

Overview

Watch the video podcast. Which opinions do you most agree with?

1 Read and complete Val's introduction with the words from the box. Then watch the video podcast from 0:10-0:26 and check your answers.

block well neighbours quite a few similar



Hi. I live in a ¹ block of flats and I know ² _____ of my neighbours really ³ _____. We like ⁴ _____ things so we socialise ⁵ _____ a lot. Today, I'm going to ask people about their ⁶ _____. How well do you know your neighbours?

Glossary: *socialise* = spend free time with

2 How well do you know your neighbours? Look at the people below and read the questions. Then watch the video podcast from 0:26-1:22 and match the people to the questions. There are TWO questions for two of the people.



A Jane



B James



C Rosie



D Eddie



E Dawn

Who

- 1 ...knows one or two of his neighbours really quite well?
- 2 ... doesn't get on with all of his neighbours?
- 3 ... shares a garden with the neighbours who live in the flats above and below?
- 4 ... doesn't even know what some of his neighbours look like?
- 5 ... has never even seen her neighbours?
- 6 ... moved in to a flat about six months ago but hardly knows her neighbours at all?
- 7 ... lives in a house which has been divided into three flats?

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| B |
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3 What makes a good neighbour? Look at the people in Ex. 2 again and read the list of their responses in the table 1-10. Then watch the video podcast from 1:22-2:05 and tick the responses given by each person. Some speakers have more than one response.

| | Jane | James | Rosie | Eddie | Dawn |
|------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| 1 feeds your cat | | | | | |
| 2 is considerate | | | | | |
| 3 isn't noisy | | | | | |
| 4 doesn't cause you grief | | | | | |
| 5 looks out for you | ✓ | | | | |
| 6 keeps up their property | | | | | |
| 7 you can leave your key with them | | | | | |
| 8 isn't intrusive | | | | | |
| 9 you can trust them | | | | | |
| 10 doesn't leave trash around | | | | | |

Glossary: *considerate* = always thinking of what other people need or want; *look out for someone* = make sure someone is safe/treated well; *keep up (your) property* = keep (your) house/home clean inside and out; *trash* = rubbish (Am. Eng); *cause (you) grief* = cause problems for (you)

4 *What makes a bad neighbour?* Look at the people and read their answers. Then watch the video podcast from 2:05-2:41 and underline the words you hear.



Rosie

A bad neighbour is someone that ¹*forgot/forgets* that you exist ²*also/as well*, and has loud music until ³*six a.m./ six o'clock*.



James

Not respecting privacy, ⁴*intruding/interfering*. Not understanding what your neighbour wants and not ⁵*just/ only* in that sense, but in the sense of not ⁶*caring/participating*, not doing things when a neighbour needs help.



Dawn

Someone who is not considerate, who, whether it's a lot of ⁷*noise/noisy* or a lot of trash, doesn't ⁸*upkeep/keep up* their property, who's not really ⁹*a friend/friendly*.

5 *Who's the best or worst neighbour you've ever had?* Look at the people and read the statements about Dawn, Jane and James' neighbours. Then watch the video podcast from 2:41-3:36 and tick (✓) the correct option, a, b or c.



Dawn



Jane



James

1 Dawn's neighbour _____

- a) lived downstairs
- b) wasn't very nice.
- c) was very quiet.

2 The neighbour _____

- a) often went to see if Dawn was OK.
- b) didn't chat much.
- c) was very pretty.

3 The worst neighbour Jane ever had _____

- a) was a woman.
- b) was very noisy.
- c) lived in the last house in the street.

4 Jane _____

- a) was scared of her neighbour.
- b) argued with her neighbour.
- c) could hear her neighbour all the time.

5 One night, James _____

- a) heard a noise outside.
- b) opened the door.
- c) saw a policeman outside.

6 The policeman wanted James to _____

- a) shoot three people.
- b) stay in the garden.
- c) crouch down.

7 The man next door was _____

- a) the number 1 in a criminal gang.
- b) arrested and taken away.
- c) shot by a policeman.

Glossary: *oftentimes* = often (Am. Eng); *chat* = have a light conversation; *crouch down* = bend your knees and almost sit on the ground; *to shoot/shot* = shoot a gun;

The way we speak

6 The people below tell us how well they know their neighbours. Read what they say and complete their responses with the phrases from the box. Then watch the video podcast from 0:26-1:22 and check your answers.

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|--------|--------------|
| quite well | even seen | not | look like |
| very typical | varies | at all | really quite |



Rosie

I know my neighbours ¹*quite well*.



James

It ²_____ enormously. One or two ³_____ well; some very close, I don't even know what they ⁴_____. And that is very typical of this area. I live just round the corner from here, ⁵_____ of inner city, urban London.



Dawn

⁶_____ at all. I've never ⁷_____ them. No, I don't know them ⁸_____, quite honestly.

Glossary: *vary* = not all the same; *enormously* = a great deal; inner city = the middle of the city

Personalisation

7 Write your answers to the questions.

1 How well do you know your neighbours?

2 What makes a good/ bad neighbour?

3 Who's the best or worst neighbour you've ever had?

BBC LINK



A man has won an award for bravery after saving his neighbour's children from a house fire.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-11384244>

BBC

