

• What is a nuclear family?

A nuclear family is normally a mother, father, brother / sister / siblings. It is sometimes called your immediate family.

• Can you say something about your family?

I live with my mum / stepmother / dad / stepfather / brother / sister / half-brother / half-sister / I'm an only child. We have / I come from a large / small family. My parents are still together / divorced / separated. My father / mother has remarried / has a new husband / wife. I have a stepmother / stepfather. I am adopted / I live with my foster parents.

• How would you describe a typical family?

I think it's still most / not as common to have a mum, dad and brothers and sisters in a family. Some couples are not the same nationality / race so they are called international / interracial. Families with only a mum / dad / one parent, but not both, are called single-parent families. Many parents get divorced so we have stepbrothers / stepsisters / stepparents. I don't think there is a 'traditional' family. Families have changed.

• Do you get on with your parents?

I have a good / bad relationship with my parents. We... are a very close family / get on / don't get on well / fight a lot. My parents are like my friends. I don't live at home because they... don't treat me well / mistreat me / abuse me. I don't see my dad because... he's never at home / he works a lot / my parents argue a lot. My parents are really kind / generous / open-minded / supportive. I can... talk to them about anything / tell them everything.

• Do you have any siblings and do you get on with them?

I have an older brother / sister who... is always bossing me around / looks after me. We... get on well / always argue / are not close / don't get along. I have a younger sibling and he / she always annoys me. I have to babysit / look after him / her. My siblings are my best friends. I hate my siblings. We don't have anything in common. I have a fraternal / an identical twin. I am one of a set of triplets. There is a big age gap. We are close in age. I'm an only child.

• What are the advantages or disadvantages of being an only child?

I would like to be an only child because... I would get more attention / my parents could spend more time with me / you... are more independent

/ get more love. The advantages of being an only child include more privacy. I... could have my own bedroom / wouldn't have to share things. I wouldn't like to be an only child. The disadvantages are that you don't have someone to... speak to / play with / be friends with. You can feel lonely.

• Can you tell me about your extended family? How extensive is your family?

My extended family consists / is made up of my grandparents / aunts / uncles / cousins / in-laws. My grandfather / grandmother / grandparents... is / are still alive. My grandparents live... with us / nearby. I have / don't have lots of / many aunts / uncles / cousins. My brother / sister is married so I have a brother-in-law / sister-in-law. They have a baby so I... am an aunt / uncle / have a niece / nephew.

• What are the advantages / disadvantages of a big family?

The advantages of living in a big family are that you always have someone to... talk to / share things with / do things with. You are never lonely. It's always busy and active. You can... help each other if there is a problem / rely on others to help. The disadvantages are that you have no space / no room / no privacy. You have to share everything.

• What do you do together as a family?

During the week my parents work and I don't see much of my family. We... only see each other at weekends / visit the grandparents / go away for the weekend / hang out together at home. We normally spend time together... during the holidays / in the summer / at Christmas. We go... skiing / to the mountains / to museums / shopping / to the cinema / on day trips / to our cottage / hiking.

• Who do you take after?

People say that I look like my mum / dad. I have my mum's / dad's... eyes / smile / hair / nose / build. I look exactly like / nothing like my mum / dad / brother / sister / grandfather. I don't look like my parents but I have similar interests. I don't think I look like my parents at all. I am adopted so I don't look like my parents.

• How important is family to you?

Family is very important to me. It's the most important thing to me. My family is everything / my support. I don't know what I would do without my family. If there is an emergency or I need my family they are always there for me. I don't get on with my family. They don't help me. We are not close. My friends... are more like family / feel like family.