

Noisy or quiet neighbours?

a Are your family or neighbours noisy? Answer questions 1–4 with a partner.

- 1 How many family members do you live with?
- 2 Are they...?
a very noisy b quite noisy c not very noisy
- 3 Do you have neighbours...?
a upstairs b downstairs c next door
- 4 Are they...?
a very noisy b quite noisy c not very noisy

b ① 5.9 Read part of a UK online forum. Guess the meaning of the **highlighted** verbs and verb phrases. Then listen to eight sounds and write 1–8 in the boxes.

Text

NOISY FAMILY? NOISY NEIGHBOURS?

Do you have a problem with noise, for example, when you want to study, or at night when you want to sleep? Tell us about your problems.

- The baby in the flat upstairs **cries** all the time.
- My sister **practises** the piano for hours.
- The neighbours' dog **barks** all day – and all night!
- The people next door often **have** noisy parties until 3.00 a.m.
- My son **plays** loud music in his room – awful music, too.
- The couple next door **argue** a lot.
- The old people in the flat next door **have** the TV on very loud – and their living room is next to my bedroom!
- The people next door have builders who **make** a lot of noise.

① 5.10 Look at the picture of the houses and listen. Why are Max and his mother unhappy?





b Listen again and complete the conversations with verbs from the list.

barking cooking happening having listening
making playing practising trying

1 Max Hey, Lucy. I'm ¹ _____ to study, and you're ² _____ an awful noise.
Lucy It isn't a noise, it's Beethoven. I'm ³ _____ – I have a school concert tomorrow. You can study downstairs.
Max I can't, Jake's ⁴ _____ a video game.
Lucy What about the kitchen?
Max No, Mum's ⁵ _____ dinner, and she's ⁶ _____ to the radio. It's impossible to work in this house!

2 Isabel Paul! Come here.
Paul Yes, dear? What's the matter?
Isabel What's ⁷ _____ next door? Why's their dog ⁸ _____? I can't hear the radio.
Paul They're ⁹ _____ a party in the garden.
Isabel Not again! Can you go and talk to them?
Paul Yes, good idea. It's their second party in three weeks!

c Listen and answer: What happens when Paul goes next door?

1. He's arguing with his neighbour.
2. The neighbour doesn't want to open the door.
3. The neighbour invites Paul to join the party.

d Listen again and complete the conversation

N Oh, hello Paul. Jack, it's Paul, from _____ Come in! We _____ a party. It's my birthday.

P Oh! Er, Happy Birthday!

N Thanks. Would you like a drink?

P Actually I want to talk to you about the _____

N Sorry?

P The NOISE. It's very noisy.

N Yes. We _____ a great time! _____ you want a beer? Or a glass of wine?

P Oh, well, yes, OK. A beer, please.

N Here you are. Come and _____ our friends. Hey everyone, say hello to Paul. He's our

All Hello Paul.

P Hello.

N Do you want to dance, Paul?