

Helen and Nicola

My name's Helen and my best friend is Nicola. We're both 16. We met eleven years ago when we first went to school. We go to the same girls' school, but Nicola and I are very different. She is very sporty – she loves running and doing athletics, and I'm very musical – I sing in a group, and I play the piano and the violin.

We have very different personalities, too. For example, if we watch a romantic film, I always cry, and if we watch a horror film, I'm always terrified. Nicola is the opposite – she doesn't show her feelings. My favourite thing about Nicola is that she is always honest. If I ask her opinion about a new dress or a boy at a party, she always tells the truth. She's also very patient. She doesn't mind waiting for me when I'm late for things.

Nicola is great, but there are some things about her that drive me mad. She is too modest. She blushes every time someone says something nice about her. She's also very, very tidy. Everything is in the correct place in her bedroom. (Mine is the complete opposite because I hate tidying!) The worst habit she has is getting up early. She goes running before school and she never stays in bed late at weekends. I hate people who are active in the mornings – I'm sleepy for an hour after I wake up.

- 1 How long has Helen known Nicola?
- 2 How are the girls different at school?
- 3 Who is more emotional?
- 4 Does Nicola tell lies?
- 5 Does Nicola get upset when Helen is late?
- 6 What makes Nicola go red?
- 7 What is Helen's bedroom like?
- 8 What irritates Helen most about Nicola?
- 9 Does Nicola get up later at weekends?
- 10 How long does it take Helen to wake up?