

Unit 1 A family affair



Starting off

Work in pairs. Are these sentences true for you?
Give some details in your answers.

- 1 I'm an only child.
- 2 In my family we usually have our meals together.
- 3 My grandparents helped to look after me when I was small.
- 4 I help my family to do the housework.
- 5 When I'm at home, I prefer being in my own room.
- 6 I'd prefer to share a flat with my friends than live with my family.

Listening Part 1

You will hear part of an interview with four young people talking about their family lives.

- 1 Before you listen, describe the photos above.
 - What does each photo show about family life?
 - Which of these things do you do with your family?

- 2 Now listen to the interview. Match the speakers to the photos.

	photo
Patrick	
Tracey	
Vicky	
Kostas	

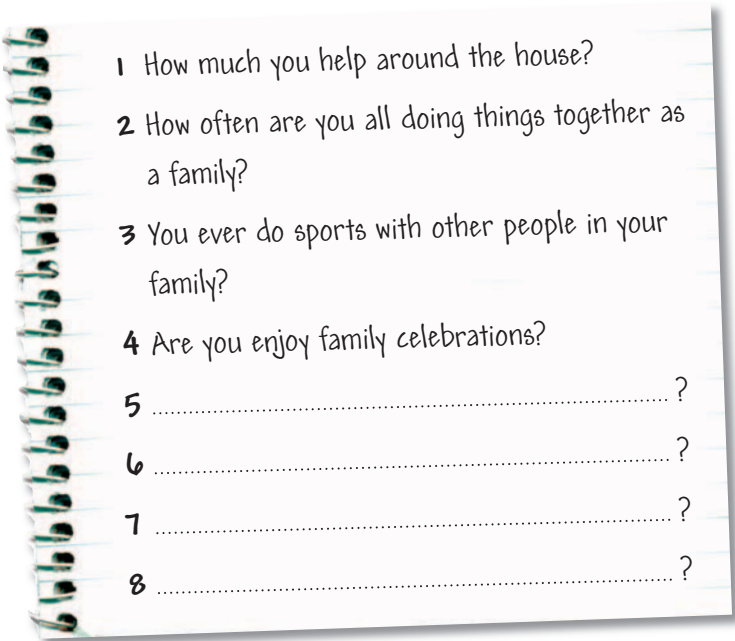
- 3 Now listen again and choose the best answer A, B or C for each speaker. Before you listen, read each question carefully.

- 1 In Patrick's opinion, why does his mother help him?
 - A She enjoys it.
 - B She worries about him.
 - C She has plenty of time.
- 2 What is Tracey's family doing to the house at the moment?
 - A extending it
 - B cleaning it
 - C painting it
- 3 How often do Vicky and her father take exercise together?
 - A regularly, once a week
 - B occasionally
 - C only in the summer
- 4 How does Kostas feel about family celebrations?
 - A bored
 - B embarrassed
 - C amused

Exam information

- In Listening Part 1, you:
- listen to people talking in eight different situations
 - choose A, B or C to answer one question for each situation
 - hear each piece twice.

4 3 Correct the mistakes in questions 1–4 on the notepad. Then check by listening to the questions again.



5 Work in pairs. Add four more questions to the notepad to ask other members of the class about their family life.

You can ask about: family holidays, things they enjoy doing with their family, how the family spends weekends, which family member they are most similar to, etc.

6 Now ask your questions to another member of the class.

Grammar

Present simple and present continuous

1 Look at the underlined verbs in each of these sentences from the listening exercise. Which are present simple and which are present continuous?

- 1 I don't have a lot of free time these days because I'm studying for my exams. *present continuous*
- 2 We live in this really old house by the sea ...
- 3 ... it's looking nicer and nicer.
- 4 ... my dad is a fitness fanatic, so he's always running or cycling or doing something energetic.
- 5 I do sporty things with him now and again, more often in the summer.
- 6 ... he's probably doing something sporty right now.
- 7 Someone is always standing up and giving a speech or singing a song ...

2 Which tense and which example is used to describe ...?

- 1 a situation which is permanent
Tense: *present simple* Example: *sentence 2*
- 2 an activity happening at the present moment
Tense: Example:
- 3 an activity in progress, but not happening exactly now
Tense: Example:
- 4 something which happens frequently with *always*
Tense: Example:
- 5 an activity which happens regularly or occasionally
Tense: Example:
- 6 a situation which is changing or developing
Tense: Example:
- 7 an activity which irritates the speaker
Tense: Example:

▶ page 153 Grammar reference: Present simple and present continuous

3 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tenses (present simple or continuous) in these sentences.

- 1 Max has passed his driving test, so he *often gives* (often give) me a lift to school in the morning.
- 2 Sandra's dad and my dad (work) together. They joined the same firm 20 years ago.
- 3 I'd love to come out now, but I (work) on my English grammar – I (prepare) for a university entrance exam next month, you see.
- 4 Look! The sun (come out) so we should be able to go out for a walk this afternoon.
- 5 You (always interrupt) my private conversations! Can't you mind your own business?
- 6 Why do they have to phone me now, just when I (watch) my favourite programme?
- 7 I think winter (come); the days (get) cooler.
- 8 My mum (not do) much cooking because she (always bring) work home from the office.