

Student flies to class to save on rent

Vocabulary Match

- creative ● calculated ● round trip ● renting ● apartment ● academic ●
- leasing ● figured ● school ● imaginative ● journey ● flat

Article

Tim Chen is a final-year arts student at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He found a creative way to avoid Vancouver's high rent prices. Instead of renting in Vancouver, he decided to live with his parents in Calgary and fly to Vancouver for his classes.

Chen said, "I thought, why don't I just stay in Calgary and then just fly here, it's like a one-hour flight, that's like the same as taking a bus."

He calculated that flying from Calgary to Vancouver costs about \$150 round trip. Since he only has two classes per week, he spends around \$1,200 per month on flights. This is much cheaper than renting an apartment in Vancouver, which costs about \$2,100 per month.

Chen will continue this plan until he graduates at the end of the academic year.

Quiz

1. Where does Tim Chen study?
2. Where does he live?
3. How much does a round trip flight from Calgary to Vancouver cost?
4. How much does he save each month by flying to school?

Conversation

- A: How do you manage flying every week, Tim?
- B: It's just like taking a bus, honestly.
- A: Really? Isn't it expensive?
- B: Surprisingly, it's cheaper than renting in Vancouver.
- A: Wow, that's smart! How long will you do this?
- B: Until I graduate at the end of the year.

Discussion

1. Would you prefer to fly or take a bus to your classes?
2. How far would you travel to save money?
3. What creative ways can you think of to save money on rent?
4. What do you think about living with your parents while studying?