

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Question 1: Can you tell me about the members of your family?

backs close-knit eye to eye hang out heart and soul pillar turn to for two peas

Well, I come from a (1) _____ **family of four** — my parents, my younger brother, and me. My dad's an engineer, and he's the (2) _____ **of our family**, always the one we (3) _____ **advice**. My mum's a teacher, and she's the (4) _____ **of our home**, keeping everything running smoothly.

My younger brother is still at university, and although we **don't always see** (5) _____, we're really (6) _____ **in a pod** when it comes to humour and interests. We often (7) _____ **together** on weekends, watching movies or cooking.

All in all, I feel really blessed to have such a **supportive and loving family** — we always **have each other's** (8) _____, no matter what life throws at us.

bustling household down-to-earth get on sticking together thick as thieves under one roof

I come from quite a **big, lively family** — there are six of us in total. I've got three siblings, and I'm the second oldest. My parents have always been incredibly **hard-working and** (9) _____, and they've taught us the value of (10) _____.

We've always had a (11) _____, full of laughter and the occasional argument, of course. Even though we sometimes (12) _____ **each other's nerves**, deep down, we're (13) _____. Family gatherings are noisy but heart-warming — there's never a dull moment when we're all (14) _____.

I honestly wouldn't trade my big family for anything — we've been through a lot together, and it's really **made us who we are**.

count on look up to strong bond thick and thin warmth and laughter worn many hats

I actually come from quite a **small family** — it's just my mum and me. She's an incredible woman who's (15) _____ over the years, playing both the role of mother and father. I really (16) _____ **her**, not just because of her strength but also because she's always believed in me, even when I doubted myself.

We've got a (17) _____, and I'd say she's not only my mum but also my **best friend** because we have **gone through** (18) _____ **together**, and she's the one person I can (19) _____ no matter what. Even though it's just the two of us, our home is always **filled with** (20) _____ — it's small, but it's ours.

Question 2: How often do you spend time with your family?

caught up keep in touch line up make it a point make time for unwind

I try to **spend quality time** with my family as often as I can, although our schedules don't always **(21)**_____ . During the week, everyone's usually **(22)**_____ in work or study, but we always **(23)**_____ to **have dinner together** on weekends.

That's kind of our little tradition — we cook, chat about our week, and just **enjoy each other's company**. Sometimes we even go for a short trip or a movie night, just to **(24)**_____ and **reconnect**.

Even when we're apart, we **(25)**_____ every day through calls and messages, so I never really feel distant from them. Spending time together really **keeps our bond strong** — it's something I'll always **(26)**_____ , no matter how busy life gets.

Question 3: What do you usually do together as a family?

closer together curl up gather around hustle and bustle little outings our batteries

We usually do quite a few things together, but the most common one is definitely **sharing meals**. My family's really into food, so we often **(27)**_____ **the table** to try new dishes or cook something special at home. It's a simple pleasure, but it really **brings us (28)**_____ .

On weekends, we like to **go on (29)**_____ — sometimes a picnic, sometimes a short trip to the countryside just to **get away from the (30)**_____ of city life. Every now and then, we'll **(31)**_____ **on the sofa** and watch a good movie together.

For us, it's less about what we do and more about the fact that we're **spending time under the same roof**, relaxing and **recharging (32)**_____ after a busy week.

► Natural structure with clear organization (intro → details → conclusion)

► Natural linking (*although, when it comes to, all in all*)

► Fluent tone that sounds spontaneous, not memorized

► C1–C2 idiomatic expressions:

• <i>close-knit family</i>	• <i>never a dull moment</i>	• <i>unwind and reconnect</i>
• <i>pillar of our family</i>	• <i>worn many hats</i>	• <i>keep in touch</i>
• <i>heart and soul of our home</i>	• <i>look up to someone</i>	• <i>keep our bond strong</i>
• <i>don't see eye to eye</i>	• <i>strong bond</i>	• <i>no matter how busy life gets</i>
• <i>two peas in a pod</i>	• <i>go through thick and thin</i>	• <i>gather around the table</i>
• <i>have each other's backs</i>	• <i>count on someone</i>	• <i>brings us closer together</i>
• <i>down-to-earth</i>	• <i>filled with warmth and laughter</i>	• <i>go on little outings</i>
• <i>bustling household</i>	• <i>spend quality time</i>	• <i>get away from the hustle and bustle</i>
• <i>get on each other's nerves</i>	• <i>make it a point to</i>	• <i>curl up on the sofa</i>
• <i>thick as thieves</i>	• <i>enjoy each other's company</i>	• <i>under the same roof</i>
• <i>under one roof</i>		• <i>recharge our batteries</i>