13 Personal information

A Facts

Sandro is studying English in Cambridge. The **receptionist** needs some **information**.

Receptionist **What's your family name?** (OR **What's your surname?**)
Sandro Bertoli.
Receptionist And **your first name?**
Sandro Sandro.
Receptionist OK, Sandro. **What's your address** and **postcode?**
Sandro 45 Alfred Road, CB2 4TX.
Receptionist So, Sandro, **where are you from?** (OR **Where do you come from?**)
Sandro Italy.
Receptionist **Whereabouts** in Italy? (OR **Where** in Italy **exactly?**)
Sandro Pisa.
Receptionist **What do you do** in Pisa? (OR **What's your job?**)
Sandro **I'm a** doctor.
Receptionist And **are you married** or **single?**
Sandro I'm married. My wife is German.
Receptionist And **how old** are you?
Sandro I'm 34.

SPOTLIGHT *information*

Information [U] means facts about people or things, e.g. *name, address,* etc. **Information** is uncountable. Don't say ~~*an information*~~ OR ~~*informations*~~.
Personal information is information about one person.

1 In each sentence, one word is in the wrong place. Correct it.

▶ Are married you?
1 I need some information personal.
2 Where do come from you?
3 Do what you do?
4 What your postcode is?
5 How old you are?
6 Where the receptionist is from?

2 Write the questions with different words but with the same meaning.

▶ What's your family name? — What's your surname ..... ?
1 Where are you from? — Where do ..... ?
2 Whereabouts in Poland? — Where in Poland ..... ?
3 What's your job? — What do ..... ?
4 Where do you live? — What's your ..... ?
5 What's your age? — How ..... ?

3 Complete the questions in the table.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS	ABOUT YOU
▶ What's your name ..... ?	Kovács.	.....
1 And your ..... name?	Zsuzsa.	.....
2 Where are you ..... ?	Hungary.	.....
3 ..... in Hungary?	The capital, Budapest.	.....
4 ..... your address?	Tarcali utca 27.	.....
5 And the ..... ?	1113.	.....
6 And what ..... you do?	I'm an engineer.	.....
7 Are you ..... ?	No, I'm single.	.....
8 How ..... are you?	I'm 27.	.....

4 ABOUT YOU **Write your answers to the questions in the table, or ask another student.**

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B Talking about your English course

Sandro has been in Cambridge now for two months and is talking to the receptionist again.

Receptionist So, Sandro. What's your English **level** now?
Sandro I'm intermediate.
Receptionist Yes, you **communicate** very well.
Sandro Thank you, but I still need to **improve**.
Receptionist Why's that?
Sandro Because I want to work **abroad** and **help** people in other countries. For that, my English has to be **perfect**.
Receptionist So **how long are** you **planning to** stay here?
Sandro I don't know.
Receptionist But you're enjoying your **course**?
Sandro Yes, it's **great**. I've made a lot of **progress**.

GLOSSARY

level	how high sth is, e.g. *an elementary/intermediate/advanced* ***level*** *of English*
communicate (with sb)	be able to say what you mean, or have a conversation with other people
improve	become better **improvement** *n*
abroad	in another country
help	do sth good for sb so their life is easier
perfect	so good it can't be better
how long?	how much time? (NOT ~~*how long time?*~~)
plan (to do) sth	decide what you are going to do and how you are going to do it
course	a number of lessons
great	very good or nice SYNS **fantastic, wonderful**
progress	improvement

5 True or false? Write *T* or *F*.

▶ If you ***help*** someone, you make their life easier. T
1 ***Perfect*** means the same as good. .....
2 ***Plan to do something*** is the same as decide what to do and how to do it. .....
3 ***Improve*** means to make something different. .....
4 ***Abroad*** means in another country. .....
5 ***A language course*** means the same as ***a language level***. .....
6 If you ***communicate*** something, you are able to say what you mean. .....
7 ***How long?*** means the same as ***how far?*** .....
8 ***Great*** means the same as ***fantastic***. .....

6 Agree with the first speaker, but replace the words in *italics* with different words.

▶ The course is ***really good***. ~ Yes, it's great.
1 She's ***getting better***. ~ Yes, she's _____.
2 Her English is ***very good*** now. ~ Yes, it's at a high _____.
3 She can ***express ideas*** very well. ~ Yes, she _____.
4 She wants to work ***in another country***. ~ Yes, she wants to go and work _____.
5 They'***re thinking about*** going to Spain. ~ Yes, they're _____ to go there.
6 I thought it was ***fantastic***. ~ Yes, it was _____.
7 He's really ***improving***. ~ Yes, he's making a lot of _____.
8 He wants to ***make*** people's ***lives better***. ~ Yes, he wants to _____.

7 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or ask another student.

1 What's your English level? _____
2 How well do you communicate in English? _____
3 Do you want or need to improve? _____
4 Are you making progress? _____
5 Are you planning to go to an English-speaking country? If so, where? _____
6 Would you like to work abroad? _____

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