

Two is enough

> Read

1 Read the article and suggest an alternative title for it.

Chinese family structure is experiencing a transition from "Extended family" (three generations living under the same roof) to DINK (Double Income - No Kids), a new choice that is popular with young couples. Pressure and competition at work and a high cost of life are the most important factors that influence their decisions. Another reason is that couples are starting their families at an older age.

Zhang, a 32-year-old secretary, and her husband Zhou, a 35-year-old engineer, are what we can call a DINK family.

They enjoy going out a lot, so having a baby is not in their plans. They also want to travel around the world and get a better position at work.

They live in a small flat in downtown Beijing. There is only one bedroom and a small living room with a kitchenette and a bathroom in their house. They don't have space for a baby



and they don't want to get a bigger flat. They work full time and spend very little time at home, so they share household chores. Zhang cooks dinner and Zhou lays the table. Zhang usually takes out the rubbish because she doesn't like to wash the dishes. Zhou does that. Together, they keep the flat tidy and clean. The first to arrive hoovers the floor and they don't leave things in the wrong place.

Their life is very well organised at the moment... but are they going to change their minds in the future?

2 Answer.

- 1 How many members are there in a DINK family?
- 2 Where are Zhang and Zhou from?
- 3 Why don't they want to have kids?
- 4 What is their flat like?
- 5 What does the husband do for the house?

3 Find the opposites.

- 1 wife _____
- 2 cooperation _____
- 3 part-time _____
- 4 messy _____
- 5 dirty _____

> Write

4 Imagine your family in the future. Describe it.

- Are you going to be a DINK family or do you want to have kids?
- Where are you going to live? Describe your future house.
- How are you going to organise house chores?
