

In this unit you will practice:

Listening skills: Sound-alikes

Writing Skills: Reading and describing data; identifying trends

Speaking skills: Describing relationships

Grammar: Present perfect tense

Vocabulary: Word partners and families

Exam tips:

Speaking: relationships

1. Work in pairs to discuss these questions. Try to give reasons for your opinions.
 - A) What are the advantages and the disadvantages of growing up in each of these families?

Break the Ice¹



- B) Which one do you prefer? What are some of the advantages of the other choices?
 - a. Living on your own
 - b. Sharing with friends
 - c. Married but no children
 - d. Married with children
 - e. Living with parents after marriage
2. Match words from column A to the ones in column B. Use your dictionary if you need so.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. wedding | a) family |
| 2. married | b) status |
| 3. best | c) parent |
| 4. maternity | d) ring |
| 5. extended | e) couple |
| 6. family | f) leave |
| 7. marital | g) friend |
| 8. single | h) tree |

¹ [Additional exercise](#)

3. Choose the words for exercise 2 above and answer these questions.

- A. Find at least four words with one [syllable](#).
- B. Find at least four words with two syllables.
- C. Find three words with three syllables.
- D. Find one word with four syllables.

Exam Tip (Writing)

In many international exams and as part of your studies, you have to present information from a [graph](#), a [chart](#), a table, or a [diagram](#). Understanding the data is the key step.

Exam Tip (Speaking)

Talking about family and friends is a common topic in part 1 of the Speaking module of the [IELTS](#). It is also often useful to refer to relationships in the other parts of the test.

Exam Practice

Take a few moments to study the following instructions and try to think of what you would say to address the task.

Describe a typical Finnish family you know.

You should say

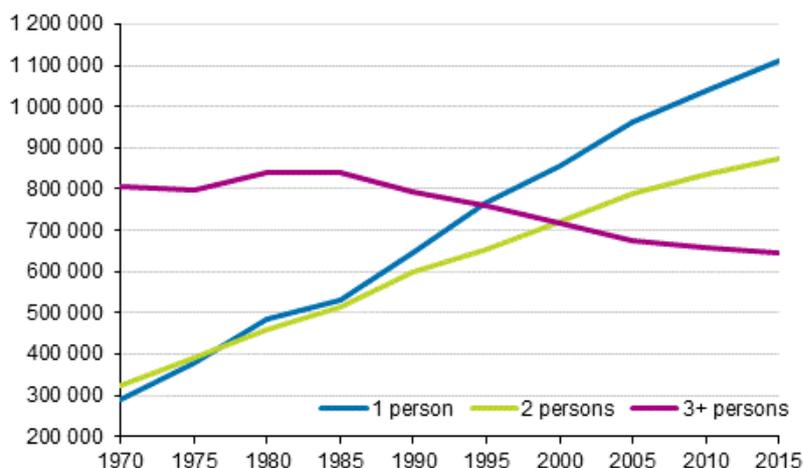
how you know this family

who the members of the family are

what they do and what they are interested in

and explain how you feel about this family.

Practice: The following chart gives statistics about the size of Finnish household over a few years². Study the information and fill in the blanks.



Finnish households by size 1970-2015

As can be seen from the graph, the households in Finland have ----- over the last ----- years. Households in 1970 had an average of -----members, but by 2005 the figure had ----- by-----per cent to ----- . In 1970, majority of Finns lived bigger households; however, the number of large-household dwellers -----to minimum in 2015. This -----that smaller households have become ----- noting that in 2015 the number of households with 1 and 2 members reached ----- and ----- respectively.

Verbs

Shrink

Fall

Indicate

Language Tip

If you want to show that there is a relationship between the words that make up the compound, hyphens (-) are used.

Examples are mother-in-law, good-hearted friend, large-household dwellers.

² From http://www.stat.fi/til/asas/2015/01/asas_2015_01_2016-10-13_kat_002_en.html

Present Perfect Tense

The present perfect tense is used to describe

- an action or situation that started in the past and continues in the present. *I **have lived** in Turku since 1984* (= and I still do.)
- an action performed during a period that has not yet finished. *She **has been** to the tax office twice this week* (= and the week isn't over yet.)
- a repeated action in an unspecified period between the past and now. *We **have visited** the Åland Islands several times.*
- an action that was completed in the very recent past, expressed by 'just'. *I **have just finished** my project.*
- an action when the time is not important. *He **has read** 'Of Mice and Men'.* (= the result of his reading is important)

Exercise Link

Follow the [link](#) to some exercises on present perfect tense

<http://www.etedali.com/courses/turku/pptense-turku.htm>

Sound-alikes

Sound-alikes, sometimes called homophones, are words with different meanings and different spellings that sound the same. Watch [this video](#) and see what some of these homophones are.

Exercise

Listen to the some sentences and circle the word that you hear.

1. heard herd
2. sight site
3. edition addition
4. lesson lessen
5. lone loan
6. loot lute
7. band banned
8. straight strait
9. sweet suite
10. wonder wander

Word Partners

It is not enough to know academic vocabulary and you would need to know how to use them. One of the ways to master it is to know which words partner together.

Exercise 1

In each sentence, ONE of the words in brackets cannot be used. Cross out the incorrect word in every group.

1. A (big/high/large) **portion** of people voted for Brexit.
2. It is (fairly/clearly/perfectly) **obvious** that changes are needed.
3. The (great/big/vast) **majority** of people use smart phones these days.
4. The graph (covers/lasts/represents) a ten-year **period**.
5. It needs a brave person to (perform/undertake/make) such a perilous **task**.
6. You have to (do/meet/satisfy) the admission **requirements** of the university.

Exercise 2

Make nouns from the following adjectives. Use a dictionary to check your answers.

1. brave-----
2. engaged-----
3. generous-----
4. high-----
5. honest-----
6. kind-----
7. loyal-----
8. reliable-----
9. responsible-----
10. warm-----