

Topic: Family Roles

Let's get started...

Did you or are you going to communicate with any family members today? Who did you communicate with? What did you talk about? How often do you communicate with family members?

Background:

Everyone has many roles in family. Some roles are father, mother, sister, brother, daughter, son, cousin, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, niece, nephew, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle, and grandchild. In every culture, family roles and relationships are different. For example, in America, it is uncommon for extended family members to live together, but in many other countries, it is very common for extended family members to live together.



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

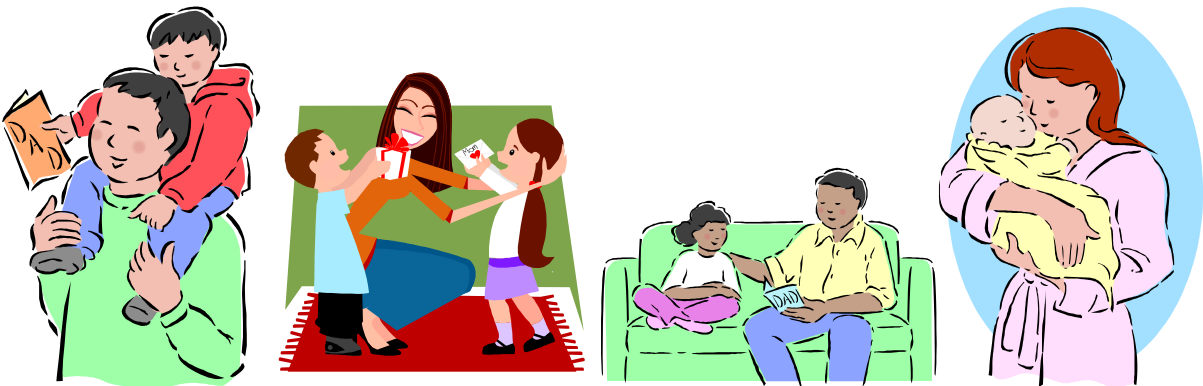
Talk about the roles you play in your family.

Are you a father, mother, sister, brother, daughter, son, cousin, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, niece, nephew, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle, or grandchild?

Do you live with any other family members?

In your native country, is it common for extended family members to live together?

Share your partner's answers with the group.



Discussion Questions:

In your native country, how long do children usually live with their parents?

In your native country, are women and men treated differently?

In your family, who does what chores? What chores do you do? Do men and women do different chores in your family?

Do you think children should respect their elders? Do children respect their elders in your country?

Who is the "head of household" in your family? Who makes important decisions in your family?

Which family members do you see on holidays? What do you do with these family members?

How important is family in your native country? Do you think family is more important in American culture or in your native culture?

Which family members do you ask for advice? Why? Which family members ask you for advice?

Do parents and children spend lots of time together in your native country? What kinds of things do they do together?

Do families live near each other in your native country? Is it common for family members to move to different cities?

How do you feel about women changing their family name when they get married? Is this common in your native country?

Are family roles changing in your native country? Are they changing in America?

Who usually takes care of babies in your native country? Is it common for babies or children to go to childcare?

Is it common for men to cook in your native country?

Which family roles would you like to change in your family?

New words and Idioms:

cousin, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, niece, nephew, grandma, grandpa, aunt, uncle, grandchild, family roles, extended family, chores, respect, elders, "head of household," decisions, advice, married, babies