



My Family

Talking about your family and comparing people

A1 – A2 Beginner



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1 warm up

Look at the pictures and answer the questions with your teacher.

Part A — Who is this? Match each picture with the correct word. Write the word under the picture. Then write one sentence about each person.

1



2



3



4



5



6



WORD BANK:

grand mother · grand father · mother · father · brother · sister

Write one sentence about each person. Example: *She is a grandmother. She is old.*

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

**Part B — Talk with your teacher. Give full answers. Try to say more than one sentence.**

1. Do you have a big family or a small family? How many people are in your family?

2. How many brothers and sisters do you have? Are they older or younger than you?

3. Where do your grandparents live? Do you visit them often?

4. Who is the oldest person in your family? How old are they?

5. Do you live with your family now? Who do you live with?



SCAN
ME**2 video comprehension**

Watch the BBC video. Then complete all three parts.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x72gP4HrU58>

BBC Learning English — Real Easy English: "Talking about family" — with Neil & Beth

Part A — Multiple Choice. Choose the correct answer. Circle the letter.**1. How many children does Neil's sister have?**

- a) One child b) Two children c) Three children

2. How does Beth describe her family?

- a) Big and noisy b) Small but close c) Average and quiet

3. How old is Neil's oldest nephew?

- a) 15 years old b) 17 years old c) 20 years old

4. How many children does Beth's cousin have?

- a) One child b) Two children c) Three children

5. What does "get on well with" someone mean?

- a) To live with someone b) To fight with someone c) To have a good relationship

Part B — Fill in the Gaps. Use the words in the box.**WORD BANK:**

smaller · compare · only child · close · siblings

- Beth says her family is _____ than Neil's family.
- When we _____ two things, we look to see if they are the same or different.
- Beth has no brothers or sisters. She is an _____.
- Beth's family is small, but they are very _____ and they see each other often.
- Neil says it is now easier to get on well with your _____ when you are a grown-up.





Part C – Comprehension Questions. Answer in full sentences. Use the video to help you.

1. How many children does Neil have? How many children does his sister have?

2. Beth is an only child. What does this mean? Does she have any cousins?

3. What does Beth's family like to do when they get together? Use her exact words if you can.

4. How old are Beth's cousin's two children? Who is the youngest person in Beth's family?

5. Neil says he was "a bit mean" to his sister when they were children. What does he mean? Do you think this is normal?



**3 vocabulary**

Read, repeat, and master these words before reading the article.

family

mother

father

brother

sister

grandparents

cousin

aunt

uncle

only child

Match each word (1–10) with the correct meaning (A–J). Write the letter in the box.

#	Word	Ans.	Meaning
1	family	---	A. A girl or woman with the same parents as you
2	mother	---	B. Your parent's sister
3	father	---	C. Your parents' parents — they are usually older
4	brother	---	D. A boy or man with the same parents as you
5	sister	---	E. Your female parent — your mum
6	grandparents	---	F. Your male parent — your dad
7	cousin	---	G. All your relatives — the people in your family
8	aunt	---	H. Your aunt's or uncle's child
9	uncle	---	I. A child who has no brothers or sisters
10	only child	---	J. Your parent's brother

Write 3 sentences using words from the list above.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



**4 reading**

Read the article with your teacher. Fill in gaps (1)–(5). Then answer the questions on the next page.

Sofia's Family

My name is Sofia. I am twenty-five years old. I live in Madrid, Spain. My family is very important to me.

I have a big family. There are eight people in my family: my mother, my father, my older brother, my younger sister, my grandparents, and my aunt. We are all very different, but we love each other very much.

My mother's name is Elena. She is forty-eight years old. She is a teacher. My father's name is Carlos. He is fifty years old. He

works in an office. He is (1) than my mother, and he is also (2) than her.

My older brother is called Marcos. He is twenty-eight years old. He is three years older than me. He is married and he has one child – a baby girl called Luna. She is the youngest person in our family.

My younger sister is called Ana. She is twenty years old. She is (3) than me, but she is much louder than me!

Ana loves music and dancing. She works in a small shop in the city centre.

My grandparents live near us. My grandmother is seventy years old and my grandfather is seventy-three. He is three years older than my grandmother. They have a small house with a beautiful garden. We visit them every weekend and have lunch together.

My aunt's name is Rosa. She is my mother's sister. She is forty-five years old, so she is (4) than my mother.

Rosa is a doctor. She lives in Barcelona, but she visits us every month.

I am very (5) to my family. We see each other every week. We eat together, talk, and laugh. My family is big and sometimes loud, but I love them all very much.

Gap-Fill. Use the words in the box to fill gaps (1)–(5) in the article above.

WORD BANK:

taller · older · shorter · younger · close





True or False. Write T (True) or F (False). If false, write the correct sentence on the line below.

#	Sentence	T / F
1	Sofia has a big family with eight people.	---
If false: _____		
2	Sofia's father Carlos is older and taller than her mother Elena.	---
If false: _____		
3	Marcos is Sofia's younger brother.	---
If false: _____		
4	Sofia's grandparents live far away and she sees them once a year.	---
If false: _____		
5	Sofia is very close to her family and sees them every week.	---
If false: _____		

Comprehension. Answer in full sentences.

1. What is the name of Marcos's daughter? Is she the oldest or youngest person in the family?

2. What does Ana love to do? Where does she work?

3. What does Sofia's family do every week when they are together?



**5 vocabulary extension — adjective + noun collocations**

Some adjectives and nouns go together naturally. These are called **collocations**.

Look at the words below. Match each adjective in **Column A** with the correct noun in **Column B** to make a natural word pair. All five collocations appear in the video or reading text.

 EXAMPLE

"big" + "family" = a **big family** → "I have a big family."

COLUMN A — ADJECTIVES

1. close
2. only
3. older
4. younger
5. large

COLUMN B — NOUNS

- a. child
- b. family
- c. brother
- d. family
- e. sister

WRITE YOUR COLLOCATIONS HERE:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. close + _____ | = a close _____ |
| 2. only + _____ | = an only _____ |
| 3. older + _____ | = an older _____ |
| 4. younger + _____ | = a younger _____ |
| 5. large + _____ | = a large _____ |

Now write 2 sentences using collocations from above. Think about your own family.

Example: *I have a close family. My older brother lives near me.*

1. _____

2. _____



6

speaking practice

Talk about your own family. Use full sentences. Try to say more than one sentence for each point.

Task 1 — Talk about your family. Use these sentence starters to help you.**SENTENCE STARTERS**

- I have a ___ family. There are ___ people in my family.
- My mother's name is ___. She is ___ years old.

- My father is ___ than my mother.
- I have a ___ brother / sister. His / Her name is ___.
- The oldest person in my family is ___.
- I am very close to / not very close to ___.
- We see each other ___.

Write your sentences here first, then speak.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Task 2 — Your teacher will ask you these questions. Answer in full sentences.

1. Who are you most similar to in your family? Why?

2. Is your family close? Do you see each other often?

3. Do you have any cousins? Where do they live? Are they older or younger than you?

4. In the video, Beth says her family is "a bit silly." Is your family silly or serious? Give an example.

**7 grammar: comparative adjectives**

Use comparative adjectives to compare two people or two things.

How to Compare— Adjective + -er+than

We use **comparative adjectives** to compare two people or things. We put **-er** after the adjective, and we use **"than"**.

Adjective	Comparative	Example from the lesson
old	old + er = older	"My father is older than my mother."
young	young + er = younger	"My sister is younger than me."
tall	tall + er = taller	"He is taller than my mother."
short	short + er = shorter	"Ana is shorter than Sofia."
big	bigg + er = bigger	"Neil's family is bigger than Beth's."
small	small + er = smaller	"My family is smaller than yours." (Beth)

Spelling rules:

Rule	Example
Most adjectives: add -er	old → older, young → younger, tall → taller
Adjective ends in -e : add -r	large → larger, close → closer
Short adjective ends in consonant-vowel-consonant: double + er	big → bigger, hot → hotter
Adjective ends in -y : change to -ier	happy → happier, funny → funnier

① Always use **than** after a comparative adjective: "My brother is **taller than** me."

Part B — Controlled Practice. Write the correct comparative form of the adjective.

1. Neil's family is _____ (big) than Beth's family.
2. Beth's family is _____ (small) than Neil's family.
3. Sofia's father Carlos is _____ (old) than her mother Elena.
4. Ana is _____ (short) than Sofia, but she is louder!
5. My grandmother is _____ (young) than my grandfather.



Part C — Free Practice. Write 3–5 sentences comparing people in YOUR family. Use comparative adjectives and "than".

Example: *My father is older than my mother. My sister is shorter than me.*

1.

2.

3.

8 discussion

Talk with your teacher. Give full answers. Try to say 2–3 sentences for each.

1. How many people are in your family? Is it a big or small family?

2. Who is the oldest person in your family? How old are they? Where do they live?

3. Are you taller or shorter than your brother, sister, or cousin?

4. Is your family bigger or smaller than the family of a friend or colleague?

5. Who are you closest to in your family? Why?



homework

Complete this task before your next lesson.

Draw your family tree and label it.

Draw your family tree. Include at least **6 family members**. Write the name and relationship for each person.

- Example: *Maria — my mother*
- Example: *David — my older brother*

Then write **5–8 sentences** about your family tree. Use comparative adjectives.

- *My father is older than my mother.*
- *I am taller than my sister.*
- *My uncle has a bigger family than my aunt.*

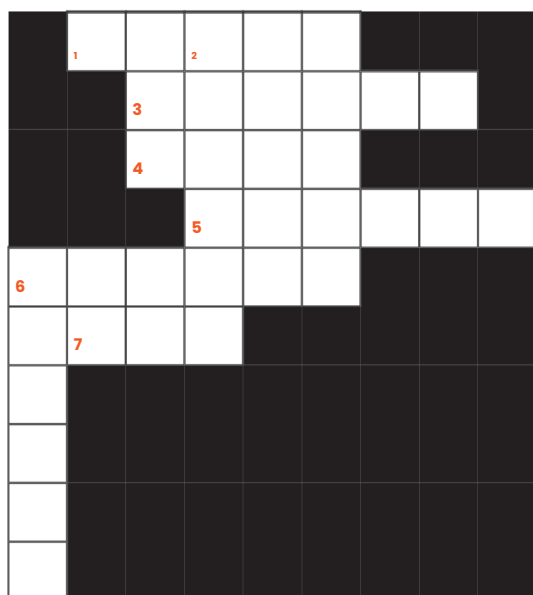
Bring your family tree and sentences to the next lesson. Be ready to talk about your family.



9

crossword — family vocabulary

Use the clues to complete the crossword. All answers are words from this lesson.

**ACROSS**

1. **1.** Your mother's or father's brother
2. **3.** Your mum
3. **4.** Your mother's or father's sister
4. **5.** A girl in your family with the same parents
5. **6.** Your parents, children, and relatives together
6. **7.** A male child

DOWN

1. **2.** Your aunt's or uncle's child
2. **6.** Your dad

My Family!



 **Video Transcript**BBC Learning English — Real Easy English: *"Talking about family"* — with Neil & Beth

Beth: Welcome to Real Easy English from BBC Learning English. In this programme, we have real conversations in easy English to help you practise listening and learn new words and phrases. I'm Beth. **Neil:** And I'm Neil. In each episode, we talk in English about a different topic that you need for everyday speaking. If you want to read along, you can visit our website — BBC Learning English dot com.

Neil: Hello, Beth. **Beth:** Hi, Neil. How are you? **Neil:** I'm very well, thank you. What are we talking about today? **Beth:** Well, today's episode is all about family. We'll be talking about who is in our families and comparing them. **Neil:** OK, great. So, what do we mean when we say comparing our families, Beth? **Beth:** Well, when we "compare" two things, we "look at them and see if they are the same or different" — and we can compare things in different ways, but we often do it with adjectives.

Neil: OK, let's start the conversation. So, Neil, how big is your family? **Neil:** It's probably average, really. I have one sister, but she has three kids and I have two kids. So, when we get together with my parents, there are a few of us. It's not tiny. It's not huge. **Beth:** OK, yeah. I think my family is definitely smaller than yours, because I don't have any brothers or sisters. I am an only child. So, when I get together with my family, it's very small, because I also only have one cousin and she's an only child as well. So my family's tiny!

Neil: OK. And what is your family like? **Beth:** It is small, but we're very close. So, we see each other quite often. We are a bit silly. We like to go out and have food and play games and we can be quite loud, even though there aren't many of us.

Neil: OK, it sounds like you get on well with your family. Is that right? **Beth:** Yeah, definitely. I love spending time with my cousin and she has two children. What about you? Do you get on well with your sister? **Neil:** Yes, I get on well with my sister. We don't see each other very often, because we don't live in the same place. But when we see each other, we have a nice time. We catch up and chat.

Beth: So, Beth, we have used the expression "get on well with" someone. What does that mean? **Beth:** Well, that means that you "have a good relationship" with them. So, if you get on well with your sister, it means when you're together you're happy, you're not fighting. It's easy to have good conversation. You don't really have any arguments. Maybe when you were a child, you didn't get on well with your sister. **Neil:** Yes, I think now that we are grown-ups, it's easier to get on well with your siblings! When I was a kid, maybe I was a bit mean to her.

Beth: So, Neil, your sister has three children. What are the ages of them? **Neil:** Well, for a start, they're all boys! And the oldest one is 17 and he has just done his driving test. It's difficult to believe, because he's the oldest, he's always been the oldest, but now he's almost an adult. **Beth:** And is he the oldest including your children? So out of all the kids he's the oldest? **Neil:** Yeah, he is.

Beth: So, in my family, my cousin has two children — and they are five and two. They are the youngest in the family. But I was the youngest in my family until they came along and I am 32! So, I was used to being the youngest, but I'm not the youngest any more, now we've got little ones.

Neil: OK, let's quickly recap the vocabulary we learned. We learnt "compare" which means "to look at two things to see if they are the same or different." "Bigger" and "smaller" — ways to compare the size of something. "Youngest" and "oldest" — ways to talk about the age of someone. And we looked at "get on well with" someone — which means "to have a good relationship with them." Thanks for listening to Real Easy English. Visit our website for more — BBC Learning English dot com. Next time, we'll talk about food and some of our favourite meals. See you then! **Beth:** Goodbye! **Neil:** Bye!



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