ADVANCED UNIT 1

1 **OVERVIEW:** Watch the video. Whose family do you identify with most?



2 Read Andrea's introduction. Then watch the video from 0:00 to 0:27 and underline the correct alternatives.

Hi. My name is Andrea. I [1]*live/am living* and work in London [2]*but/though* most of my family live in Brazil. I get on well [3]*to/with* my sister when I [4]*'ll see/see* her but that's only [5]*once/twice* a year. Do you [6]*pass/spend* much time with your family?

3 *Do you spend much time with your family?* Look at the people in the pictures and read extracts from their answers. Then watch the video from 0:27 to 1:16 and match the people to their answers.



Nick



Dianne



Tomas



Tim



Robin

1 I try to, yeah. I try and spend as much time as possible. C

2 Spend quite a bit of time with my family. Obviously, less now since I left home and left university. ____

3 I don't, no. We're geographically quite spread out. ____

4 Yeah, I do. I go to school in Toronto and they live there and I see them on weekends and whenever I can really. ____

5 Probably not as much as I could because the kids are busy, and, er, I don't have any parents any more. And my husband's family live a fair way away, so probably not as much as we'd like to. ____

Glossary: *a fair way away* = quite a long way from where the speaker is
geographically spread out = (living) in different places all over the country/world

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4 *Have they inherited any family characteristics?* Look at the people in Exercise 2 again and read their paraphrased answers below. Then watch the video from 1:16 to 2:55. Write true (T) or false (F) next to each answer.

1 **Nick:** People often say he looks and sounds like his mum, though he doesn't understand why. F
2 **Dianne:** She might have inherited some good things from her family, like a fairly good personality and being fun to be around. _____
3 **Robin:** She doesn't take things as seriously as her family, or value spending time with them. _____
4 **Tim:** He's physically quite slender and short like his dad, though he has a very different personality. _____
5 **Tomas:** He's bubbly and chatty like his mum but is more like his dad when he's in a bad mood. _____

Glossary: *bubbly* = very lively
slender = slim

5A *Do you know much about your family history?* Watch the video from 2:57 to 4:23 and number the countries they mention in the order you hear them, 1–10.

Scotland [1]
Canada [ ]
Ireland [ ]
Spain [ ]
France [ ]
Argentina [ ]
Scotland [ ]
Liberia [ ]
Barbados [ ]
Zimbabwe [ ]

5B Read sentences 1–3 and watch the video from 2:57 to 4:23 again. Tick the sentence which best summarises what the people say.

1 In general, they know a reasonable amount about their family histories.
2 On the whole, they wish they knew more about their family histories.
3 Most of the speakers only knew about the first and second generations in their family histories.

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6 *Does your family history play a part in your sense of who you are?* Look at the people below and read their answers. Then watch the video from 4:23 to 5:20 and underline the words you hear.



Andrew

Yes, very much so. And part of that is that I was brought up in Latin America, speaking Spanish to my friends and English to my parents. So, in [1]*a/some* sense, I was brought up 'between two [2]*countries/cultures*' and that, at the end, is part of who I am.



Maureen

Definitely, because family is a big part of [3]*me/myself* um, and, we just try to keep those connections [4]*up/going*.



Nick

I [5]*guess/suppose* it's a difficult balance in my head to see what's, how much is me and how much is my family. And knowing about my family [6]*origins/history* and knowing what I have inherited, which I'm sure there's lots and lots of habits that I [7]*must/might* have inherited, but I feel a lot of it's 'me' but it probably isn't.



Tim

Er, no, not really at all. Erm, I left home when I was about sixteen or seventeen so I think my sense of [8]*identity/ who I am* has been very much formed by my own [9]*belief/ believe* systems and my own lifestyle rather than being particularly [10]*focussed on/keyed into* anything to do with my parents or my grandparents.

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7 **THE WAY WE SPEAK:** Watch the video of Tomas from 2:24 to 2:44 and notice how he uses *kind of*. Then watch again and write *kind of* in spaces 1–10 where you hear it.



Yeah, definitely. I think, [1]_____ from my mum I've got the [2]_____ bubbliness and chattiness – she's [3]_____ very much like that. And, er, [4]_____ most of the time I'm like that, but then when I'm in a [5]_____ bad mood I get the dad side. And that's er, he's [6]_____, my mum used to call him 'a volcano' because he [7]_____ just 'erupts'. He's really [8]_____ peaceful most of the time but then when you really make him [9]_____ angry he'll erupt and that's [10]_____ how it is with me.

Glossary: *kind of* = informal spoken English: often used when describing things in a vague way, usually with very little extra meaning

8 **PERSONALISATION:** Write a paragraph about your family using Andrea's questions and language from the video to help.

- How much time do you spend with your family?
- Have you inherited any family characteristics?
- How much do you know about your family history?
- Does your family history play a part in your sense of who you are?

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