1 a) **Match the annoying habits (A-G) to the pictures (1-7).**
Listen and check.

- [A] have bad body odour
- [B] gossip about others
- [C] talk in the cinema
- [D] talk loudly on a mobile phone
- [E] have bad table manners (e.g. slurp your soup)
- [F] be late for an appointment
- [G] take things without asking

b) **Which of these do you find the most annoying? Discuss it in pairs.**

A: It really annoys me when people gossip about others.
B: Me too. Also, I can't stand it/I hate it when ...

Reading

2 a) **The blog entries are about annoying situations.**
Listen and read. **Who felt sorry for the waiter? What happened to Liam? What happened to Chris?**

b) **Read again and mark the sentences below *T* (true), or *F* (false) or *NS* (not stated).**

1 Liam's friends were talking in the cinema. .....
2 He felt very angry. .....
3 The man in the restaurant was with his wife. .....
4 Suzy's dad is a restaurant critic. .....
5 The train Chris was on wasn't very crowded. .....
6 Chris' journey took longer than usual. .....

(A) **6th March - Annoying Situations**
It always **gets on my nerves** when people talk in the cinema, but you won't believe what has happened to me tonight! I went out to the cinema with my friends to see a film I've wanted to see for ages. From the moment we sat down, a group of teenagers behind us didn't stop talking and laughing, and even chatting on their mobile phones. Anyway, eventually I **lost my temper.** I turned around and shouted at them. Almost immediately, an usher appeared and angrily told me to leave. My friends were **laughing their heads off** afterwards, but I'm still furious. It wasn't my fault! So anyway, here I am back at home, **letting off steam** on my blog! So, what about you? Have you suffered from people's bad habits recently? Tell me all about it and cheer me up!
Posted by: Liam, 6/03, 22:14

2 responses!

(B) Oh, that's awful, Liam. It's really annoying. What gets on my nerves is bad table manners. I've got a really funny story about this. A few months ago, I went to a restaurant with my family. While we were trying to decide what to order, we heard some strange noises coming from the table behind us. It was a man slurping his soup really loudly. When he finished, he started complaining to the waiter that his steak was tough and the potatoes were overcooked. We **felt really sorry for** the waiter. **The final straw** was when he sneezed loudly without covering his mouth and a piece of bread flew out of his mouth and onto our table. I've never seen anything like it. Anyway, about a week later, my dad read an article in the food section of a newspaper about difficult customers and the way restaurants deal with them. At the top of the page, there was a picture of the writer and ... you guessed it. It was the man in the restaurant with the bad manners! He was a restaurant critic.
Posted by: Suzy, 7/03, 13:15

(C) Well, I have to travel on public transport every day and there are plenty of things that annoy me. A few days ago, though, it was a boiling hot day and when my train pulled into the station and I saw the bodies pressed against the door, **my heart sank.** Everyone was pushing to get on and I found myself next to a man with terrible body odour. He was holding onto a rail with his arm up in the air and the smell was just terrible. Has this man never heard of a shower? Then, things got even worse. The train broke down in a tunnel and I was stuck there for an hour. When I got off the train, I took some huge deep breaths! I've never enjoyed the polluted air of the city so much.
Posted by: Chris_T, 8/03, 19:21

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Study skills

Idioms

An idiom is a group of words that have a different meaning when they are used together from the meaning the words have separately, e.g. *It's a piece of cake.* (It's very easy.) Recognising and learning to use idioms will make your English more lively and natural.

LIVEWORKSHEETS