

Lesson 2. Family

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Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Define what family is.
- Recognize types of family structures, their merits and demerits.
- Determine the roles of each member of a family.
- Discuss the issues families face today.
- Identify phrasal verbs and idiomatic expressions related to family.
- Use the comparative and superlative forms of adjective to talk about family members.
- Practice tongue twisters and minimal pairs.

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Tell your teacher about your family.

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Family is the basic social unit. Family represents people living together by ties of marriage, blood or adoption, thus representing a single household.

A few decades ago, the word family, in most people's eyes, referred to a mother, a father, and their children. Fast forward to present day and you'll find that families come in all different forms, and the word can carry a different meaning depending on who you ask.

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Now more than ever before, it is important for people to understand that when it comes to what is a family, there is no such thing as normal. Every person, every child, every parent, every couple has a unique situation.



Nuclear Family

Also known as elementary family. It is a group of family consisting of a pair of adults and their children.



Extended Family

A family that extends beyond the immediate family, consisting of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins all living nearby or in the same household.

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Childless Family

A couple with no kids.



Blended Family

Two divorced people marry, bring with them children from the old families.



Biracial Family

A family where the parents are members of different racial identity groups.



Single-parent Family

A mother or father alone raising children

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Every family structure has advantages and disadvantages. Complete this table and discuss it with your teacher.

Family Type	Merits	Demerits
Nuclear Family		
Extended Family		
Childless Family		
Blended Family		
Bi-racial Family		
Single Parent Family		

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ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The **father** is the breadwinner and chief provider of the family.
2. The **mother** is the manager and treasurer of the family.
3. The **girls** help the mother in doing the household chores.
4. The **boys** are usually assigned the heavy work in the house.

Do you think the roles of family members have changed overtime?

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A Child Rearing Problem

Timothy and his little sister, Patty, don't get along with each other very well. In fact, they fight constantly. He picks on her when it's time for her to go to bed. She picks on him when his friends come over to play.

Timmy and Patty's parents are very concerned. They don't know what to do about their children. They have looked through several books on child rearing, but so far they can't seem to find an answer to the problem. They're hoping that eventually their children will learn to get along with each other better.



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Answer the following questions.

1. What does Timmy do to Patty when it's time for her to go to bed?
2. Describe their relationship.
3. Are their parents concerned about them? Why do you think so?
4. What have they done to solve their problem? Did it help?

Give Your Opinion

1. What is child rearing?
2. What do most siblings argue about?
3. How is your relationship with your sister/brother? Explain your answer.
4. What do you think your life be if you were an only child?
5. Has your relationship with your family changed over the years?
6. If you were Timmy and Patty's parents, what would you do?

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Every family is different. They have different challenges, different structures, and different hopes and goals. Have you experienced any of the family issues below? What do you think families should do to overcome these challenges?



Effective Discipline



Communication



Divorce Adjustment



Balancing work/school and family life

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DIRECTION: Choose the correct word from the box to fill each blank.

1. Please don't _____ your little sister.
2. We've been _____ these old family pictures.
3. My history teacher _____ me _____ three times today.
4. I haven't _____ my aunt and uncle recently.
5. Everybody thinks I _____ my mother.
6. I really _____ my older sister because she's so smart.
7. I _____ my cousin Jane on Main Street yesterday.
8. Don't kiss me! I haven't _____ my cold yet.

heard from
gotten over
looking through
pick on
run into
called up
look up to
take after



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1. My parents have two children, my _____ and me.
a. Uncle b. Brother c. Cousin
2. My brother's name is _____ .
a. Kevin b. Margaret c. Jane
3. Kevin is thirteen and I am older, I am _____ .
a. Twelve b. Fifteen c. Nine
4. My parents go married _____ years ago: 5 years before my birth.
a. Twenty b. ninety c. eighty – nine
5. My grandparents are still _____. They are so friendly.
a. Dead b. Alive c. Babies
6. Next month I'll have a new little sister because Mummy is _____ .
a. Divorced b. Pregnant c. Engaged
7. My father has a good job, earns a lot of money and can _____.
a. Feed the dog. b. Play with my brother c. Support his family
8. I love Mary, my neighbor, but Dad says I'm _____ to get engaged.
a. Getting along b. Delivered c. Under age
9. When I am an adult I'll remember my _____ as the best period of my life.
a. Childhood b. Old age c. Death
10. After their wedding, my cousin and his wife went to Tahiti for their _____.
a. Divorce b. Honeymoon c. engagement



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1. The sister of your wife is your _____.
2. The daughter of your brother is your _____.
3. The brother of your father is _____.
4. The wife of your brother is your _____.
5. The son of your uncle is your _____.
6. The daughter of aunt is your _____.
7. The mother of your cousin is your _____.
8. The son of your son is your _____.
8. The father of your dad is your _____.
9. The cousin of your brother is your _____.



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COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

Comparative adjectives are used to compare differences between the two objects they modify (*larger, smaller, faster, higher*). They are used in sentences where two nouns are compared, in this pattern:

Noun (subject) + verb + comparative adjective + *than* + noun (object).

I am taller than my brother.

My sister is older than me.

She is more intelligent than her brother.

SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

Superlative adjectives are used to describe an object which is at the upper or lower limit of a quality (*the tallest, the smallest, the fastest, the highest*). They are used in sentences where a subject is compared to a group of objects.

She is the nicest person in my family.

Ted is the youngest among all of us.

Anna is the most thoughtful person in my family.

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Useful Vocabulary:

Reliable

Old

Smart

Trustworthy

Patient

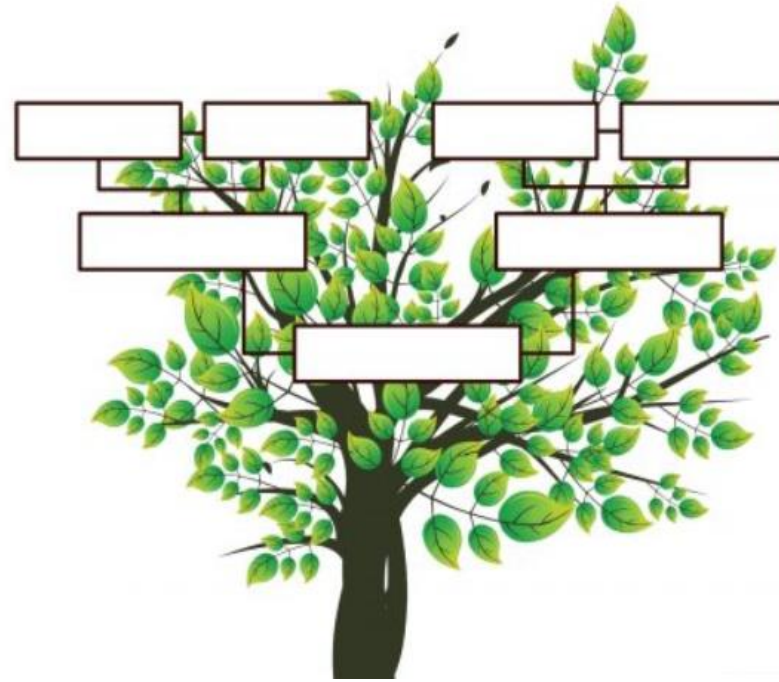
Thinner

Loving

Weak

Tall

Young



1. Who are the members of your family?
2. Compare each member of your family.

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1. Who are the people in your family. Who are they?
2. Do you have any brothers or sisters? Talk about them.
3. How many grandparents have you got? How often do you see them?
4. How do your parents earn a living? Talk about it.
5. What does your family do on Sundays?
6. How many cousins do you have? What do you do when you see them?
7. Do you have great grandparents? If so, how old are they?
8. Do you have any family living or working abroad? Talk about them.
9. Who does the housework in your family?
10. Talk about a relative you like the most. Why you like him or her?
11. Would you live with your parents after getting married? Why or why not?
12. Are there any rules in your family? What are they?
13. Do you ever hold a family reunion? If so, what happens there?



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in a family way = pregnant

Ex. I've heard that Mrs. Smith is in a family way.

black sheep of the family = the worst member of the family

Ex. Mary is the black sheep of the family.

blood is thicker than water = (expression) used to describe how strong family ties and relationships are, especially when comparing to non-family relationships.

Ex. Her dad told her that she had to spend the day with her grandmother, because blood is thicker than water..

run in the family = to appear in many members of a family.eg.

Ex. My brothers and I have red hair. It runs in the family.

your own flesh and blood =(expression) a member of the family

Ex. The way he was yelling, and the bad names he called him was extremely unforgivable. It's hard to believe he would treat his own flesh and blood that way.

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Tongue Twisters

- ❖ The cook took a good look at the cookery book.
- ❖ A little girl with a pretty curl.
- ❖ Good, better, best Never let it rest
- ❖ Till your good is better
- ❖ And your better best.
- ❖ He laughs best who loves last.



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Minimal Pairs

Minimal Pairs initial /f/ and /p/
fast and **p**ast

fan	pan
fax	packs
few	pew
fig	pig
find	pined
flan	plan
flight	plight
fought	port

found	pound
full	pry
fade	paid
file	pile
fail	pale
fair	pair
fence	pence
fix	picks

The End