

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Real Easy English

Siblings



This is a transcript of a spoken conversation and is not a word-for-word script.

Georgie

Hello and welcome to Real Easy English, the podcast where we have real conversations in easy English to help you learn. I'm Georgie.

Neil

And I'm Neil. And you can watch a video version of this podcast and get a free worksheet at bbclearningenglish.com.

Georgie

Hi, Neil. How are you?

Neil

Hi, Georgie. Yeah, I'm very good. I'm excited.

Georgie

Why?

Neil

I'm going to a birthday party.

Georgie

Whose birthday party?

Neil

My sister's.

Georgie

Your sister. Well, that's funny, because today we are talking about brothers and sisters. Or siblings.

Neil

Yeah. Do you have any siblings, Georgie?

Georgie

I do, I have one sister. She is younger, but she is taller and more mature and more sensible than I am. How about you?

Neil

Exactly the same. Yes, I have a younger sister, but she's a bit more grown up than me.

Georgie

A better version of you?

Neil

Yeah, definitely.

Georgie

Are you **similar**? Well, are there any similarities between you and your sister?

Neil

Well, I mean, physically we don't look **similar**, but some people say we do. I can't really see it. But I think some aspects of our personality are **similar**. We like some of the same things. It's, you know, it's good when we meet, but we don't meet very often.

Georgie

How often?

Neil

Every few months.

Georgie

Yeah.

Neil

Yeah. Because, you know, she lives in a different city and has her family and life's busy.

Georgie

Yeah. I'm lucky because my sister lives in London. So we are able to see each other quite regularly.

Neil

So, Georgie, are you **close** to your sister?

Georgie

Yes. I would say that we are **close**. Growing up, we weren't so **close**. I would say. Although I think she disagrees. But since we went travelling together, we became **closer** because we had this kind of special experience together. We were very far away from home. We had to do lots of difficult things, you know, organising. We were, yeah, together against the world. So we became **close**.

How about you? Are you **close** with your sister?

Neil

I think when we're together, we **get on well**. But then we can go a long period of time where we don't really talk, and that's OK.

Georgie

That's OK. It's life.

Neil

So, you have a sister and you **get on well**. But do you wish that you had more **siblings**?

Georgie

Yes. I wish I had a brother. It might sound strange, but I've always wanted to know what a boy in my family would look like. Yeah, it might change the dynamic a little bit, though. What about you?

Neil

Yeah, when I was younger, I thought it would be nice to have a brother, an older brother to kind of show you the way.

Georgie

Yeah.

Neil

Because probably, you know, as the older **sibling**, you're kind of, you get to do everything first, and that's sometimes good and sometimes bad.

Georgie

But it's funny because the stereotype of older **siblings** is usually that they are more responsible and sensible because they had, you know, the more rules growing up. And then when the younger **sibling** comes, they have less rules or fewer rules. But I think that my sister is the more serious and better behaved one.

Let's recap the vocabulary we heard in the conversation. We had **siblings**, which means brothers and sisters.

Neil

We heard **similar**, which means almost, but not exactly the same.

Georgie

We had **get on with**, which means to have a good relationship with someone, for example. I **get on well with** my sister.

Neil

We heard the adjective **close**. If two people are **close**, they like each other and they talk to each other often.

Georgie

And that's it for this episode of Real Easy English. You can find a worksheet on our website and lots more episodes to help you practice. bbclearningenglish.com.

Neil

Join us again next time when we'll talk about what worries us. See you then.

Georgie

Goodbye.