

Family and friends Teacher's notes

Level: Pre-intermediate (equivalent to CEF levels A2 – B1)

Aim: To practise question forms and to use key vocabulary about family and friends.

Vocabulary: Verb collocations (friendship); family-related lexis

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each student in the class.

Procedure:

1. Tell the class they are going to find out more about each other's friends and families. Give one copy of the worksheet to each student. Focus attention on the list of *Find someone who ...* descriptions and answer any questions about vocabulary. Tell the students they will interview different students and write the names of people who match the descriptions. Ask volunteers to demonstrate the example dialogue and set a time limit of ten minutes for this activity.
2. Tell all the students to stand up and begin interviewing different students. Go around the class taking notes on any typical problems with key vocabulary and question forms. Encourage students, if necessary, to ask each other follow-up questions and to move on to a new student after about a minute.
3. After ten minutes, bring the activity to a close and ask students to return to their seats. Briefly highlight any language problems for the class to correct.
4. Put students into groups of 3 – 6 students, depending on class size. Explain to the groups that they should compare their answers to the *Find someone who ...* activity and identify any surprising answers. Set a time limit of five minutes for this activity.
5. After five minutes, elicit from the class any surprising answers the groups identified.
6. Focus attention on the list of quotations. Ask some students to read each quotation one by one, stopping to answer questions about meaning. Each student should tick the quotations they think are generally true.
7. Put students into groups of 3 – 6 students. Each group should discuss the quotes and try to agree on the three quotations they think are most true. Set a time limit of six minutes for this activity.
8. After six minutes, or when most groups have completed the activity, ask each group to name the three quotations considered to be most true.

Variation:

After the *Find someone who ...* activity, you could ask students to compare their worksheets in groups of 3 – 6. Together they should decide if the following statements are true or false for their group. Set a time limit of ten minutes for this activity.

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| 1. Most of us get on very well with our grandparents | T/F |
| 2. Most of us come from families that are not 'typical' | T/F |
| 3. Most of our friends are from similar backgrounds | T/F |
| 4. Most of us don't keep in touch with friends we met more than ten years ago | T/F |
| 5. Most of us are not very close to our neighbours | T/F |
| 6. None of us feel we have anything in common with anyone famous | T/F |

After ten minutes, bring the activity to a close and elicit each group's answers. (Are the statements true or false for the whole class?) Then proceed with the quotations activity.