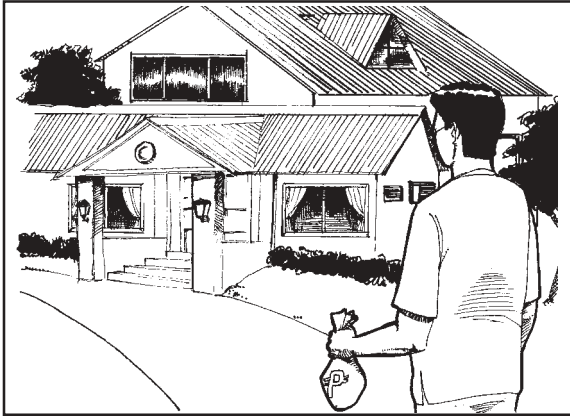
## Let's Learn

There is one more factor you will learn about. Can you guess what that is? If you said *resources*, then you are correct! The last factor that influences the design of a house is the availability of financial resources.

### 5. Financial Resources

**Financial resources refer to the amount of money one can spend on a house.** Of course, the bigger the house, the more expensive it will be to build. Also, if the house is made with materials such as marble or cement, it will be more expensive to build than a house made of bamboo or wood.





If you have a lot of financial resources, you can buy more materials for your house. You may even want to build a big house.



If you do not have much resources to build your house, you will probably not be able to build a big house.

Do you feel that financial resources have a big influence on what a house will eventually look like? In Lesson 1 you learned about the problem of lack of housing. One of the biggest factors why people do not have houses is because they cannot afford them. The cost of building a house is often very expensive, so people make do with the materials they can find.

You have gone through five important factors that affect the way a house looks. These factors have influenced the way houses are built all over Asia. They have even influenced the way your own house looks.



## Let's Remember

Let's go over the important points. In this lesson, you learned that the way a house looks is determined by many things. However, there are five factors which are very important in determining how a house will look like. These five factors are:

- ◆ **Climate** — the weather conditions in a particular place.
- ◆ **Materials available** — the specific materials available to build a house.
- ◆ **Technology** — tools available to put all the materials together.
- ◆ **Culture** — the set of rules or beliefs you follow that influences the kind of house design suited for you.
- ◆ **Financial resources** — refers to the amount of money you can spend on the construction of your house.



## Let's See What You Have Learned

Check how much you have learned in this lesson by answering the questions below.

A. Identify the five factors that determine how a house will look like. You can write your answers on the lines.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the weather conditions in a particular place.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the materials used to build a house.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the tools used in building a house.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the rules and beliefs that people have.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the amount of money you can spend on building your house.

B. Read the sentences below. Write **True** if the sentences are correct, and **False** if they are not. If the sentences are false, write the correct sentence in the blanks.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The nipa hut of the Philippines and the stone houses in the Middle East look the same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The *yaodong* of China and the stone houses in Yemen are both made of stone or rock.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The *rumah gadang* of Malaysia and the *gunu bong* of the Philippines are both big houses where large families live.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- C. Interview a member of your community on how the five factors influenced the way he designed his house. You can explain each of the five factors to him, and then have him give his opinion on how these factors influenced the design and structure of his house. Write your findings in the spaces below.

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You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on pages 53–54.



## Let's Remember

In this lesson, you learned about the five factors that help determine what a house will look like. These five factors are:

- ◆ Climate
- ◆ Materials available
- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Culture
- ◆ Financial resources

You learned that there are many similarities and differences among the houses in Asia. These similarities and differences depend on the five factors you learned about. These are the factors that determine the different kinds of houses around Asia.



## Let's Sum Up

In this module, you learned about everyone's need for shelter. You learned that everywhere around Asia, people seek shelter. It is a common need. You also learned that the governments of different Asian countries have tried to develop programs to help provide houses for those who have none.

You also learned that there are five factors which affect the way a house looks. If you look at the different houses around Asia, you will notice that the houses have similarities and differences. How these houses look are influenced by five factors:

- ◆ Climate
- ◆ Materials available
- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Culture
- ◆ Financial resources

All around Asia, people need to have shelter — just like you. Someone from Saudi Arabia or Burma derives the same benefits that you do from your house. In the different regions of Asia where you find similar materials and climate, you will notice that the houses will also be similar in design or structure.

If there is one thing we have in common with our Asian sisters and brothers, it is that we all need houses. Whether these houses are big or small, we all need them.



## What Have You Learned?

Check if you have acquired a good understanding of the lessons discussed in this module. Answer the questions below.

A. Explain why shelter is important to all of us.

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B. You learned in Lesson 1 that shelter performs certain functions. Can you identify these functions? Write your answers on the lines below.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

C. Read the sentences below. Each phrase describes one of the five major factors that influence house design. Write down which factor each phrase describes.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. An example of this is how hot it can get in a certain place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Examples of this factor are hammer and nails.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Cement and bamboo are examples of this factor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. This refers to what materials you can afford when you build a house.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. This is the most influential factor; it includes the rules, traditions and beliefs that one follows in one's community.

D. Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

1. There is a house in Malaysia called the *rumah gadang* where large families live. This house is similar to what other house in Asia?
  - a. The *ondol* of Korea
  - b. The *gunu bong* of the Philippines
  - c. The *yaodong* of China
  - d. The house of the Ainu in Northern Japan
2. The *yaodong* is a house made of stone that you can find in:
  - a. Japan
  - b. Yemen
  - c. China
  - d. Burma
3. Some people of North Asia are nomadic, which means that they move from place to place. How does this aspect of their culture affect the way their houses are designed?
  - a. Their houses are portable and easy to dismantle and set up.
  - b. They make their houses out of cement.
  - c. It takes them a very long time to build their houses.
  - d. They prefer heavy materials such as bricks or stone.

How did you do? Did you have any difficulty answering any of the questions? You can compare your answers with those found in the *Answer Key* on pages 54–55.

If you were able to answer all the questions correctly, that's very good! That means that you understand the subject matter. You are now more knowledgeable about the different kinds of houses around Asia. You can read this module again to review what you have just learned.

If you had some mistakes, don't worry. Just study the parts of the module that you did not understand.



## Answer Key

### A. Let's See What You Already Know (pages 2–4)

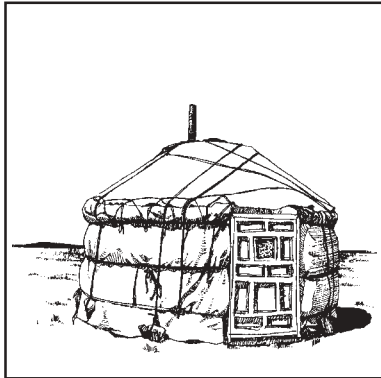
- A. 1. **Climate** — refers to the temperature or weather in a certain place.
2. **Materials** — refers to the materials used to build a house. This includes wood, cement, G.I. sheets and bamboo.
3. **Technology** — refers to the tools available that are used for building houses. These include hammer and nails, cement mixer and rope.
4. **Culture** — refers to the set of rules or beliefs that guide how people think and act. It includes how people feel about their houses and what they use them for.
5. **Financial Resources** — refers to the amount of money that is available to someone who is building a house.
- B. 1. The correct answer is (c) — **light and movable**. Nomads are people who move from place to place, so they need to have portable shelters. An example of this portable house is the *yurt* of North Asia. (a) is not correct because bricks are not light materials. (b) and (d) are not correct because they are not features that are found in houses which are portable. They describe homes found in Southeast Asia which are not portable.
2. The correct answer is (b) — **a place to keep domestic animals**. Usually, this space is used to keep domestic animals that the owner of the house is taking care of. (a), (c) and (d) are not correct because people don't use the space under their houses for those purposes.
3. The correct answer is (a) — **they usually have a shrine or an altar**. The most common similarity among the houses in Asia is the presence of an altar or shrine where the occupants pray. Letter (b) is not correct, because not all houses in Asia are very big, (c) is not correct because not all houses are made of mud or bricks and (d) is wrong because not all homes have a garage.

- C. 1. Shelter is one of the three basic needs of people.  
 2. Everyone needs shelter in order to survive.

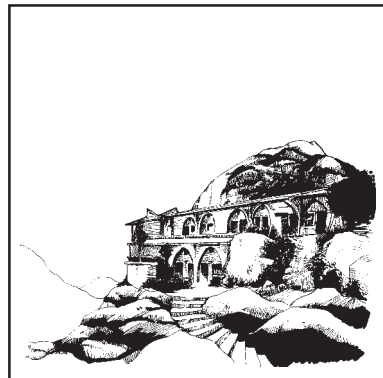
(For items 3 to 5, you could have mentioned any of the following:)

- ◆ It protects us from rain, wind, extreme cold and the hot sun.
- ◆ It provides us with a place to eat and sleep in.
- ◆ It provides us with a safe and secure place to raise our children.
- ◆ It provides us with a place where to put our possessions.
- ◆ It give us privacy.

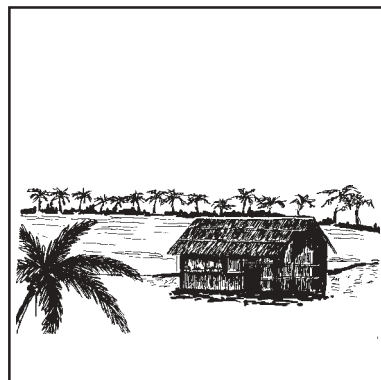
D.



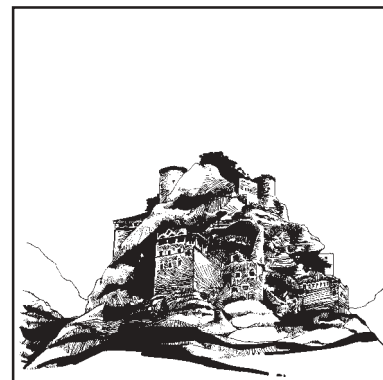
This house is called a *yurt*.  
 You can find this house in  
 North Asia.



This house is called a *yaoqong*.  
 You can find this house in  
 China



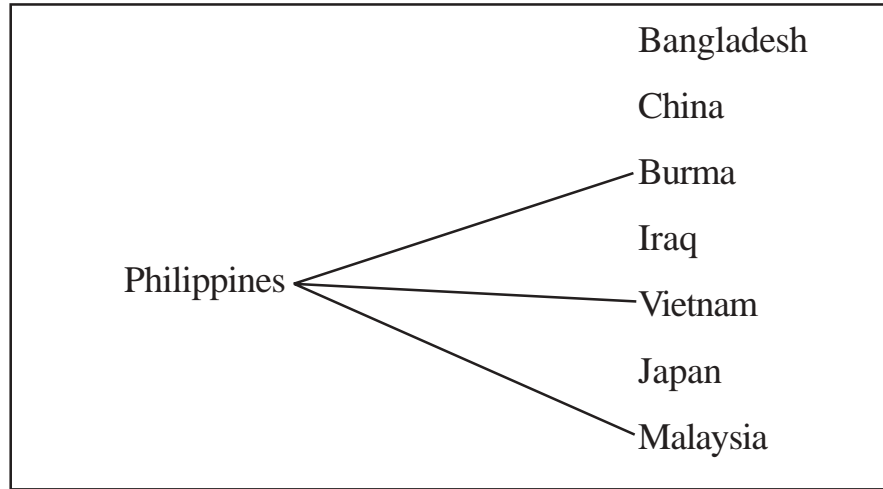
This house is called a *nipa*  
 hut. You can find this house  
 in Southeast Asia.



This is a stone house.  
 You can find this house in  
 West Asia (the Middle East) .



E.

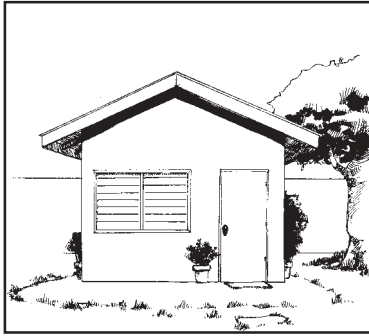


## B. Lesson 1

*Let's Try This (pages 8–9)*

R	E	S	U	O	H	N	W	O	T	Z	U	F	B	N	A
O	L	E	N	T	G	A	U	T	U	I	M	O	T	H	E
J	A	O	M	O	R	G	U	N	H	E	P	I	T	O	M
B	C	A	N	D	A	M	A	K	A	Z	I	C	H	A	A
U	O	N	G	G	A	P	I	K	P	A	R	T	O	P	T
N	N	A	G	Z	H	O	P	E	I	N	A	G	A	R	R
G	D	A	N	Y	A	O	D	O	N	G	O	R	C	A	E
A	O	D	J	A	N	I	U	S	U	R	T	E	A	R	E
L	M	E	T	E	C	M	U	S	P	M	N	K	V	D	H
O	I	T	N	K	V	C	N	D	E	O	I	T	E	G	O
W	N	Z	A	G	A	R	D	N	E	T	O	Y	B	I	U
H	I	B	O	N	G	O	T	T	E	N	T	A	Z	I	S
Y	U	R	T	C	N	D	Y	J	S	W	A	N	H	I	E
I	M	D	N	T	G	V	E	U	P	U	C	N	D	O	T

*Let's Try This (page 9)*



Bahay na bato

This kind of house is common in Batanes in Northern Luzon.



Water dwellings

This kind of house is common in the coastal (seaside) areas of Mindanao.



Wood house on stilts

This kind of house is common in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao.

*Let's Try This (page 12)*

1. Houses protect us from rain, wind, the hot sun and extreme cold.
2. Houses provide us with a place to eat and sleep in.
3. Houses provide us with a safe and secure place to raise our children.
4. Houses provide us with a place where to put our possessions.
5. Houses give us privacy.

*Let's Think About This (page 14)*

Here are some sample answers. Your answers may be quite different. Discuss them with your Instructional Manager for additional feedback.

1. Sometimes, I see families sleeping in the streets. I know that these people are homeless. I did not know that there were many families that were homeless in the Philippines.
2. Many people in the Philippines do not have houses. This is a serious problem especially in urban areas where many people go to find work. Because of lack of housing, people are usually forced to build flimsy houses in crowded communities that lack basic services. These communities do not have proper drainage systems, sanitation, waste disposal or decent roads.

3. The government is implementing programs to address this problem. These programs can help many people if they are implemented properly. Not only will houses be made available to people who have none, but more jobs will be created with the construction of these houses.

*Let's Try This (page 16)*

Here are some sample answers. Your answers may be quite different. Discuss them with your Instructional Manager for additional feedback.

1. Communities can help by supporting the government programs. Members of the community can also set up programs for volunteers who can help build houses. Other programs like housing cooperatives will also help to solve the problem of homelessness.
2. My house is very important to me. When I come home, I can relax there. I also know that I will see my family there. We eat together and watch television in our house. My house is also important because I don't have to worry about where to take shelter when it rains.

*Let's See What You Have Learned (pages 17–18)*

- A.
- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Clothing | 6. Shelter   |
| 2. Food     | 7. Food      |
| 3. Food     | 8. Shelter   |
| 4. Shelter  | 9. Shelter   |
| 5. Clothing | 10. Clothing |
- B. You should have checked the following sentences:
2. Houses provide us with shelter from rain and the hot sun.
  5. Houses provide us with a place where to put our material possessions.
  6. Houses provide us with a place to eat and sleep in.
  8. Houses provide us with a place to raise our children.
  10. Houses give us privacy.

- C. 1. Shelter is important to everyone because it is one of the three basic needs of man. Could you imagine what it would be like if you could not find shelter anywhere? Everyone needs shelter in order to survive.

Low-cost housing programs, low-interest payments for houses and government-subsidized housing are just some of the ways the problem can be solved. The private sector can also work with your community to help organize programs for the construction of low-cost houses. The community can help by volunteering for the actual construction of the house.

2. Communities can help alleviate some of the problems of lack of housing. The crowded communities can do their part by making sure that their surroundings are very clean. The community must work together in order to maintain cleanliness and sanitation. Good waste disposal programs can also be implemented by the community.

The government can only help so much. The most important thing is that we should want and strive for a better quality of living for ourselves.

## C. Lesson 2

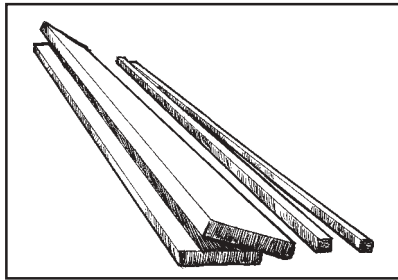
*Let's Try This (page 26)*

1. Climate refers to the weather in a certain place.
2. The Philippines is a tropical country. The climate is warm all year round and there are two seasons: wet and dry.
3. Here is a sample answer. You might have answered the question differently:

Our house is really built so it will be cool. We have very big windows to let the breeze in. It is also made of bamboo and wood, which are very cool materials. We really built it that way because it is sometimes very hot, and we want our house to be cool.

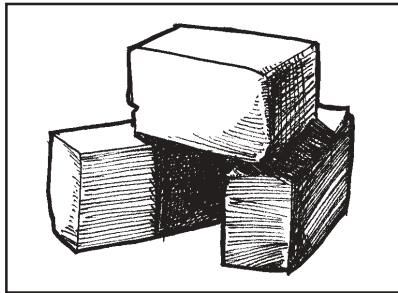
Discuss your answer with your Instructional Manager for additional feedback.

*Let's Try This (page 30)*



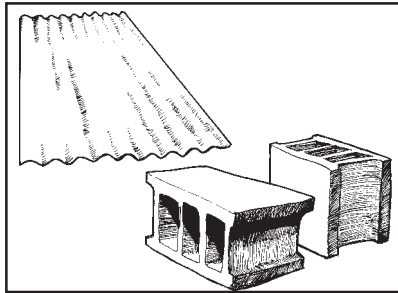
1. This material is called **wood.**

It is abundant in **Southeast Asia and North Asia.**



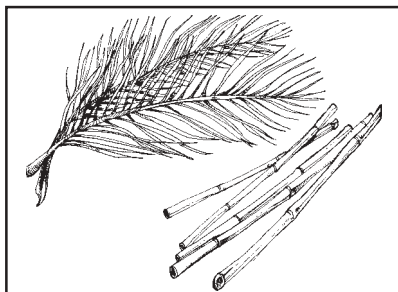
2. This material is called **bricks.**

It is abundant in the **Middle East.**



3. These materials are called **hollowblocks and G.I. sheets.**

They are abundant in **all parts of Asia.**



4. These materials are called **nipa and bamboo.**

They are abundant in **all parts of Southeast Asia.**

*Let's See What You Have Learned (pages 42–43)*

1. Climate
2. Materials available
3. Technology
4. Culture
5. Financial resources

- B. 1. **False.** The nipa hut is made of wood or bamboo, while the stone houses are made of bricks and mud.
2. **True.** The *yaodong* of China and the stone houses of Yemen are both made of stone or rock.
3. **True.** The *rumah gadang* of Malaysia and the *gunu bong* of the Philippines are similar. They are both big enough to house large families.
- C. Here is a sample answer. Your answer may be quite different. You may discuss it with your Instructional Manager for additional feedback:

When I built my house, I had to think about how many people would be living there. As much as possible, I want the people who are important to me to be around me. I also had to think about how much money I had. Materials are quite expensive, so I could not build a very big house.

I chose hollowblocks and cement for my house, because these are sturdy and they can withstand the strong winds when there is a typhoon. These materials were readily available at the hardware store and I was able to purchase them with the budget I had. Inside the house, I built two rooms and I put an altar where we could pray.

#### **D. What Have You Learned?** (pages 45–46)

- A. Shelter is important to us because we all need it in order to survive. Shelter is one of the three basic needs of man. Without shelter, we would be exposed to the wind and rain, and it would be quite impossible to keep healthy. Even many animals need shelter to survive.
- B. The following are some functions of houses:
- ◆ Houses provide us with shelter from rain and the hot sun.
  - ◆ Houses provide us with a place where to put our material possessions.
  - ◆ Houses provide us with a place to eat and sleep in.

- ◆ Houses provide us with a safe and secure place to raise our children.
  - ◆ Houses give us privacy.
- C.
1. How hot it is in a certain place is an example of **climate**.
  2. A hammer and nails are examples of **technology**.
  3. Cement and bamboo are examples of **materials available**.
  4. The amount of money you can use to build your house is an example of **financial resources**.
  5. It is the most influential factor in building a home. It includes the rules, beliefs and traditions that you follow when designing your house. This factor is **culture**.
- D.
1. The correct answer is (b) — **the *gunu bong* of the Philippines**. They are both made of wood and are built to house large families. Letters (a) and (c) are not correct because they are made of stone and not of wood. Letter (d) is not correct because it is not built for large families.
  2. The correct answer is (c) — **China**. The *yaodong* is a type of house that can be found in China.
  3. The correct answer is (a) — **Their portable houses are easy to dismantle and set up**. Since the nomads move around a lot, they have to be able to carry their shelters with them. For this purpose, they make their shelters out of light and portable materials. Letters (b) and (d) are not correct because they are materials used for houses which are meant to be permanent. Letter (c) is not correct because the houses of the people in North Asia must be easy to set up and dismantle.



## Glossary

**Climate** The temperature or weather in a certain place

**Culture** Certain beliefs and ways of thinking or doing things that are shared by a certain group of people

**Financial resources** The amount of money available for you to use when you build your house

**Feng shui** A specific set of rules on how to design the house in such a way that it brings the most luck

**Flimsy** Easily broken or destroyed

**Gunu bong** The name of the house of the T'boli of the Philippines. It is similar to the *rumah gadang* of Malaysia

**Low-quality housing** A kind of housing in which people live in shelters that have no access to basic services like sewage, sanitation, waste disposal or proper roads

**Low-cost housing** Houses that are built at a very low cost in order to make them more affordable

**Materials available** The materials used to build a house. Wood and cement are examples of this

**Nomad** A person or group who moves from one place to another rather than living in one place all of the time

**Possessions** Things that someone owns or possesses

**Rorun puyara** A window in the houses of the Ainu of Northern Japan. This window must always face east because it is believed that the spirits enter through there

**Rumah gadang** The name for the house of the Minangkabau tribe of Malaysia. It is a long house built for large families

**Sewage** Waste and liquids from toilets

**Shelter** One of the three basic needs of human beings. We all need shelter to survive



**Technology** The tools used to build a house. Straw, hammer and nails, and cement mixers are some examples of technology

**Unsanitary** Dirty; unclean, especially in a way that may be dangerous to health

**Yurt** A light, portable house used by the nomads of North Asia. They are designed to be dismantled easily. They are also light enough to be carried on a horse



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