

Todd: So, Meg, what do you like to do in your free time?

Meg: Actually, I love cooking. I like to try new dishes and I love baking as well.

Todd: Oh, nice. That's interesting. Because I hate cooking.

Meg: Oh, really?

Todd: Yeah. And I don't know anything about baking, but I like cleaning. Cleaning is relaxing.

Meg: Really? Is that true?

Todd: Yeah. Really, I like cleaning. So, my house is usually very clean.

Meg: My house is usually clean also, but I don't like cleaning very much.

Todd: Yeah, I think most people don't like cleaning. But some people think cleaning is relaxing. Like me.

Meg: That's true. What else do you like to do?

Todd: Well, I like exercising. I like going to the gym. I like listening to podcasts. So, I listen to a lot of podcasts a lot. I like surfing the internet. And sometimes, I enjoy reading books.

Meg: I also enjoy reading books when I have time.

Todd: But these days, I often listen to books instead. I listen to audiobooks.

Meg: Oh really?

Todd: Yeah, I like listening to audiobooks.

Meg: Why?

Todd: Because I can exercise at the same time.

Meg: So, exercising and reading at the same time.

Todd: Yeah, it's fun. So, I love jogging and I go jogging almost every day, usually for one hour. I listen to audiobooks when I jog.

Meg: So, you can do two things at once.

Todd: Very important. Multitasking. I love multitasking.

Meg: Sounds like you're good at multitasking.

Todd: Let's talk about outdoor activities. Do you like doing yard work?

Meg: I don't especially like doing yard work. But right now, I don't have a yard. So, doing yard work isn't something I have to worry about. What about you?

Todd: I like doing yard work. I think it's very relaxing. It's like cleaning. So, I enjoy it. But like you, I don't have a yard. So, now I don't do yard work very much. Or I can't do yard work.

Meg: So, you like gardening if you have a yard?

Todd: Yeah. I grew up on a big house. So, we have lots of yard work, lots of gardening. So, yeah.

Meg: Right.

Todd: But what about other things like hiking, do you like hiking?

Meg: I love hiking. Anything that is in nature, I love doing. I love hiking. I love kayaking. I love canoeing. Any outdoor sports. Do you like hiking?

Todd: I do. I'm with you. I love hiking. What about things like rock climbing?

Meg: I have never been rock climbing. Have you gone rock climbing?

Todd: No. Rock climbing looks dangerous. So, I'm still scared.

Meg: Yeah,

Todd: So, I've never done rock climbing either. What about things like singing and dancing? Do you enjoy singing and dancing?

Meg: I enjoy singing, but I'm not very good at it. So, I like singing when I'm alone or in my car. Are you good at singing?

Todd: No, I'm terrible at singing. So, I hate singing. I really, really hate singing. But I like going to karaoke and listening to people sing.

Meg: Yeah, some people are really good at singing. What about dancing?

Todd: I hate dancing too. Yeah, I'm not good at dancing. So, dancing is very embarrassing for me. I don't like it.

Meg: I'm not good at dancing either.

Todd: Are there any other activities you really dislike doing? Like for me, I hate writing letters. For example, I don't like writing thank you letters. I don't like writing anything with my hand. Typing is okay. I don't mind typing things, but I hate writing.

Meg: So, using your hand to write, you hate writing?

Todd: Yeah, I like typing. Fingers is okay. Thumb is okay on the phone. I don't mind texting, I don't mind typing. I just don't like physically writing with a pencil or a pen.

Meg: Yeah. Pen or a pencil, like writing a letter.

Todd: Right. Because my writing is really bad, and it's hard to read. So, it's embarrassing.

Meg: I'm sure it's fine.

Todd: Yeah. How about you? For example, do you like iron in your clothes?

Meg: I don't like having my clothes, but my clothes usually don't need ironing, so I don't have to worry about it too much. I don't like doing laundry. It's related to ironing clothes. So, it takes a long time. And the clothes, I have to dry the clothes. So, doing laundry is a little bit boring for me.

Todd: I don't mind doing laundry if I go to the coin laundry, but I hate hanging my laundry out. I hate hanging out my laundry. It takes forever. I don't know why, you put it out, you take it back in, it just takes so much time.

Meg: That's funny. I'm kind of the opposite. I don't mind hanging out my laundry, because I like saving money, so I don't have to use money at the coin laundry.

Todd: Plus, you are helping the environment.

Meg: That's true. I like helping the earth.

Todd: Yeah, I should change. Okay. Thanks Meg.

Meg: Yeah.

Learn Vocabulary from the Lesson

especially

I don't especially like doing yard work.

The adverb 'especially' shows a stronger feeling about one thing compared to other things. Notice the following:

1. I love playing sports, especially basketball.
2. I do not like scary movies, especially ones about ghosts.

I'm with you

I'm with you. I love hiking.

Here, the phrase 'I'm with you' means the person has the same opinion or feeling about something. Notice the following:

1. Oh, you don't like Marvel movies. I'm with you. I hate them.
2. I'm with you. I don't like going to Karaoke either.

either

I'm not good at dancing *either*.

The word 'either' is similar to 'too' or 'also' and it is used to show that two negative things are similar or related. Notice the following:

1. I cannot drive. My wife cannot drive either.
2. She does not work on Saturdays. I don't either.

don't mind

I *don't mind* typing things, but I hate writing.

When you don't mind doing something that means you do not dislike it. You might not love it, but you do not dislike it. Notice the following:

1. I don't mind working on the holidays.
2. I don't mind taking the bus to work. I can read on my commute.

it takes forever

It *takes forever*.

When something takes forever that means it takes a very long time. Notice the following:

1. It takes forever to drive across town on weekends due to traffic.
2. If you want to lose weight, it might take forever but patient.

kind of the opposite

That's funny. *I'm kind of the opposite*.

Here, when someone says they are the opposite that means they have a different, or opposite, feeling about something. Notice the following:

1. My wife loves staying home, but I'm kind of the opposite.
2. My dad is very talkative, but dad is kind of the opposite.

Answer the questions about the text!

1° Tell me what kind of things you enjoy doing to be relaxed?

2° What activities does Meg not like doing?

3° Do you practice any type of outdoor activity? Which one?

4° What do you have in common with Meg?

5° What does Meg like to do in her free time?

6° What is Todd's opinion about cleaning? Tell me if you agree or disagree with his opinion.

7° What does Todd dislike doing? Can you describe it?

8° Go to the text and find three house chores Meg doesn't enjoy doing.

9° What are you really good at?

10° According to the text Todd does many things at the same time, can you tell me about them? Can you do more than one thing at once?