

¹ **housemate** = a person whom you share a house with, usually not a family member

² **benefits** = good or positive points

³ **challenges** = difficulties that should be overcome

⁴ **downsides** = bad or negative points



Discussion Questions *Think about what you'll say in English. Write some notes for your ideas.*

Notes

1. Do you live with your family, with a **housemate**¹ or by yourself?
Do you like it?
2. What are some of the good points of living with your family?
3. What are the bad points of living with your family?
4. What are the **benefits**² of living by yourself?
5. What are the **challenges**³ of living by yourself, especially for the first time?
6. Would you like to share a home with a friend someday?
7. What are the advantages of sharing a home with a friend?
8. What are the possible **downsides**⁴ of sharing a home with a friend?
9. Would you want to live with your boyfriend or girlfriend before getting married?
10. Do you think it's OK to live with your parents even after you get a good job?
Why or why not?

What's Wrong? *Correct these sentences.*

1. **X** I studied hardly for the exams, almost five hours a day..., every day!
○
2. **X** These days, I moved into a new apartment.
○
3. **X** I stayed at home all weekend. I was so boring.
○



Example Discussion Question Responses & Partner Responses

1. *Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate words. Check your answers with a classmate.*
2. *Practice reading the Discussion Questions and the Example Responses with a classmate.*
3. *Use the Discussion Questions as conversation starters. Take brief notes of your partner's answers. Try to give long answers, make comments, have reactions, and ask follow-up questions.*

cooking	end	instant	other	whatever
cost	fun	moving	shower	wish

Partner's Name
()
Notes

1. I live with my family. It's OK, but my room is very small. I () I had a bigger room.
2. Well, my mom does all the () and cleaning. That makes my life pretty easy.
3. I have to wait a long time to take a () because my sister takes forever!
4. If I lived by myself, I would have so much freedom. I could do () I wanted to!
5. I think that the biggest challenge would be learning how to cook. I can only make () noodles!
6. I would like to share a house with friends someday. I think it would be ().
7. The biggest advantage would be to share the () of **rent**⁵ and other **bills**⁶.
8. You could have an **argument**⁷ with your friend and then the friendship might ().
9. Yes, I think so. Then we could really learn about each () before getting married.
10. No way. As soon as I get a good job after graduation, I'm () out.

⁵ **rent** = money paid every month to live in a house or apartment

⁶ **bills** = statements showing how much money is needed to pay for things like electricity, gas, water and telephone use

⁷ **argument** = a fight using words, a verbal disagreement

() /10 Score

Sharing an Apartment



Audio Track 8

Two university students, Joe and Paul, have been sharing an apartment for a month. Joe has just come home after classes. Paul is sitting on the sofa, eating pizza and watching TV.

Paul: Hey, Joe! **What's happening?**⁸

Joe: Hey, Paul. Well, I think I **failed**⁹ my economics test. It was really hard, and I didn't study enough.

P: Eh, don't worry about it. Economics is easy. You **gotta**¹⁰ **go with your gut**¹¹. If it feels right, do it! Just like the **stock market**¹².

J: What do you know about the stock market? You work at a supermarket.

P: Someday, Joe, I'm **gonna**¹³ be rich. Hey, you want some pizza?

J: Sure ... Hey, is this the pizza I bought last night? Is this *my* pizza?

P: Oh, sorry, man. I just saw the **leftovers**¹⁴ in the fridge, and I thought you wouldn't mind ...

J: Paul! You can't just eat my food. This morning, you ate all the cereal, which I bought! And the other day, you drank all the beer, which I bought! And now, you're eating my pizza!

P: Relax, Joe. I'll go buy some beer and cereal. It's not such a **big deal**¹⁵.

J: It *is* a big deal. Look, we share an apartment, but we don't share the food, ok?

P: Fine! Then how about you clean up **your mess**¹⁶! You never wash the dishes in the sink. And you leave your dirty clothes all over the place.

J: What are you talking about?

P: What am I talking about? I'm talking about your socks on the sofa, under the cushions. And I'm talking about your underwear in the bathroom on the floor. And I'm talking about the **mold**¹⁷ growing from all of your soda bottles that you didn't finish drinking. It's **gross**¹⁸, man! You live like a pig!

J: Pig?! Who's the pig? *You* are eating *my* pizza!

P: Mmm, it's really good!

J: Hey! Stop eating my pizza!

Main Text Vocabulary

⁸ **What's happening?** = What's new?

⁹ **failed** = not passed

¹⁰ **gotta** = spoken form of "got to", meaning have to, must, or should

¹¹ **go with your gut** = follow your feelings, gut means stomach

¹² **stock market** = a place where stocks are bought and sold

¹³ **gonna** = spoken form of "going to"

¹⁴ **leftovers** = food that has not been finished and is often eaten the next day

¹⁵ **a big deal** = important or serious

¹⁶ **mess** = not clean, not orderly

¹⁷ **mold** = a soft substance that grows on the surface of damp or rotting things

¹⁸ **gross** = very bad, disgusting

Main Text Questions

1. How does Joe think he did on his economics test?

- a. He thinks that he has passed it.
- b. He thinks that he studied enough.
- c. He thinks that it was easy.
- d. He thinks that he failed it.

2. What is Paul eating when Joe comes home?

- a. Paul's pizza
- b. Joe's pizza
- c. Paul's leftover pizza
- d. cereal and beer



3. Does Paul think that eating Joe's food is serious or important?

- a. Yes, he does. He' thinks it's a big deal.
- b. No, he doesn't. He thinks that it's not so important.
- c. He believes that he shouldn't eat Joe's food.
- d. He thinks that sharing an apartment means sharing everything.

4. How does Paul feel about Joe's messes?

- a. He enjoys cleaning them.
- b. He likes to talk about them.
- c. He thinks that they are growing on him.
- d. He thinks that they are disgusting.

Further Discussion

Group Members:

Work with a group. Talk about the following questions. Take notes for yourself and the other members.

#1 What do you think Joe and Paul should do about their food sharing problem?

Notes:

#2 What do you think Joe and Paul should do about their messy apartment?

Notes:

#3 If your housemate was good at cooking and you weren't, do you think he/she should do all of the cooking?

Notes:

Writing

Choose one of the questions below. Write 100 to 150 words. Write on pages 000 to 000.

- 1. Write about your home. What do you like about it? Is there something that you don't like?
- 2. Would you like to live in a university **dormitory**¹⁹? Explain your reasons.
- 3. What would be your **ideal**²⁰ home right after graduating from university?

¹⁹ **dormitory** = student housing, usually the building is on campus or near campus

²⁰ **ideal** = perfect, exactly right