

WARM UP

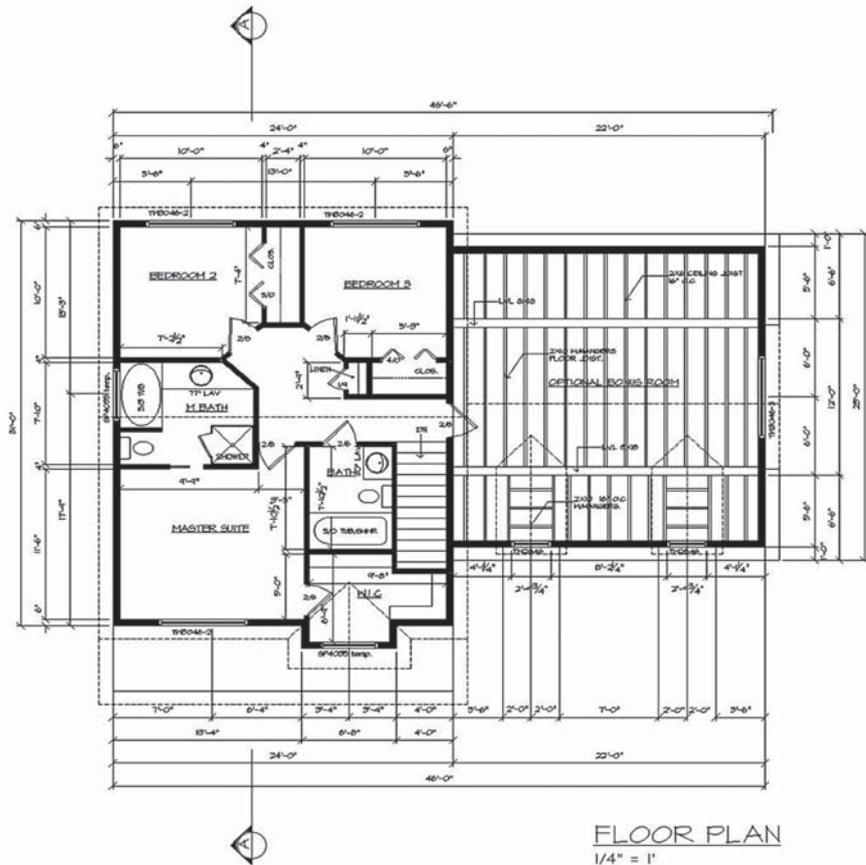
1 Match the following adjectives to their Italian equivalent, then write a short paragraph using as many of them as possible to describe the room you spend most of your time in at home.

- 1 cosy
- 2 bright
- 3 spacious
- 4 cluttered
- 5 messy
- 6 dim
- 7 comfortable

- a  buia
- b  confortevole
- c  accogliente
- d  luminosa
- e  ingombra, piena
- f  spaziosa
- g  disordinata

My favourite room is...

## Architectural drawing



There are various kinds of architectural drawings depending on what purpose the architect has in mind. This, for example, is a Floor Plan, which is a view from above, showing how the space in a building has been divided on a particular level. This plan is probably the upper part of a house, since the bedrooms in British homes are usually situated upstairs, while the living room and kitchen are downstairs. The Master Suite with its own bathroom, is the biggest bedroom in the house usually for the parents, while the other two bedrooms may only be able to accommodate a single bed rather than a double. This drawing, like all floor plans, shows the walls, windows and door openings as well as the staircase and other features like the layout of the bathrooms. There are also other types of technical drawings used by architects which, unlike the one shown here, are concerned with a whole building or group of buildings. This is called a site plan and is used in the development of an urban area, where it is necessary to indicate property boundaries and access to the site, as well as the position of existing streets and buildings to demonstrate how everything will fit well together. This type of drawing will also show new buildings in the proposal, parking areas and green spaces including footpaths. If, on the other hand, a site drawing is required for a construction project, then the drawing will also have to include details of drainage lines, electrical and communication cables, water supply and any other service connections like street lighting. Site plans are often used to represent a building proposal before it is drawn up in detail, and also serves to verify that the proposal complies with local development legislation, which may have restrictions in areas considered of historical value to the community.

GLOSSARY

- layout: disposizione
- boundary: confine
- to fit together: incastrarsi
- drainage lines: le linee di drenaggio
- cable: cavo

## READING COMPREHENSION

**2** **PET** Read the text and look at the floor plan and decide if the statements below are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 A floor plan illustrates more than one level of a building.
- 2 The master suite is big enough for a double bed.
- 3 From the floor plan, we can see if the bathrooms will have a bath or shower.
- 4 A site plan is the same as a floor plan, only you can see all the floors of the house.
- 5 A site plan has the same details for both a development and a construction project.
- 6 After seeing a site plan, a project may be blocked if some local laws have been neglected.

T	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## VOCABULARY

**3** Complete the following sentences with a word from the box.

openings • purpose • construction • programs • connections • scales

- 1 Architectural drawings are an essential part of a \_\_\_\_\_ or development project.
- 2 In the past these technical drawings were done by hand but now computer \_\_\_\_\_ are used.
- 3 Each drawing is created for a specific \_\_\_\_\_ depending on who needs to use it.
- 4 Architects must also take service \_\_\_\_\_ into consideration when drawing up a site plan.
- 5 A floor plan should not only include the rooms but also details like door \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 The architect draws everything to specific \_\_\_\_\_ which belong to a set of rules for technical drawing.

## SPEAKING

**4** **PET** In pairs, look at the architectural drawing again and describe the floor plan of your own house to your partner. Get him to draw it as you speak to see if he/she has understood what you mean, then swap roles.