

MULTI-GENERATIONAL LIVING AROUND THE WORLD

Louis McGroghery, "Multi-generational living around the world," *The Daily Post*, June 20, 2019.

1 Read the article and tick (✓) A, B, or C.

While multi-generational living is normal in many cultures, in some countries such as Britain and the US, it isn't very usual. However, homes where grandparents live with their children and their families in the same house are becoming more common in these countries because of the economic climate. Here, the members of one extended family explain how it works for them.

Georgina – Anna's grandmother

I was really pleased when my son wanted to move back home. I love spending time with Anna, my granddaughter. She's a lovely little girl at the minute – so happy and affectionate – everybody who meets her likes her. It will be wonderful to watch her grow up. I think even my unsociable husband is enjoying it! We eat together twice a week and, once a month, we have a family conference – my husband and I, my son and his wife – to discuss how things are going. We try to respect each other's space. Having my son here makes me less anxious about the future, too. At the moment, we're healthy, but in a few years, we're going to need more help.

Esther – Anna's mother

Actually, it's all working out well! My mother-in-law remembers what it's like to have young children, so she's very patient with Anna and sympathetic to me when I'm tired. She often just says: 'Go and rest. I'll look after her'. I think she wants to give advice about what Anna eats and what time she goes to bed, but she usually says nothing! And occasionally I ask her opinion and find her ideas are really sensible. We are all learning to be quite honest with each other, which I think is a good thing.

Chris – Anna's grandfather

I prefer a quiet life and a tidy house, and I think young people should be independent, but my wife loves having the family here. From a selfish point of view, it's good for me too because Georgina is quite talkative and now, she can chat to her daughter-in-law. I think it's a very satisfactory situation for everyone concerned!

Alan – Anna's father

I was worried because my mother can be bossy, but actually, she is being sensitive and we're lucky to have a reliable babysitter in the house! My dad is sometimes moody, but he's very affectionate with Anna. We're planning to buy our own house in a couple of years, but I think we'll stay near my parents because the relationship between Anna and her grandparents is so special.

Example: More people are living in extended families in Britain than before.

A True ✓ B False C Doesn't say

1 Georgina thinks that Anna is charming.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

2 The family meets to talk about how they are getting on once a month.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

3 Esther gets very impatient with Georgina because she talks a lot.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

4 Chris is happy that Georgina has a good relationship with Esther.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

5 Chris thinks that they need a bigger house.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

6 Alan is always kind to his mother.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

7 Alan says that they are going to live with his parents for many years.

A True ☐ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

2 Write **G** for Georgina, **E** for Esther, **C** for Chris, and **A** for Alan.

Example: I was very happy about the family moving in. G

1 I'm less worried about the future now. _____

2 I'm not always very sociable. _____

3 I think it's good to be honest. _____

4 We can enjoy going out sometimes. _____

5 I'm quite bossy but I'm learning to be sensitive. _____

6 I sometimes need a little advice. _____

7 I love the relationship between the grandparents and their granddaughter. _____

8 It's good for young people to live alone. _____

ANNA'S FAMILY

1 Choose the correct form.

Example: We usually get up / get up usually early every morning.

- 1 Ana's grandmother *is taking* / *takes* vitamins every day.
- 2 Anna buys a lot of takeaways, but *I prefer* / *I'm preferring* home-made food.
- 3 Hey, Alan! *Do you watch* / *Are you watching* the football match tomorrow night?
- 4 *I don't usually have* / *I'm not usually having* dessert, but I'll have one tonight.
- 5 Esther *doesn't work* / *isn't working* tomorrow, so we're meeting for lunch.
- 6 In the summer, *we often cycle* / *we're often cycling* to work.

2 Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.

Example: We re meeting (meet) Georgina outside the cinema at 7.30.

- 1 Chris _____ (buy) a new car next week.
- 2 I _____ (need) a lot of sleep at the moment so I can concentrate on my exams.
- 3 We always _____ (eat) together as a family.
- 4 Hi, Esther. Sorry, I can't talk right now. I _____ (drive).
- 5 You look very serious Dad! What _____ (think) about?
- 6 I know that Grandma _____ (love) me! She always babysits me.
- 7 I _____ (have) dinner with dad at 8.00 tonight.

3 Write the family word(s).

Example: a mother or father parent

- 1 someone with no brothers or sisters _____
- 2 your brother's / sister's daughter _____
- 3 your husband's / wife's brother _____
- 4 your father's new wife _____
- 5 your brother's / sister's son _____
- 6 your grandfather's / grandmother's mother _____
- 7 everybody in your family _____

4 Complete the sentences with the correct word.

Example: Chris's really shy. He hates meeting new people.
shy sensitive extroverted

- 1 Anna is so _____ for her age! She seems much older than 10.
competitive sensitive mature
- 2 Georgina can seem like a different person on different days – she's very _____.
sensible moody mean
- 3 You should think about how other people feel instead of being so _____.
spoilt independent selfish
- 4 In sports, Alan is often more _____ than Chris. He always wants to win.
bossy competitive reliable
- 5 Chris was very _____ tonight. Do you think she's OK?
extroverted confident quiet
- 6 Anna's friend's just _____ because Anna got a higher score than her in the test yesterday.
ambitious spoilt jealous
- 7 Esther is always trying to pay for everything. He's very _____.
generous honest sensitive

YOUR FAMILY

Write about two people in your family or extended family (140–180 words). Answer the questions.

- Introduce them, their personal information (name, age, occupation), their likes and dislikes their hobbies and interests.
- Describe their physical appearance and their personality (their good and bad side)
- Describe your relationship.