

The Great Family Reunion

Family Relations and Events

PART 01 Warm-Up Activity

- Who is the funniest person in your family? Why?
- Do you prefer small family dinners or big parties with all your relatives?
- How often do you see your extended family (aunts, uncles, cousins)?

PART 02 The Scenario

You are members of the Smith-Jones family. You are planning a massive 80th birthday party for your grandmother. However, the family has changed a lot recently! Some people have moved away, some have new children, and some don't get along. You need to create a final guest list and a seating plan for the main table.

The Family Update List:

- **Grandma:** The guest of honor. She wants to see all her grandchildren.
- **Auntie Dot:** She is very close to Grandma but recently had a "falling out" (argument) with her brother, Henry.
- **Cousin Henry:** He just moved back from India with his new wife and their toddler.
- **Tarik:** He is an only child and feels a bit lonely at big family events.
- **Chloe:** She is the middle child of three sisters. She is very organized.
- **The 'New' Members:** There are two new stepsisters from a recent marriage who don't know the family well yet.

THE TASK & GOAL

Create a final seating plan for a table of 8 people and decide on one special "family activity" for the party.

1. Share the information from your role card with your partner.
2. Discuss who should sit next to Grandma to keep her happy.
3. Decide where to put the toddler and the new stepsisters so they feel comfortable.
4. Agree on one activity (e.g., a photo slide show, a family trivia game, or a speech).

ROLES & PERSPECTIVES

A: THE FAMILY HISTORIAN

You know all the history. You want to make sure the oldest family members get the best seats. You think Auntie Dot and Henry should sit far apart to avoid a fight.

B: THE PARTY PLANNER

You want the party to be modern and fun. You want the younger generation (the toddler, the stepsisters, and Tarik) to sit together so they can get to know each other.

REFERENCE Useful Language

ASKING FOR INFORMATION	DESCRIBING RELATIONS	MAKING SUGGESTIONS
Have you got any news about...?	She's the oldest of three.	Why don't we seat them...?
Are they close to...?	He grew up in Birmingham.	I think we should group the...
How many kids has he got?	They are baby number two!	Let's put [Name] next to...

PLANNING & NOTES

Plan your dialogue here

PART 03 Reflection

1. Which family member was the most difficult to place in the seating plan?
2. Did you find it easy to reach a compromise with your partner?

The Great Family Reunion

Target language practice.



TIME

30-40 MINS

OBJECTIVE

To practice describing family relationships and negotiating a solution using B1-level vocabulary and grammar.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

PRESENT PERFECT AND
PAST SIMPLE FOR LIFE
EVENTS

- I've got a new cousin
- We grew up in the same house
- She has moved to India recently.

KEY VOCABULARY

STEPSISTERS

MIDDLE CHILD

TODDLER

GRANDCHILDREN

ONLY CHILD

Procedure

1. **Warmer (5 mins):** Ask students to define "immediate" vs "extended" family. Use the questions in Part 1 to get them talking.
2. **The Task (20 mins):**
 - Set the scene: Grandma's 80th birthday.
 - Distribute roles. Ensure students understand they must negotiate —Student A wants tradition, Student B wants the youth to bond.
 - Monitor for the use of "I've got" and "She's the [youngest/oldest]."
3. **Feedback (10 mins):** Have pairs present their seating plans. Ask "Why did you put Tarik next to the stepsisters?" or "How did you solve the Auntie Dot problem?" Conduct a brief error correction session focusing on family-related collocations.