



## A. READING

Before you read



*Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions about the picture.*

1. Where is the family?
2. What is each member of the family doing?
3. Is the family happy? Why (not)?

## While you read

*Read the passage and do the tasks that follow.*


I come from a family of five people: my parents, my two younger brothers and I. My mother works as a nurse in a big hospital. She has to work long hours and once a week she has to work on a night shift. My father is a biologist. He works from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in a lab, but sometimes when there is a project, he doesn't come home until very late at night. Although my parents are very busy at work, they try to spend as much time with their children as possible. It is generally believed that "men build the house and women make it home", but in my family, both parents join hands to give us a nice house and a happy home.

My mother is a very caring woman. She takes the responsibility for running the household. She is always the first one to get up in the morning to make sure that we leave home for school having eaten breakfast and dressed in suitable clothes. In the afternoon, after hospital, she rushes to the market, then hurries home so that dinner is ready on the table by the time Dad gets home. Dad is always willing to give a hand with cleaning the house. Unlike most men, he enjoys cooking. Sometimes, at weekends, he cooks us some special dishes. His eel soup is the best soup I have ever eaten.

I am now in my final year at the secondary school, and in my attempt to win a place at university, I am under a lot of study pressure. However, being the eldest child and the only daughter in the family I try to help with the household chores. My main responsibility is to wash the dishes and take out the garbage. I also look after the boys, who are quite active and mischievous sometimes, but most of the time they are obedient and hard-working. They love joining my father in mending things around the house at weekends.

We are a very close-knit family and very supportive of one another. We often share our feelings, and whenever problems come up, we discuss them frankly and find solutions quickly. We always feel safe and secure in our family. It is a base from which we can go into the world with confidence.



 **Task 1.** Choose the sentence A, B or C that is nearest in meaning to the sentence given.

1. He doesn't come home *until* very late at night.
  - A. He never comes home late at night.
  - B. He comes home late at night.
  - C. He sometimes comes home late at night.
2. "*Men build the house and women make it home*".
  - A. Both men and women are good at building houses.
  - B. Men and women have to live separately.
  - C. Men's responsibility is to work and support the family and women's job is to look after the family.
3. Our parents *join hands* to give us a nice house and a happy home.
  - A. Our parents work together to give us a nice house and a happy home.
  - B. Our parents take each other's hands when they give us a nice house and a happy home.
  - C. Our parents shake hands when they give us a nice house and a happy home.
4. The boys are *mischievous* sometimes.
  - A. The boys are well-behaved sometimes.
  - B. The boys enjoy playing tricks and annoying people sometimes.
  - C. The boys miss their parents sometimes.
5. We are a very *close-knit* family.
  - A. Members of our family have very close relationships with each other.
  - B. Members of our family need each other.
  - C. Members of our family are never close to each other.


 **Task 2.** Answer the questions.

1. How busy are the parents in the passage?
2. How caring is the mother?
3. How do the father and the daughter share the household chores?
4. What is the daughter attempting to do after secondary school?
5. Why do the children feel they are safe and secure in their family?


### After you read

**Work in groups.** Compare the family described in the text with your own family.

## B. SPEAKING

 **Task 1.** Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the ones that apply to you and your family.

- 1. In my family, only my father works.
- 2. Members of my family share the household chores.
- 3. My responsibility in the family is to wash the dishes.
- 4. In my family, the interest we share closely is watching football.
- 5. I often share my personal secrets with my father.
- 6. I always talk to my parents before making an important decision.

 **Task 2. Work in pairs.** Prepare a list of questions to ask another student to find out whether his/her family life is like yours. You want to know:


- who works in the family
- who does the household chores
- your friend's responsibility in the family
- the interest the family members share closely
- the person your friend often shares his/her secrets with
- the person your friend talks to before making an important decision

**Example:**

*Who works in your family?*

 **Task 3. Work with a different partner.** Use the questions you have formed to ask your partner about his/her family life. Note down the answers in the table.

who works in the family	<i>both parents</i>
who does the household chores	
your friend's responsibility in the family	
the interest the family members share closely	
the person your friend often shares his/her secrets with	
the person your friend talks to before making an important decision	

 **Task 4.** Go back to your original pairs. Tell each other the information you have collected.

**Example:**

*I talked to Tam. Both his parents work. But only his mother does the household chores. ...*



## C. LISTENING

### Before you listen

Look at the picture below and describe what is happening in it.



● Listen and repeat.

flight

reserved

coach

rarely


close-knit

spread out

leftovers

crowded

### While you listen

 **Task 1.** Listen to the conversation between Paul and Andrea and decide whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. Andrea can't wait for her flight.

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

2. Paul is very excited about coming home.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Paul's home is 280 kilometres from where they are now.


<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. There are more children in Andrea's family than in Paul's.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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5. When Andrea's family get together, they often go out for dinner.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 **Task 2.** Listen again and note down two things that are different about Paul's and Andrea's families.


Paul	Andrea
1.	
2.	

### After you listen

*Work in groups. Discuss the importance of family in a person's life.*

## D. WRITING

### Writing about family rules

 **Task 1. Work in groups.** What rules do you have in your family? Discuss these topics and add others. Use the following verbs and expressions:


*let, allow, be allowed to, have to, permit, etc.*

- doing household chores
- coming home late
- preparing meals
- watching TV
- talking on the phone
- using the family motorbike
- going out with friends
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Example:**

*– During the school year, I'm not allowed to watch TV until I have finished my homework.*

*– In my family, everybody has to do their share of the household chores.*

 **Task 2.** Use the ideas you have discussed above to write a letter to a pen pal about your family rules. Begin as follows.

*Every family has its own rules. Mine has a few. First, .....*

## E. LANGUAGE FOCUS

- **Pronunciation:** The pronunciation of the ending 's'
- **Grammar:**  
Tense revision: past simple, past progressive and present perfect

### Pronunciation

- *Listen and repeat.*

/s/	/z/
bats	bags
kits	kids
speaks	speeds
dates	days
photographs	halves

- *Practise reading these sentences.*

1. I saw some bats flying from the bags.
2. He often speaks at different speeds.
3. She tore the photographs into halves.
4. I always have dates on rainy days.
5. The kids are playing with their toy kits.

### Grammar

**Exercise 1.** Underline the most suitable tense form in each sentence.

1. *Did you see/Have you seen* my bag anywhere? I can't find it.
2. Hello Peter, are you back from the match? *Did you enjoy/Have you enjoyed* it?
3. This is the photo of my great grandfather. He *was/has been* married six times.
4. *Have you given/Did you give* Helen my message when you *have seen/saw* her?
5. Sorry, could you say that again? I *didn't listen/haven't listened* to you.
6. *Did you two meet/Have you two met* before? Laura, this is Peter.
7. *Did you meet/Have you met* anyone interesting at the party?



**Exercise 2.** Decide which answer (A, B or C) best fits each space.

*Dear Linda,*

*I'm sorry I (1) \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ to you for so long, but I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ very busy lately. All last month I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ exams, and I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ anything else but study for ages. Anyway, I (5) \_\_\_\_\_ studying now, and I (6) \_\_\_\_\_ for my exam results.*

*As you can see from this letter, I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ my address and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in Corydon now. I (9) \_\_\_\_\_ that I wanted a change from central London because it (10) \_\_\_\_\_ so expensive. A friend (11) \_\_\_\_\_ me about this flat, and I (12) \_\_\_\_\_ here about two months ago.*

*When you (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to England this summer, please visit me. I (14) \_\_\_\_\_ here until the middle of August. Then I (15) \_\_\_\_\_ on holiday to Scotland.*

*Please write soon.*

*Margaret*

- |                     |                    |                   |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| (1) A. don't write  | B. haven't written | C. am not writing |
| (2) A. was being    | B. am              | C. have been      |
| (3) A. had          | B. was having      | C. have had       |
| (4) A. haven't done | B. don't do        | C. wasn't doing   |
| (5) A. stop         | B. have stopped    | C. was stopping   |
| (6) A. wait         | B. am waiting      | C. have waited    |
| (7) A. am changing  | B. have changed    | C. will change    |
| (8) A. will live    | B. have lived      | C. live           |
| (9) A. decided      | B. have decided    | C. decide         |
| (10) A. will become | B. becomes         | C. has become     |
| (11) A. tells       | B. told            | C. was telling    |
| (12) A. have moved  | B. was moving      | C. moved          |
| (13) A. will come   | B. came            | C. come           |
| (14) A. am staying  | B. stayed          | C. stay           |
| (15) A. have gone   | B. am going        | C. will have gone |