

Comprehension based activities

- Revision: present simple and present continuous
- Unit 1: Identity_personality_feelings

1. Reading comprehension

► Mikhail, age 24

I'm a post-graduate student studying geology. I'd be a good flatmate because I tend to **keep myself to myself**. I'm not unfriendly but my idea of a perfect evening is to **spend the night in**, order a takeaway and watch a DVD or maybe play computer games. I'm not a computer **geek**, though. Like any student, I'm often **short of cash**, but I'm not **tight-fisted**, I don't mind paying my share. I can be quite messy – I often bring rocks home to work on. I'm usually up and out before 7.30 in the morning.



► Claudia, age 34

I'm a professional cook in an Italian restaurant. I work late so I don't like being disturbed in the morning. I'm a **people person** and love inviting friends round and cooking for them. I **am very particular about** order, especially in the kitchen – if there's one thing I hate, it's a messy kitchen. I also get annoyed if I'm the only one cleaning up or people don't **pull their weight** around the house. My friends say I'm very sensible and practical, really **down-to-earth**.



► Pat, age 28

I'm a lawyer and sing with a band in my spare time. I've got a good job and a decent salary, but at the moment I'm being careful with my money as I'm **saving up for a new sound system** for the group. I'm often **out until the early hours** because of late night gigs with the band. People say I'm **a good laugh** but I can be pretty serious too – I sometimes bring the band back after a gig and I can really **get into** talking about politics – I love a good discussion.



A) Look at the phrases in bold and match them to the corresponding meaning:

1. Feel this is important
2. Away from home very late
3. Be introverted
4. Someone who is sociable
5. Someone who is obsessive and boring about a topic
6. Enjoy a topic or activity
7. Someone who is fun to be with
8. Realistic about things
9. Mean with money

10. Do one's share of work

B) Are these sentences true or false?

1. Pat plays an instrument in a band in his free time.
2. Claudia gets angry when everything is dirty and messy.
3. Mikhail is a very solitary person.
4. Claudia sleeps until late in the morning.
5. Pat enjoys having conversations about interesting and serious topics.

C) Look at the descriptions and write a paragraph about you.

2. Writing an informal email to your best friend.