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CHAPTER 29: Your Home

Focus on Transportation

Getting Around

Directions Neighborhoods are more livable when it is easy to get around. If you can get to the drugstore, the post office, or the bank in ten minutes or less, you may have a higher quality of life than if routine trips are half-hour excursions. Follow the steps below to evaluate the transit options you have. The charts you need are on the next page.

1 Choose locations. Think of places where you and your family go on a regular basis. Chart A on the next page has four such places filled in for you. Think of at least four others and list them at the top of the columns in Chart B on the next page. To include even more places, extend the chart by copying it onto a separate sheet of paper.

2 Add other transportation. The first column in the charts lists modes of transportation. Is there another means of transportation available in your area, such as a trolley? If so, add that to both charts.

3 Determine walking times. For each location, figure out how long it takes to get there from your home on foot. You can estimate the time or, for a more exact figure, walk there and time how long it takes. List the walking time for each location in the second row of the charts. If you have no safe route or the distance is too long to a destination, put an X in the box next to walking.

• **Determine biking times.** How long would it take to get to each location on a bicycle? Estimate the time by multiplying the distance in miles by 5. (Five minutes per mile, or 12 miles per hour, is a reasonable cycling speed.) If you have a bike and the route is safe, you could time the distance. List the time for each location in the charts' third row. If biking to a location can not be done, put an X in place of the time.

5 Add more times. Continue filling in the chart with the estimated times for getting to each location by car, bus, and train. Check bus and train schedules to figure out how long it takes to get to each location on a bus or train. Add any time needed to walk to and from the bus stop or train station. If a bus or train is unavailable or impractical for a location, fill in the square with an X.

Calculate costs. Fill in the costs for car, bus, and train trips. For cars, figure cost at 45 cents per mile. This typical estimate covers gas, insurance, and wear and tear on the car. Add any toll charges that apply. Fill in the costs in the charts' fourth row.

Analyze results. In class, discuss your transit options, the time and expense involved, and how your area compares to others. What changes or improvements are needed?

CHAPTER 29 Your Home (Continued)

Focus on Transportation

Chart A: Time and Cost to Established Locations						
Travel Method	School	Drugstore	Post Office	Bank		
Walking						
Biking						
Driving						
Bus						
Train						
Other:						

Chart B: Time and Cost to Optional Locations						
Travel Method						
Walking						
Biking						
Driving						
Bus						
Train						
Other:						

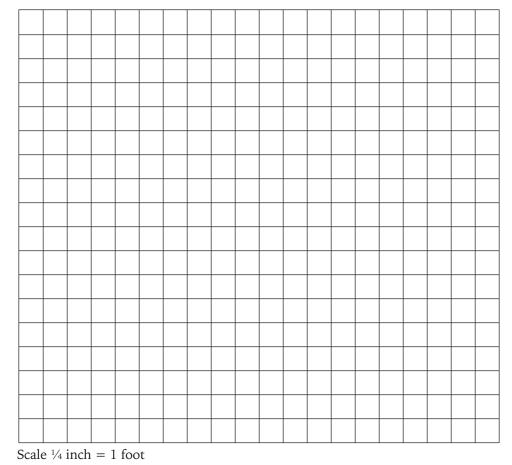
CHAPTER 29: Your Home

Focus on Creativity

Design Challenge

Directions Imagine that you are an interior decorator hired to design a room from floor to ceiling. The dimensions of the room are 18 feet by 20 feet. To understand the size of an 18- by 20-foot room, measure your classroom for comparison. Your design may be for a bedroom, living room, family room, or dining room. Using pictures from catalogs or magazines, original drawings, paint samples, wallpaper samples, and swatches of fabric and carpet, create a plan for the room. Make a display that shows your ideas and present it to the class.

Draw the room arrangement. Using a pencil and the grid below, draw the layout of furnishings for the room you are designing. This perspective imagines that you are looking down at the room from above. Note that ¹/₄ inch equals 1 foot. For example, to show a table that is 3 feet by 4 feet, outline squares on the grid that measure ³/₄ inch by 1 inch (3 squares by 4 squares). Label it "table." Along the border of the grid, show where doors and windows are located. Draw doors and windows differently to tell them apart. Use diagonal lines to show the directions that doors swing. When you are satisfied with the room's design, cut it out and glue it to poster board as the beginning of your display.



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