2A Homestay families

Activity type: Speaking – Information gap – Pairs

Aim: To practise talking about people and their possessions

Language: Talk about people you know; Keyword *have* (1) – Coursebook p19

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for each pair of learners. Cut each worksheet into A and B tables along the dotted line.

Time: 20–25 minutes

1 Learners imagine they are going to the UK to study English. They will stay with a British family. They will eat meals together with the family and they will be together some evenings and weekends. Make sure learners understand *stay* (to live somewhere for a short time). Brainstorm what makes a good homestay family: old or young; pets; children; big house; small flat? Write ideas on the board.

2 Make sure learners understand *pet*. Write *The Chan family* on the board. Under this, write:
– *House / Flat: ...*
– *Family: ...*
– *Pets: ...*
– *...*

Describe the picture of the Chan family at the top of the learners' worksheet, e.g. *The Chan family live in a small, old house. There is a man. He is about 60. He has a son and daughter. They are about 20, I think. They have a dog. They have a computer.* Ask learners to tell you what information to write on the board, e.g.
– *House / Flat: small, old house*
– *Family: man (60), son and daughter (20)*
– *Pets: dog*
– *computer*

3 Put learners into A/B pairs. Give out an A and a B table for each learner. Learners look at the picture of the Chan family. Remind learners of the information you wrote on the board. Encourage learners to write notes, not full sentences.

4 A has a picture of the Johnson family. A describes the picture. B listens and writes notes on his / her worksheet.

5 Learners take it in turns to describe the families in order to complete the worksheets.

6 When learners have finished, they look at the pictures and information they have written. Learners choose which family they would like to stay with.

7 *Round-up*. Ask a few learners which family they would like to stay with. Do other learners in the class agree?
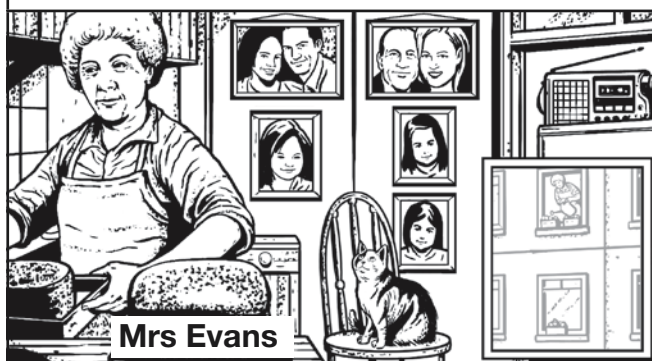
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A

The Chan family

The Johnson family

The Clark family

House / flat: _____

Family: _____

Pets: _____

_____

Mrs Evans

The Mansour family

House / flat: _____

Family: _____

Pets: _____

_____

B

The Chan family

The Johnson family

House / flat: _____

Family: _____

Pets: _____

_____

The Clark family

Mrs Evans

House / flat: _____

Family: _____

Pets: _____

_____

The Mansour family